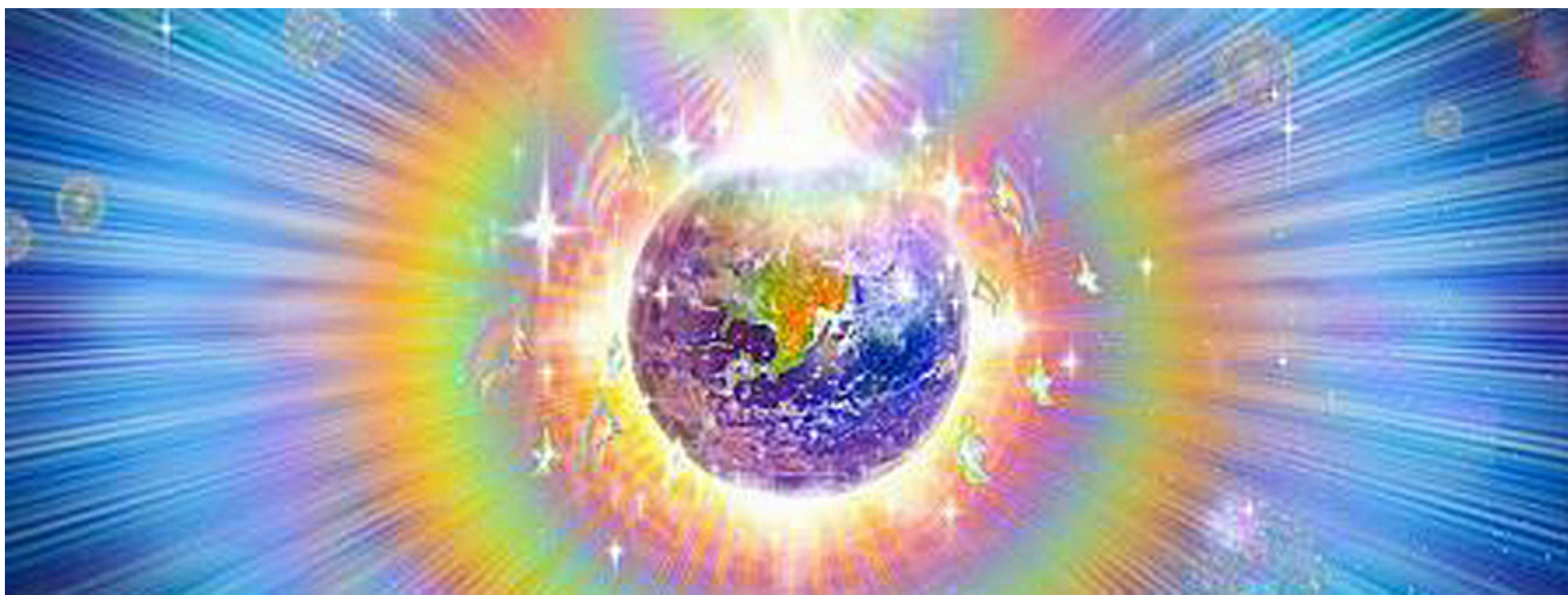


The Call of the Earth in a Time of Transition



The Present Moment

- **Our time is a time of tremendous changes.**
- **It is much more than a change of culture, values. We live in between two times: a change of worldview.**
- **And also a change of geo-biological time: a moment of great evolutionary leaps.**
- **Earth herself is changing and we do not know where all this leads to.**

THE ECOZOIC ERA

We need to go back to the Beginning

to understand where we are now!

We need a far look at everything!

- **The Cenozoic period, (meaning “a period of “New Life”) covers the last 65 million years of Earth life and started after the disappearance of the dinosaurs.**
- **Earth entered a time marked by an explosion of new species and richness of life. The time of the mammals and the emergence of the human.**
- **Now we are in a great extinction wave and we know that this period is ending.**

Just remember where we have come from

The beginning



Image source Nasa pictures

Formation of stars

Image source Nasa Pictures

Sun, Earth and other planets



Image source Nasa Pictures



**We
remember
the
creation
of
Earth, our
home**

Life





**Then we
humans
came and
found
a beautiful
Earth
teeming
with Life.**



Abundant earth

**What is our place in the circle of all life?
Do we have a mission?**





**Nothing we
can do now
could change
the fact that
the Cenozoic
Era is ending**

Image source Resurgence magazine

- **Humanity wakes up on a devastated Earth.**
- **Where a war is going on against nature and we compete for the last resources to keep a growth economy going.**
- **We are alienated from ourselves, the others, from nature and the community of life, and the Divine.**

Our governments and institutions with no vision and direction to move into the future.

Humans experience a deep woundedness at soul level ; a sense of loss of human dignity.

With a soul searching quest: what does it really mean to be human?



Image source internet



The Cenozoic Era
is ending. The
Great Work of our
time is to bring into
being the Ecozoic
Era as the planet
moves from the
end of the
Cenozoic Era.

