

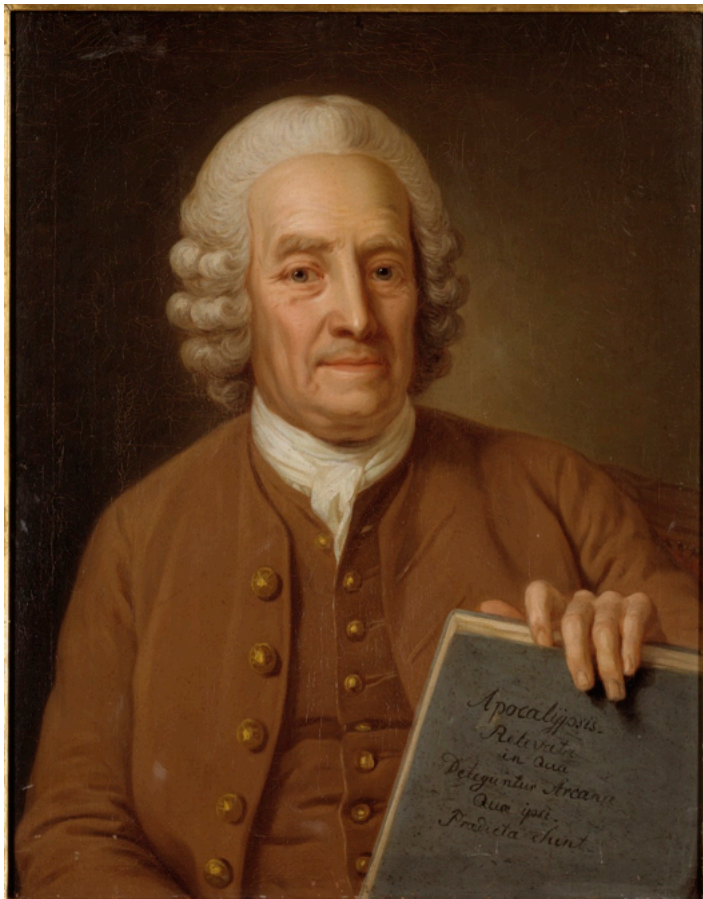
swedenborg house | Newsletter December 2018...



DECEMBER 2018

swedenborg house newsletter

Season's greetings; holiday hours; book your place for 'x 10: an ensemble of award-winning poets at Swedenborg House' on 26 January; launch of *In Celebration of Tomas Tranströmer*; new notebooks available; *Arcana Caelestia* reading group; Henry Corbin reading group; year in review.



Season's greetings |



**x 10: an ensemble of
award-winning poets at
Swedenborg House**

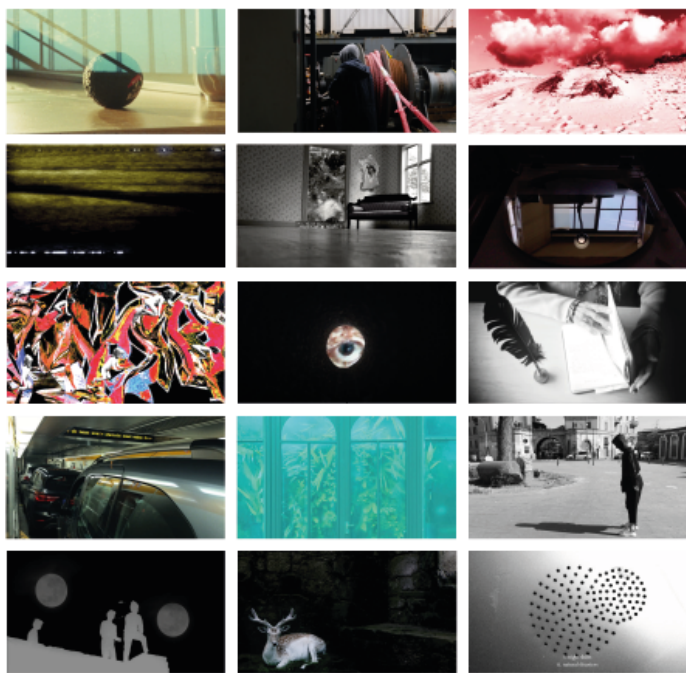
[book here](#)

**Saturday 26 January 2019 | 2.00 -
8.00 pm | free to attend but please
RSVP above | refreshments
served | The Swedenborg Society,**

Happy Christmas from everyone at Swedenborg House

Happy Christmas from everyone at Swedenborg House, and best wishes for the new year! We hope you have a restful holiday season. We've had an exciting 2018 and are looking forward to what 2019 has to offer.

