Subject: New Podcast & digital academia

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The Arcane Academia Newsletter by Dr Angela Puca



Hello Symposiast,

As you may know, last week I launched my podcast, which you can now find on your favourite podcast platform.

I've already got some positive feedback and I'm curious to see if it reaches out to a new audience that might expand our symposium.

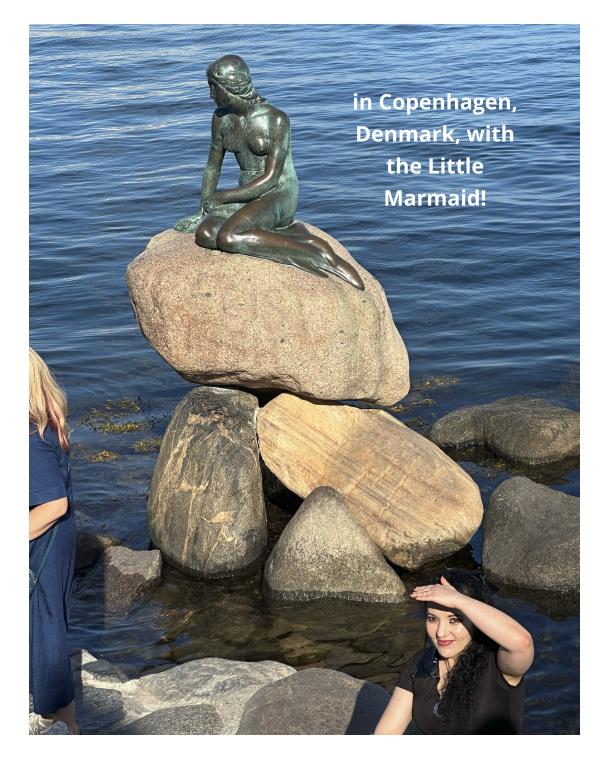
For now, I'll have the audio version of my YouTube videos, but in the future - who knows? If the podcast grows, I might have unique episodes over there. Either way, I know some people prefer to listen rather than watch (especially long) episodes. Speaking of episodes, I am going to release one on The Lesser Banishing Ritual of the Pentagram next Sunday, already available for Philosophers+ patrons. There's only one academic paper on the topic that was the source of my episode. It's on the open-source journal Correspondences, so it's free to read if you want! I love open-source knowledge! Well, we all know nothing is *really* free because you always need someone to sustain a project, but the fact that is free for everyone (including people who can't afford to contribute) and supported by those who can and want to make that knowledge available to all is a much more admirable model, in my opinion! (Thanks, patrons! 🙏)

Anyway, here's the link:

http://correspondencesjournal.com/ojs/ojs/index.php/home/article/view/97

I was also thinking of doing some research on UFO religions in the New Age and esoteric milieu to make an episode on that next week, given the hype around the topic at the moment!

my website



Academic Adventures

At the ESSWE conference in Sweden last month, Prof Carole Cusack introduced me to other scholars as a "digital academic". I liked that and will probably use it! I never know how to define myself in my liminal position between academia and social media outreach. "Public scholar" is another term I've used, although "scholar" is sometimes used by people who love research and are not necessarily academics.

Anyway, aside from my endeavours as a "digital academic", I'm also working on more traditional academic projects.

I really need to find the time and mental space in the upcoming weeks to write a research proposal for Oxford University Press and for the University of Amsterdam.

I'm also super excited because I've got invited to present a research paper at Cambridge University in September for the BASR conference! That's going to be my first time at Cambridge and you guys are going to hear all about it.

I'll leave you below my title and abstract. I'll definitely design a survey (or two!) to help my understanding of the topic.

Title: From Destruction to Renewal: Alternative Apocalyptic Discourses in Contemporary Paganism.

Abstract

As the world confronts the reality of climate change and environmental degradation, apocalyptic discourses have emerged in both religious and secular contexts. This paper investigates the unique perspectives and approaches to apocalyptic narratives in Pagan traditions and how they contribute to broader conversations on environmental crises and future imaginaries.

Employing interdisciplinary methodologies, including textual analysis, netnographic fieldwork, and discourse analysis, I will critically examine the apocalyptic narratives present within contemporary Paganism. We explore how these narratives diverge from traditional, monotheistic interpretations of the apocalypse, emphasising the cyclical nature of life, death, and rebirth as well as the interconnectedness of all living beings.

I will analyse how these alternative apocalyptic discourses within Paganism can foster a sense of empowerment and responsibility towards the Earth rather than promoting fatalism or despair. This can be seen by investigating how Pagan

apocalyptic narratives intersect with environmental activism, climate justice, and visions of a sustainable future.

This contributes to a broader understanding of contemporary apocalyptic discourse by highlighting the unique perspectives and approaches within Paganism. By examining the method and theory in the study of Pagan apocalyptic narratives, we can gain valuable insights into the diverse ways religious traditions engage with environmental crises and envision alternative futures.

What do you think? Does it sound interesting? I hope so!

This is it for this week. I'd really appreciate it if you'd share my work (anything you love) so that our symposium can flourish.

Until next week, stay tuned for all the academic fun and for the Arcane Academia, of course!





Coming next in my Inner Symposium...

Zoom gathering with all patrons on Sunday 30th of July at 4 pm UK time.

Join my Inner Symposium

All my Links

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