The (ecological) crisis of our time

- **Is a moment of great opportunity.**
- **Will we continue on the path of economic development and growth without consideration of the cost for the Earth?**
- **Technozoicum or Ecozoicum: the choice is ours!**
- **Which path will humanity choose?**

The present situation calls for:

- **1. An awakening and a transformation at the individual level.**
- **2. Opening our consciousness and widening it on individual, communal and planetary level.**
- **3. In all we do, all that we decide we have to include the wellbeing for the whole Earth community.**

- **We will need to understand the processes of how the Universe and the Earth came into being, in order to find the perspectives and directions for the way ahead.**
- **The situation we are in now is caused by the human mind and the way we have inhabited the Earth.**
- **We need to understand the present transformation - processes of Earth.**

The Great Work (Th.Berry)



The Great Work before us:

The task of moving modern industrial civilization from its present devastating influence on the Earth to a more benign mode of presence.

Humans need a new understanding of their role and place in the universe and the whole community of life.

How?

All human institutions, professions, programs and activities must now be judged primarily by the extent to which they inhibit, ignore or foster a mutually enhancing human-Earth relationship.

(Thomas Berry)

In all we do and decide, on personal, communal , global level we need to question the effect of our actions and decisions. Do we ignore, harm or foster the Earth and all her life?

The Three Building Blocks in working for the transition of our time

1. The Sacred Story of the Universe

- Awakens in us a deep wonder about how everything came into existence of everything and gives us an new understanding of our place in the universe.**
- The Story connects us with people beyond clan, family and tribe and provides a unifying vision for action.**
- The story gives words to the change we experience now.**

2. Bioregionalism

- 1. A bioregion is a naturally occurring self-supporting geobiological unit. We know the place where we live; our local community of life, our bio-home.**
- 2. We are aware of our place in the community of life and our life and mission are rooted in and coming from this strong bondedness. We have entered into the community of life.**
- 3. This gives us a new vision for the ordering of society: we are one with all that is alive around us: the human and more- than –human community.**

- **Bioregionalism is the “doing” dimension of the Ecozoic Society. It is the way in which we put an ecological vision into practice and make it happen.**
- **Examples of Bioregionalism are: Permaculture movement, Eco-villages, Transition Towns and many other movements throughout the world.**
- **All we do flows from discernment: does this action inhibit, ignore foster a mutually enhancing human-Earth relationship?**

3. Ecological Spirituality

- **Ecological spirituality is the “being” dimension of the Ecozoic Society.**
- **Grounded in the sense that, from the beginning, the universe had a psychic /spiritual dimension and this dimension is manifest in every element of the universe and the universe as a whole.**

The call and work for transition of our time

- **Now the time has come that people live again with and from a deep respect for the Earth.**
- **Now we will take up the task of changing the relationship of humans with the Earth: no longer exploitation and devastation, but harmony between humans and the rest of the Earth – community.**
- **Pax Gaia!**

1. We need to rediscover who we are as humans



We need to heal the wounded human spirit and restore our human dignity

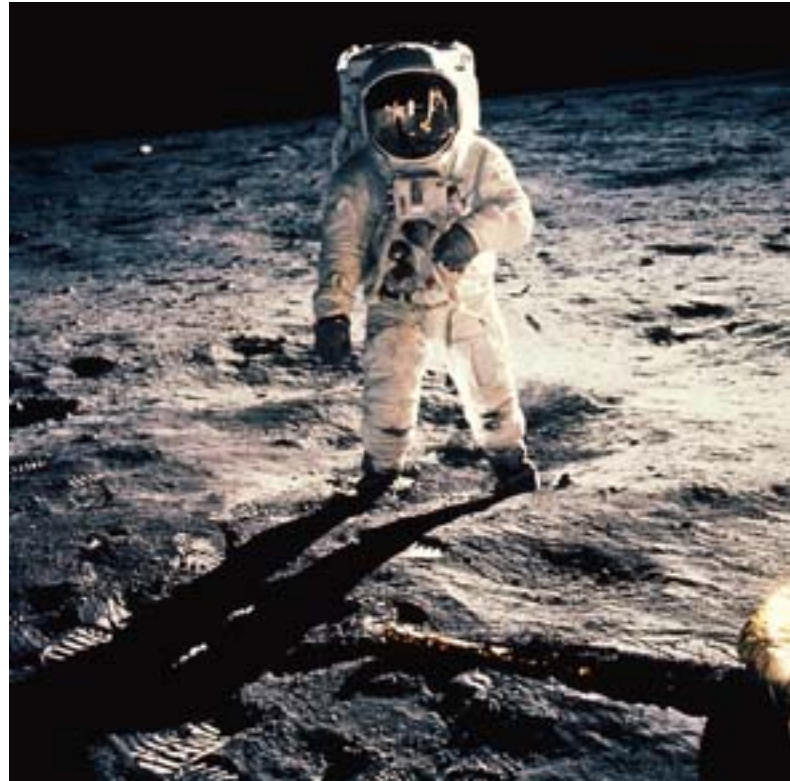
2. What does it mean to be human?

