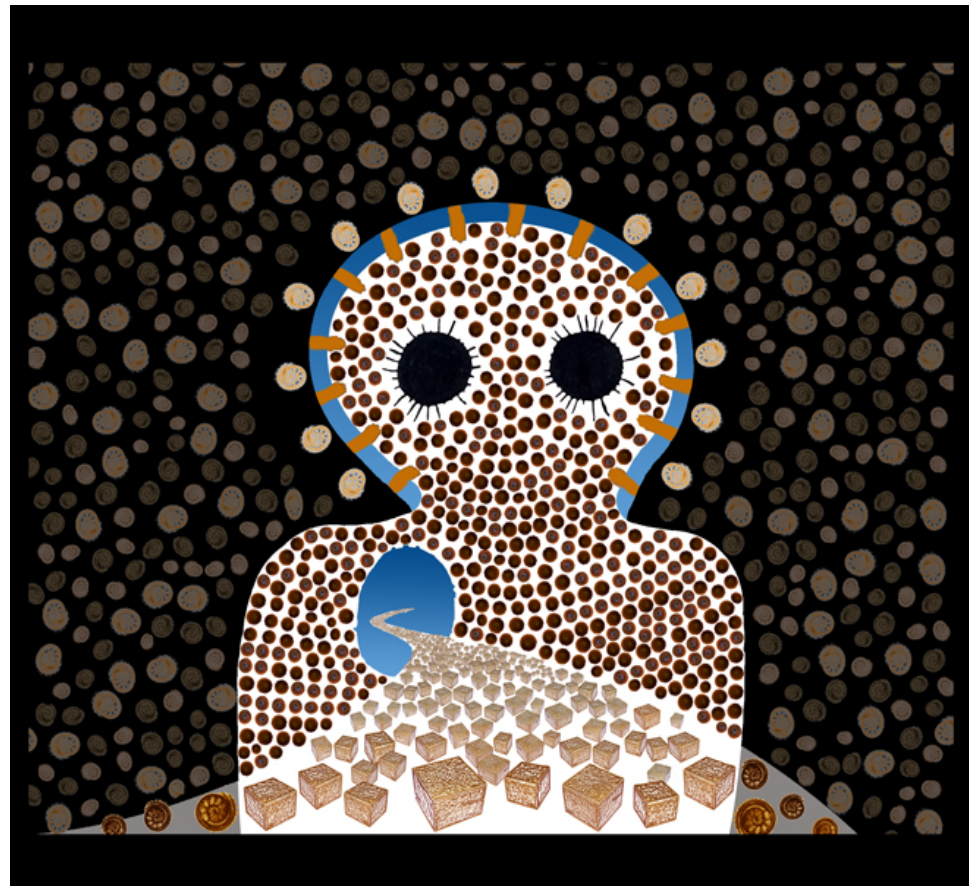


Dialogue Australasia Network presents

# Teaching Stillness & Silence Seminars



*Onkidoo* - Richard Browning

19-26 March 2010

Perth - Brisbane - Sydney - Adelaide - Melbourne - Tasmania

w w w . d i a l o g u e a u s t r a l a s i a . o r g



# Teaching Stillness & Silence

*We progress by stopping* - Meister Eckhart

Almost everything that students experience today inhibits their journey inward towards stillness and silence. The world suggests the solution to this restlessness lies outside of oneself in the pursuit of a bigger and more exciting life. Students are therefore often over-stimulated, and as result, may lose a sense of their own personal wholeness and a capacity to engage fully with the world as balanced human beings. It is vital that education responds to such challenges by presenting and teaching an alternative way of being. We want you to consider a new learning and a new imagination for our students that locates the teaching of stillness and silence within each person at the heart of education.

In these practical seminars, Ernie Christie and Richard Browning offer complementary approaches to Teaching Stillness and Silence for Teachers of all Years, Chaplains and Teachers of Religious Education & Values.

## **Part 1: Teaching Christian Meditation to Children - Ernie Christie**

- \* A rationale for Stillness & Silence
- \* The contemplative tradition: Meditation as an inclusive, educational, spiritual practice
  - \* A practical experience of Christian Meditation
  - \* Fruits of Stillness & Silence

## **Part 2: Icons, Metaphor and Artful Play in the Classroom - Richard Browning**

- \* Drinking in imagination: An affirmation of the childhood inclination
  - \* A meditation on time using the Onkidoo Icon
- \* Spontaneous explorations of metaphor and nude drawings of the Tree of Life

Participants should expect intelligent contemplation, unhurried participation and creative reflection. The content is applicable across a wide range of student age groups and in Part 2, has its origins within a middle school demographic.

For more detailed seminar information see: [www.dialogueaustralasia.org](http://www.dialogueaustralasia.org)

**Ernie Christie** is Deputy Director of the Catholic Education Office for the Diocese of Townsville with a teaching career spanning 28 years. Meeting Fr Laurence Freeman (Director of the World Community for Christian Meditation) sparked an interest in and led to a passion for a contemplative way of being in the Christian tradition. Ernie has since been a meditator for more than 12 years and is committed to teaching the practice to children. In what is a world-first, Ernie has developed and implemented a systematised practice of Christian Meditation in all 31 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Townsville. In his book, *Coming Home: A Guide to Teaching Christian Meditation to Children*, Ernie has provided a guide to training teachers in delivering this ancient practice in the classroom, with excellent and inspiring results.

*'Meditation is prayer of the heart'*

**Richard Browning** is Director of Community at Radford College, Canberra where he is responsible for the development of the ethos and values culture of the school and RAS, the programme of awareness and service that provides the arena for students to be deeply involved in the issues that shape our time. An activist of the imagination, story teller and artist, Richard's chief work is the provocation of another's imagination, achieved best through the art of listening. Richard has led Retreats for Anglican School Principals and presented a remarkable workshop at the 2009 DAN Conference, after which one delegate commented, 'Richard should be cloned and given to every school.' Having such a large and noisy man teach stillness and silence might seem a little mischievous. However, having such an unlikely model of inner stillness should encourage any teacher who recognises the link between the affective and deep, life long learning.

*'Listening is oxygen for ideas and the ground for respect.'*

# Teaching Stillness & Silence Seminars 19-26 March 2010 - Booking Form

Please post completed Booking Form to DAN, 34 Douglas Ave, SOUTH PERTH WA 6151 or Copy details & Email to dan@dialogueaustralasia.org

**R E G I S T R A T I O N S   C L O S E   F R I D A Y   5   M A R C H   2 0 1 0**

**Name(s):** ..... **Position in School:**.....

**School/Organisation:** .....

**Email:** ..... **Contact Number:** .....

**Postal Address for Invoice:** .....

**Seminar** (please circle): **Perth 19/3, Brisbane 22/3, Sydney 23/3, Adelaide 24/3, Melbourne 25/3, Hobart 26/3**

*Detailed venue information will be advised by email when booking is received. Seminars run from 9am-3pm.*

**Any dietary requirements/comments:** .....

**Cost (GST Incl): \$140/person or \$120/person** (for DAN members and if more than one teacher from the same school)      **Total \$.....**

*Cost includes Seminar, Morning Tea, Lunch & Teaching DVD*

**Payment Type** (please circle):      **CHEQUE**    (**payable to Dialogue Australasia Network**)    or    **EFT**

**Account Name:** Dialogue Australasia Network    **BSB:** 062-821    **Account Number:** 1012 1338    **Email Remittance Advice to** dan@dialogueaustralasia.org

**Tax Invoice:** Dialogue Australasia Network ABN 90 621 907 834