The last day the bookshop is open before the holiday break is Friday 21 December, so be sure to come by before we close if you want to pick up gifts. We'll return on Wednesday 2 January!



swedenborg house | year in review

This has been a busy and exciting year for Swedenborg House! We've hosted a wide variety of events, some of which we hope to carry on

20/21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH

On the occasion of the Swedenborg Birthday Meeting, Swedenborg House will host a broad range of international poets reading from their work to coincide with the launch of the latest book in the Swedenborg Archive Series, *In Celebration of Tomas Tranströmer*. The day will feature readings from:

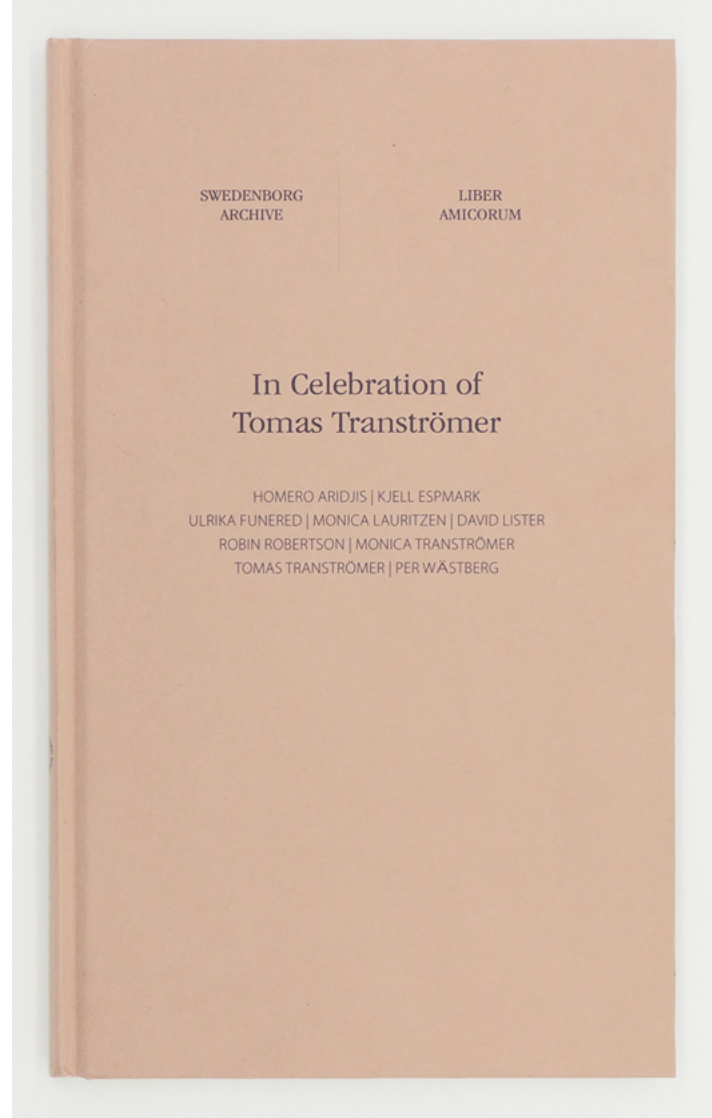
Homero Aridjis, Ruth Fainlight, Sarah Howe, Helder Macedo, Adam O'Riordan, Robin Robertson, Declan Ryan, Per Wästberg, Hannah Sullivan and Hugo Williams.

Find out more about the poets [here](#).

[Please RSVP here to get your free ticket!](#)

Also present on the day will be the Swedish Ambassador Torbjörn Sohlström.

in 2019. We held multiple [children's drawing workshops](#) with artist Sally Kindberg, allowing young visitors to discover the secrets of Swedenborg House and make comic book strips of their own. We participated in the Bloomsbury Festival in October, where we connected with the local community and held a new exhibition on [Swedenborg and the English Romantics](#). The [exhibition](#) drew directly from the collection at Swedenborg House, and illustrated the many previously unexplored links between writers and artists such as William Blake, S T Coleridge, John Flaxman, J J G Wilkinson and others, and their connection to Emanuel Swedenborg. The annual AGM was held this year in Manchester at Wellspring House, where we also launched Malcolm Peet's new biography of James John Garth Wilkinson, [Medicine, Mysticism and Mythology: Garth Wilkinson, Emanuel Swedenborg and Nineteenth-Century Esoteric Culture](#). We also held another very successful [Swedenborg Film Festival](#), guest judged by Susan Hiller and co-curated by Nora Foster of Frieze and Gareth Evans of The Whitechapel Gallery. The theme this year was 'Correspondences', and we had an impressive range of submissions. The [winners](#) were Oona Grimes, Alcaeus Spyrou and Andrew Kötting. Associated with the film festival was the UK premiere and installation for two days of



[get your copy here](#)

About the book:

Tomas Tranströmer (1931-2015) was one of Sweden's most universally respected literary exports, his poetry being translated into over 60 different languages and drawing the admiration of international contemporaries (many of whom would become close friends and translators of his work), such as Czesław Miłosz, Joseph Brodsky and Robert Bly. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature to great acclaim in 2011.

