



Temple of the Sacred Feminine

September 2011 – May 2012 ~~ Sophia Center, Maryland
Guided by Sheila Foster, M.A.

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Our Theme This Year:
Embodying the Divine Feminine

September 15 – 18, 2011; November 10 -13, 2011; March 15 – 18, 2012; May 10 - 13, 2012

See Below for Registration Details

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## Herstory of the Temple:

In 1983, the Temenos Center was birthed after I experienced an arduous kundalini labor and several deeply significant archetypal dreams, dreams of spiritual initiation. Temenos Center became a sacred space where workshops and trainings were offered in Jungian psychology, the archetypal Feminine, and eventually Samyama Meditation and Healing.

The School for Women Healers, now called the Temple of the Sacred Feminine, emerged within the Temenos and is a living field of consciousness that has been unfolding and EVE-olving as a vital contemporary Women's Mystery School and ongoing community ever since. Participation brings about radical paradigm shifts, deep healing, and awakening within the field of the Sacred Feminine energies. Archetypal initiations take us on a serpentine journey inward, shedding the skins of our old conditioned identities and patterns, revealing the treasures hidden in our shadow, and empowering us in unimagined and/or longed-for ways. We drop the skins of our ancestral, patriarchal conditioning to discover, embody, and celebrate our essential Feminine nature. The portal to the quantum field of all possibilities becomes accessible. We grow beyond our limited images of ourselves and our conditioning, our hearts break open, wounds heal, we wake up to our essential nature as Love, we become more creative, and we embody our soul's purpose in the world in a beautifully feminine way.

**It is essential now that women consciously embody the Sacred Feminine in the world.** The dark and difficult conditions on the planet are calling for the presence of the embodied Feminine. Each of us has a Calling and a Place in this new turn of the spiral of Eve-olution and Awakening-- even if you don't yet know what your place is. Your longing is the Call...

**Can you feel your longing?**

**Viewing our evocumentary film, *Eve's Fire*, can give you a glimpse into the mystery school and the women who participate. It is available at [www.dangerousoldwomen.com](http://www.dangerousoldwomen.com) .**

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**~ Please email me to make a time for a phone call if you have questions ~**

**temenosctr@aol.com**

## Curriculum for 2011-2012 Temple



### First Year Women: Invocation of the Sacred Feminine Archetypes

Women coming into the Temple for the first time, as well as women who have been in the Temple but have not been initiated into the Feminine Archetypal Initiations, will be invoking and initiated into the archetypal energies of the **Mother**, the **Amazon**, the **Lover**, the **Medial**, and the **Queen** who embodies all of the archetypes.

To be well-informed about what this is, please read about these archetypes and the journey of initiation in my e-book **Sacred Feminine Initiation: an Archetypal Journey**, available at this link: <http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com/Temple/TempleStore/index.html>

**Prior to registration**, please listen to *Meditations from a Women's Mystery School, Vol. 1: Invoking the Sacred Feminine*. This is available at [www.dangerousoldwomen.com](http://www.dangerousoldwomen.com)

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### Second Year Women: Invocation of the Masculine Energies in Women

When women are grounded in the Feminine energies and are continuing to work with the transmutation of the Feminine shadow and the harvesting of those gifts, the next invocation and initiation is into the masculine archetypes of Father, Warrior, Lover, Magus and King, as they show up within women and in their outer lives. Required reading: Robert Moore's book: *King, Warrior, Lover, Magician*.

Please listen to *Meditations from a Women's Mystery School, Vol. 2: Invoking the Sacred Masculine*

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Elders returning to the temple this year will have their own particular inner work and personal rituals. Please contact me and we will discuss your personal intents and possibilities for you to create your own curriculum.

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## Requirements for being in the 2011-2012 Temple of Initiation

**For New Women:** The nature of this work is deep and highly evocative...it is initiation, not therapy or a class or a workshop. It is a very powerful un-doing of patriarchal and familial conditioning. Big changes happen. So *it is important that each applicant have had at least two years of therapy or some kind of deep inner work before applying*. The Temple work is deep, intense, and not a 'first step'. You are welcome to come to Portals, retreats, workshops, and teleconference events if you are just beginning your journey inward. We can talk about it- please contact me.

I strongly suggest participation in at least one or two Portals, March 20, 2011 or May 15, or the **July retreat (theme tba, dates: July 7-10)** so that you can get a sense of the ethos of this community, the depth of the work we do, how I work with groups and individuals, and whether this feels right for you.

If you feel called to apply for Temple, we can arrange a preliminary, informational phone call where you can determine if you feel that the Temple is your next step. If it is, then we can arrange two phone sessions for a deeper engagement with each other. These sessions help us get to know each other, give you a sense of how I work, and gives me some sense of your life and the path you are walking. It's also a time when you can ask me *any* questions you may have about Temple or my path. I charge my usual fee for these sessions which is \$115 for 50 minutes.

**Personal Deep Process Sessions:** – I have found that it is essential that each woman be doing deep process work of some kind, preferably Samyama as part of it, twice a month with one practitioner for both sessions. This is not optional. *Working with different practitioners each time does not do what needs to be done.* You can continue to work with your current Samyama Practitioner or other psychotherapist. It works best if new women are working with Samyama practitioners who are in the Temple community and I have openings for new women who would like to work with me by phone.

***This commitment is for two sessions per month,*** beginning when the Temple year begins in September, if not before, and continues through the last meeting of our Temple year in May. This is essential for each woman and for the group field. Missed sessions will need to be made up in order to fulfill the covenant agreement.

**Temple Meetings:** We meet four weekends for four days each, for a total of 16 days, from September to May, 12 noon – 5pm. The commitment is to attend all meetings. Occasionally, something extraordinary comes up and it's not possible to make a meeting. On Sundays, the Temple day ends at 5:30pm. Sundays are Portal days when other women come for the day to do work with us in the Temple on whatever theme is up at that time.

