LOST SECRETS OF RENAISSANCE MEDICINE

herbalism . astrology . alchemy

WITH MATTHEW WOOD & JUDITH HILL

featuring Sajah Popham & Jaysen Paulson

presented by
PORTLAND SCHOOL OF ASTROLOGY
and PORTLAND PLANT MEDICINE

April 12th and 13th, 2014

Saturday April 12th
10-11:30 Renaissance Medicine Introduction with Judith Hill and Matthew Wood
11:45-12:45 Alchemy, Spagyrics and Initiatic Medicine with Sajah Popham
12:45-1:45 Lunch
1:45-3:15 Zodiacal Man: As Above, So Below with Judith Hill
3:30-5:00 Zodiacal Plant with Matthew Wood
5:15-6:15 Astrological Vitality: Herbal Remedies for Your Sun Sign with Jaysen Paulson

Sunday April 13th
10-12:00 A Key to Galen's Method of Physick with Matthew Wood
12:15-1:15 Mars, Saturn and Renaissance Diagnosis with Judith Hill
1:15-2:15 Lunch
2:15-3:15 Simplified Medical Chart Interpretation with Matthew Wood
3:30-4:30 Luna, Every Woman's Friend: The Moon in Birth and Transit with Judith Hill
4:45-5:30 Lost Secrets of Renaissance Medicine Panel with Judith Hill and Matthew Wood

DISCLAIMER:
The producers and speakers of this conference are not encouraging attendees to practice Renaissance medical techniques. This intellectual material, lectures, books and handouts provided within this conference are intended for historic interest only. We are not responsible for misuse of this information outside of its intended use (historic interest and wonderment).

The Lost Secrets of Renaissance Medicine© 2014 Judith Hill & Portland School of Astrology
CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Saturday, April 12th 10-6:15pm

10-11:30
Renaissance Medicine Introduction
with Judith Hill and Matthew Wood

Renaissance Physicians were master herbalists and skilled astrologers combined. Practicioners Culpepper, Blagreve, Nostradamus, Dee and Lilly were heirs to a sophisticated system of astro-herbology and worked within a medical paradigm where astral influences held center stage. Herbs were assigned to signs and planets based on properties, appearance and sometimes opposing paradigms. Renaissance physicians prescribed herbs based on knowledge of a patient's astrological chart and unique type; also setting "decumbiture" charts for the onset of illness. They were astutely knowledgeable about the influences of Lunar phase, sign and aspect. As constitutional experts, they diagnosed patients as individuals, being keenly aware of planetary and elemental influence upon human appearance, character and disease. Herbs were harvested and medicines made at precise times, and the planets consulted before setting surgery dates. Lacking microscopes and cat-scans, the Renaissance Doctors possessed marvelous "lost" tools for looking into the unseen vibrational causes of disease, the crown jewel being astrology. Its time to revisit the long ignored amazing medical gifts of the Renaissance, and study them as relevant equals to surviving world systems of indigenous medicine.

11:45-12:45
Alchemy, Spagyrics, and Initiatic Medicine
with Sajah Popham

The alchemical tradition as rooted in the wisdom of Egypt, Arabia, the far east, and western Europe, lends us a perspective of herbal medicine and natural healing that goes far beyond the body and into the nature of the spirit and the soul. Through the precise art and science of alchemy and spagyrics, botanical medicines are prepared in a way that brings to us greater physiological vitality, as well as spiritual illumination and initiation. In this class, we will observe this spiritual science and how the ancients used the initiatic properties of herbal medicines in order to further the evolution of the soul and illumination of the spirit. We will discuss plant classification according to the Energetic Architecture of nature, utilizing the 7 Planets, 5 Elements, and 3 Principles, and discuss briefly how this connects our plants to systems of divination and cosmology such as the Qabalistic Tree of Life and the Tarot.

12:45-1:45
Lunch

1:45-3:15
Zodiacal Man: As Above, So Below
with Judith Hill
Medieval and Renaissance doctors viewed the human being as a solar system in miniature. "As above, so below" was not mere metaphor in a medical paradigm that included astral influence as one of several major disease classifications. Twelve body zones were linked to twelve divisions of the seasonal year, beginning at the Spring Equinox, and also to twelve divisions of the earth's daily rotation. Bodily organs were assigned to both signs and planets. Traditional herbs were assigned to the twelve astrological seasons. The Lunar phases as well as her daily transits through these seasonal divisions (or "signs"), was of supreme importance in determining safest and best times for herbal harvest, medicine making, administrating herbs, bleeding and surgery.

3:30-5:00
Zodiacal Plant
with Matthew Wood
Applying the same principles taught by Judith and personified in the age old teaching of the Zodiacal Man, we can learn to see the properties of the plant mirrored in plant structure and astrological rulerships. From root/earth, water/leaf, air/flower, fire/fruit, we can extend our knowledge to the individual signs and structures.

5:15-6:15
Astrological Vitality: Herbal Remedies for Your Sun Sign
with Jaysen Paulson
The Sun (or your "sun sign") in the natal chart represents your spirit and the seasonal, earth-based vitality you were born with. With Nicholas Culpeper's work, we know that signs are maintained by their likes, but keep diseases away with help from their opposites. We will discuss the herbal remedies likened to each sign and the opposites that will help to balance.