In Celebration of Tomas Tranströmer celebrates Tranströmer's life and work, featuring a carefully

[Susan Hiller's work *Lost and Found*.](#)

Our next big event, as mentioned, is ['x 10: an ensemble of award-winning poets at Swedenborg House'](#), at which we will be officially launching *In Celebration of Tomas Tranströmer*. We hope to see many of you there!

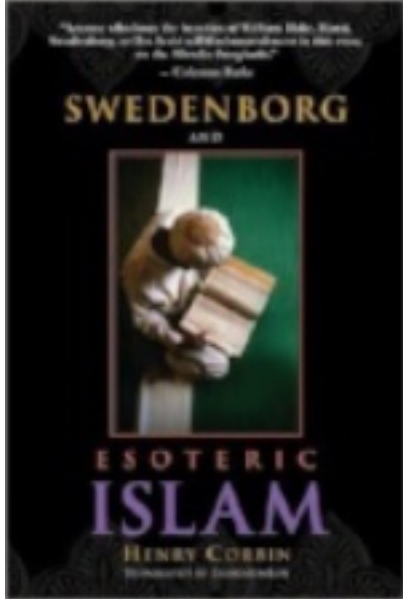


new in bookshop | notebooks and sketchbooks

We now have [notebooks](#) and [sketchbooks](#) available in the bookshop! They are beautiful quality, similar to the books in our Archive Series. The blue notebook has ruled pages and the pink sketchbook has blank, so you'll be able to use them for whatever you need, and both have a convenient ribbon to hold your place. These will sell for £4.95; come by soon to pick yours up!

considered selection of his poetry, in translations by the award-winning Scottish poet Robin Robertson, and an array of revealing and insightful tributes, appreciations and reminiscences from some of Tomas's closest literary friends and colleagues, including the Swedish writer and literary historian, Kjell Espmark; the journalist and Chair of the Nobel Committee, Per Wästberg; the literary critic and producer Monica Lauritzen; and the Mexican poet, environmental campaigner and former president of PEN International Homero Aridjis.

Tranströmer's writing possessed a deceptive simplicity that often saw him considered a 'poet's poet', simultaneously mineral and metaphysical in its concerns, Seamus Heaney described it as permitting us 'to be happily certain of our own uncertainties'. It was somehow fitting that, in conjunction with the Swedish Embassy, a commemoration of Tomas should take place at Swedenborg House, an event out of which this book was born. That day's proceedings were closed by Tomas's widow, Monica, whose warm and moving words also close this volume, and should delight anyone with an interest in Tranströmer's poetry.



[book your place here](#)

Wednesday 9 January 2018 | 2.00 – 4.00 pm | Swedenborg House, 20/21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH | FREE | Refreshments served |

Discussions will be led by Max Phillips

In the current cultural paradigm, which takes for granted the tenets of scientific materialism, the word ‘imaginary’ is often used synonymously with ‘unreal’. However, in most traditional cultures the life of inner experience has been valued as the source of richness and meaning that not only carried importance vis-à-vis the world of matter, but stood in counterbalance to it. Hence, in the Islamic tradition, every phenomenon in the outer-world (*Zāhir*) has its corresponding opposite in the inner world of spirit (*bāṭin*). The uncovering of these inner worlds (or ‘climates’) is the goal of the spiritual seeker.



Arcana Coelestia Reading Group | update

[Book your place here](#)

Next meeting: Thursday 31 January 2018 | 6.00 - 8.00 pm | Gardiner Room, Swedenborg House, 20/21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH | FREE | Last Thursday of every month

The *Arcana Coelestia* reading group continues with volume two of Swedenborg's magnum opus on 31 January.

[Book your place here!](#)

Newcomers welcome

The discussions will be based on the publication *Swedenborg and Esoteric Islam* by the late Islamic scholar and perennial philosopher Henry Corbin.

The session on 3 October will continue with the second essay in the volume entitled 'Comparative Spiritual Hermeneutics', which compares the revelation of the internal sense of the sacred books to two distinct religions, Christianity and Islam.

[Book your place here!](#)



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Our mailing address is:

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