**Teleconference Calls:** To sustain continuity and connection, as well as practice and deepen the work, there will be one tele-temple call in each month between our regular **Temple teleconferences: October 4, December 6, January 3, February 7, and April 3.** Occasionally a change of these dates may need to happen. All teleconference calls are recorded for the participants only.

**Personal Ritual Work:** For each archetypal initiation, there are sacred questions to write/respond to, art and/or writing projects, self inquiry, and practice and skill building with partners from the group. Some of this practice work with other Temple participants can happen by phone. “PR” as it has been called, may bring up resistance. Know that this is all grist for the initiatory mill and you are strongly encouraged to bring it up with me and in the Temple vessel, in the weekend gatherings or on the teleconference calls. Also, Temple Elders are available to serve you as mentors. There is always help available and you are encouraged to ask for it. One of the values of doing your individual work with a Samyama practitioner who has been part of the Temple is that she can be an invaluable resource as she knows the territories.

**Temple Covenants:** The covenant is a sacred agreement between you and the other Temple members, and me. Ultimately, it is between you and yourself. The covenant is part of the weave of Temple container that makes it reliable and safe. It also keeps the energies contained and strong. The leaking of energy from the Temple vessel can occur when any of us are not fulfilling our commitments. Keeping our agreements insures a strong and powerful container for the initiation process. The way the Temple is structured has evolved over 27 years, and

what works really works. If any of the agreements bring up questions or resistance, you are invited to speak them to me or in the Temple vessel.

I provide a covenant for each of us to sign that names the agreements we make regarding attendance, dates, teleconference calls, payments and due dates for payments, personal ritual work. This eliminates confusion about the details, formalizes our agreements, and names the container so that we may hold them as sacred. I work out a schedule of five payments beginning with registration, and I can negotiate a monthly or bi-monthly plan if that works better for you. The tuition is non-negotiable, I don't do barter, or offer reduced fees for this work. Everyone pays the same. This keeps it clear for all. I can take credit cards and checks. Payment for sessions with me are \$115 and there is a separate covenant for this individual work.

## Logistics

**Temple Tuition: \$2500.** This includes 16 days of initiation in the Temple in MD, 5 teleconferences, and Personal Ritual Work for each archetype, email info, and written materials.

**Tuition Due Dates: \$500 due June 1 with registration,** and \$500 due September 1, December 1, 2011; March 1, & May 1, 2012. I am open to other payment plans, such as 9 monthly payments after the deposit. Full tuition must be paid by May 1, 2012.

**Registration payment for returning Temple Women is due July 1, 2011.**

**Payments for Temple and sessions can be made by credit card or check.**

**Refunds:** Requests may be made in writing, and are as follows: full refund minus \$50 handling fee until July 1. After that half until September 1. After September 1 there are no refunds unless it is a hardship request. *The covenant is a commitment for the full year's participation and payment, unless extraordinary circumstances occur.* If you choose not to come for a day or a full weekend, that is still your financial responsibility.

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**Suggested Readings:** (there is an extensive bibliography on [www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com](http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com) )

- **Sacred Feminine Initiation: An Archetypal Journey** – Sheila Foster  
<http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com/Temple/TempleStore/index.html>
- **Descent to the Goddess** – Sylvia Perera
- **The Feminine Face of God** – Sherry Anderson & Patricia Hopkins
- **The Moon and the Virgin** – Nor Hall

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## Estrimonials about the Temple and Samyama

**To read what women who have been in the Temple have to say about their experience:**

[http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com/articles/article\\_estrimonialsforsacredfeminineinitiation.html](http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com/articles/article_estrimonialsforsacredfeminineinitiation.html)

**For Samyama estrimonials:**

[http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com/articles/article\\_whatpeoplesay.html](http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com/articles/article_whatpeoplesay.html)

Suggested Readings: (there is an extensive bibliography on [www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com](http://www.templeofthesacredfeminine.com) )

- **Sacred Feminine Initiation: An Archetypal Journey** – Sheila Foster (E-Book available in Temple Store)
- **Descent to the Goddess** – Sylvia Perera
- **The Feminine Face of God** – Sherry Anderson & Patricia Hopkins
- **The Moon and the Virgin** – Nor Hall
- **Inanna** - Diane Wolkstein

Suggested Viewing:

- *Eve's Fire* – an evocumentary we made about Eve, kundalini, women's spiritual initiation and the archetypal process (can be purchased at [www.dangerousoldwomen.com](http://www.dangerousoldwomen.com) )

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Sheila Foster, M.A.

I have been teaching Jungian Psychology with particular emphasis on the Feminine and working with Sacred Feminine initiation since the early 80's. I had no idea I was starting a women's mystery school, or even that such a thing was possible. To learn more about the origins of the school and the path that led me here, please follow the link below, and read the preface of my E-Book, **Sacred Feminine Initiation: An Archetypal Journey.**

I have a deep interest in masculine spirituality and working with men and couples, as well. The archetype of the Sacred Marriage and the alchemy of relationship, are important aspects of my work.

Samyama literally dropped into my meditation about 18 years ago and I don't know what life would be without it. It transformed from a 'practice' to a way of living and seeing from my heart rather than my head. I have taught the mediation practice to many people and have trained many healers in the Samyama Healing approach over the year. I have witnessed many miracles and the unfathomable Mystery at work with us. I have years of training in many other healing modalities and spiritual practices, as well. In addition, I make multi-media art, write, and I am the mother of two grown children and a small, wise Being in a poodle suit named Rumi.

**For more information, please go to my websites: [www.temenoscenter.org](http://www.temenoscenter.org) or email me.**