Sunday, April 13th 10-5:30pm

10-12:00
A Key to Galen's Method of Physick
with Matthew Wood
This is the title of a small publication by Nicholas Culpeper (1652), the great astrologer/herbalist, in which he discusses the traditional method of case analysis used in Greek medicine. This revolves around three major variables: temperature (hot, cold, damp, dry), appropriation (organ, system, tissue location), and propriety (rising, falling, inward, outward movement, thinning, thickening, of disease process). These are still the best guidelines for herbal practice from an energetic perspective and personified in the age old teaching of the Zodiacal Man, we can learn to see the properties of the plant mirrored in plant structure and astrological rulerships. From root/earth, water/leaf, air/flower, fire/fruit, we can extend our knowledge to the individual signs and structures.

12:15-1:15
Mars, Saturn and Renaissance Diagnosis
with Judith Hill

Renaissance Physicians viewed the "malefics" Mars and particularly Saturn as the root of astrally induced illness. Therefore, determining the natal (birth) position by sign of a "native's" malefics was essential for tracing root causation of this planetary illness. Although all planets have vibrational temperature and color rays, the extremes of Mars: (heat and red color); and Saturn: (cold and blue color) were considered dangerous to bodily health. Additionally, at the onset of illness, i.e. "the taking to the bed," the Moon's transits were observed for aspect to transit Mars (heat) or transit Saturn (cold). This technology was used for determining acute versus chronic conditions, severity, and herbal selections.

1:15-2:15
Lunch

2:15-3:15
Simplified Medical Chart Interpretation with Matthew Wood

My own instruction in medical astrology came from the lectures of Dr. William Davidson, MD. Although not Renaissance in timing, these simple guidelines helped me to learn general chart reading and medical interpretation specifically.

3:30-4:30
Luna, Every Woman’s Friend: The Moon in Birth and Transit with Judith Hill

The sign at birth of a patient's Moon offered the Renaissance Physician a window into a "native's" sensitivities and reactivity. However, common folk did not always know their date or time of birth. In lieu of this fact, doctors relied on a "horary chart" timed to the question; or a "decumbiture" chart, taken from the time of the "taking to the bed". Knowing the transit Moon sign and phase was imperative for selecting both treatments and their proper timing. The Moon's position at the surgery's onset was planned whenever feasible and held to determine surgical outcome. Judith Hill will tour the natal proclivities of Luna in all twelve signs, and also discuss most essential transit and phase tips.

4:45-5:30
Lost Secrets of Renaissance Medicine Panel with Judith Hill and Matthew Wood

Wrapping up this weekend conference on Renaissance Medicine, Judith and Matthew will give final thoughts and take audience questions.
TEACHER BIOGRAPHIES

Matthew Wood
Matthew Wood has been a practicing herbalist since 1982. In a period when many authors and lecturers are merely "arm chair herbalists". He has helped tens of thousands of clients over the years, with difficult health problems. While Matthew believes in the virtue of many other healing modalities, he has always been inspired to learn, preserve, and practice the tradition of herbal medicine descending to us from our European, Anglo-American, and Native American heritage. He is a member of the American Herbalists Guild (registered herbalist) and has earned his Masters of Science degree from the Scottish School of Herbal Medicine. In 2010 he moved to land in Wisconsin and calls his business Sunnyfield Herb Farm. Visit: www.MatthewWoodHerbs.com

Judith Hill
Judith Hill is a lifetime, second generation astrologer and award winning author of 9 titles. She has performed over 9000 in depth personal readings and is proficient in most branches of Classical Western Astrology including: Vocation, Location, Medical, Natal, Transit-Progressed, Spiritual, Comparative Analysis, Electrical; Gem Selection; Fertility Dating and Horary Astrology. Her consulting experience is vast, having read for men and women of most nations, ages and professions. She is also well versed in the outside subjects of: Herbology, Vedic Astrology, History, Theology, Art, Music, Metaphysics, Feng Shui, Phrenology, Psychology and Anthropology. Judith Hill has a Medical Astrology 12-module course available for interested students at www.JudithHillAstrology.com

Sajah Popham
Sajah Popham, founder of Organic Unity and The School of Evolutionary Herbalism, seeks to bridge all Earth centered herbal traditions who have followed the Light of Nature and the wisdom of the plants. From the preparation of spagyric medicines in the lab, to the teachings he provides at his school, Sajah applies the universal principles found in plants, people, and planets to align the above with the below. These universal principles were discovered throughout his studies of Ayurveda, Alchemy, astrology, pharmacology, and various clinical herbal traditions of Europe, North and South America. Through bridging science and spirit, Sajah works with plants and people on all levels, applying the celestial qualities of spagyric medicines to bring about greater states of vibrant health and conscious evolution. He lives in the Pacific Northwest with his fiancé, where he teaches and practices. For information on his products and teachings, visit: www.organic-unity.com and www.evolutionaryherbalism.com

Jaysen Paulson
Jaysen Paulson is a practicing astrologer and podcaster for Cosmophilia in Portland and has formally studied Western Herbal Medicine, Japanese Language, Astrology, Public Health and is currently a student at Blue Iris Mystery School. In 2013, JayP founded and teaches at the Portland School of Astrology, running quarterly terms and a 120-hour 1st-Year intensive. JayP spends most of his days being a community organizer and pondering the intersectionality of herbalism and astrology while admiring the Thema Mundi and its mathematical aesthetics. Visit: www.cosmophilia.us or www.PortlandAstrology.org