**We are in an impasse.
What is our role and
place in the universe?**

**What makes us really
human?**

**Who are we as a
species?**

Image source Nasa pictures



3. With critical reflection

What do we humans really need?

Science and technology must be coherent with the technologies of the natural world.

We need intimate communication with the technological as well with the natural world.



4. In the community of all life

**How can we create and
sustain a balanced
environment in which we
can live?**

**What will make human life
really blossom in the midst
of the Earth community?**

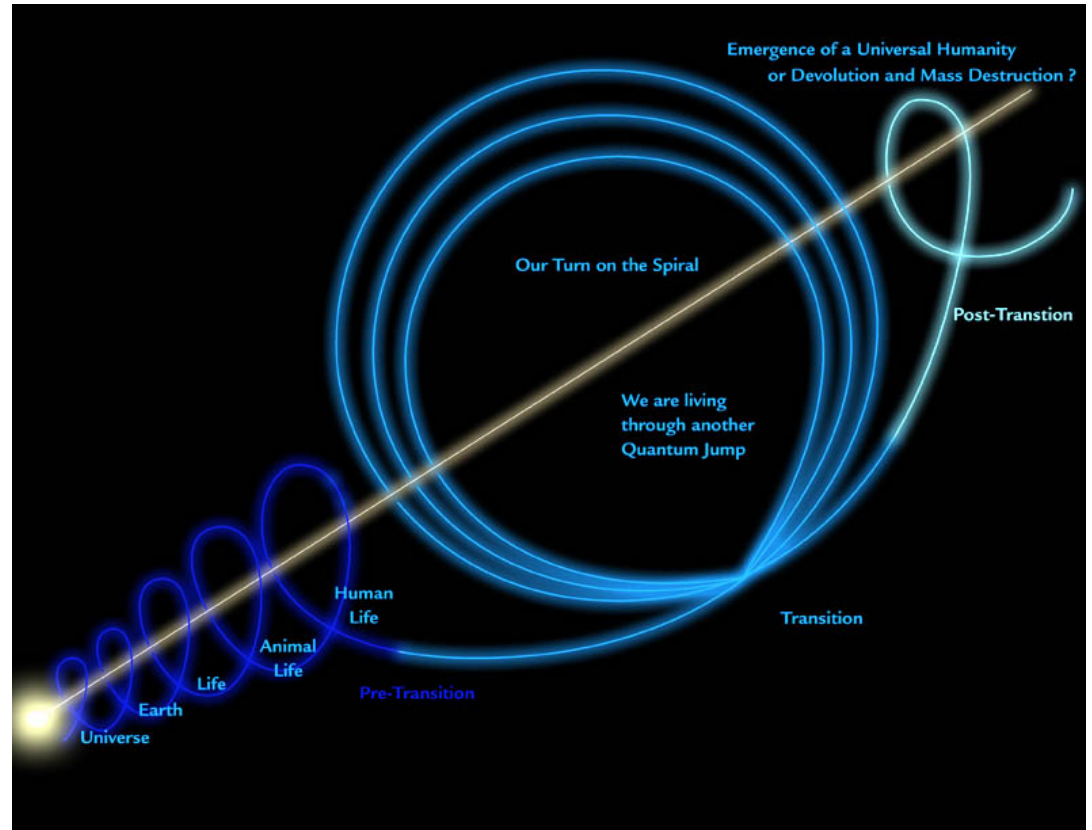
**Our future as humanity is
deeply intertwined with the
future of the whole
community of life.**



MMS Ecolearning Center, Philippines

5. In a time- developmental context

Our sense of who we are and what our role is must begin where the Universe begins.



6. By means of shared dream experience.

The Universe seems to be the fulfillment of something so highly imaginative and so overwhelming that it must have been dreamed into existence. A matter of heart consciousness.

How can we dream the dreams of the Earth?



The dreams of the past centuries

have brought so much devastation and loss of life. So we better watch our dreams!

What dream can shape a movement towards the Ecozoic time: the dream of a sustainable life community?

Think of the future generation



Image source MMZ
Africa

**We are their ancestor. Our heart will leap with joy,
and nothing that is asked now, will be too much!**

*Each of us is called to awaken to
the Spiritual Mission of our time.*



Unknown source

Greta Thunberg, 2020 Climate Activist.

**My heart is troubled
by all I cannot save.
So much has been
destroyed.**

**I have to cast my lot
in with those,
who, age after age,
perversely, with no
extraordinary power
reconstitute the
world.**

Adrienne Rich



Delta Donau Romania

Image source free internet



Image source internet

The most remarkable feature of this historical moment on Earth is not that we are on the way to destroying the world — we've actually been on the way for quite a while.

It is that we are beginning to wake up, as from a millennia-long sleep, to a whole new relationship to our world, to ourselves and each other.

J. Macy

***We are at the same time
deathbed attenders
and midwives
of a new time.***

Joanna Macy

Inspiration:

- Thomas Berry: The Great Work ISBN 0-609-80499-5
- Version 2021