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Editorial

Consciousness, Knowledge, Soul: Many Doorways Toward the Horizon for the Sailor

Rossana Strambaci, Ph.D.

ITJ Editor Director

We can probably find a conductive thread, a common echo, between the variegated series of contributions to this issue. We may say that each contribution talks about a kind of gateway, an access, a portal.

One of these gates is the sound: its “substance”, its impact on bodies and matter, its strength in redefining boundaries. So we have the paper of Russell Oliver Stone about *Sounding as a tool for spiritual awakening*.

Another gateway is the memory of places, the tracks that history of mankind leave on them, as told by the essay of Margaret Kerr *Place memory and the body*.

The kaleidoscope of consciousness, or else of the soul, opens up when Julia Sellers writes about *Common characteristic of anomalous perceptual experiences*, presenting the phenomenology of Out of Bodies Experiences, Near Death Experiences and ictal autoscopic phenomena.

Kaleidoscope of consciousness is more than ever vivid in psychedelic experiences.

In the path of Tart's studies in the 70's, psychedelic substances as a tool and a strategy for research are being studied in the work of Michael Doty *Psychedelic Informed Experiential Research (PIER)*. According to Doty's

study (which is anyway aware of legal, medical and ethical implications of this issue) such kind of research it's capable of generating alternative patterns and a way to a non-categorical knowing, that seems to have access to an information field normally not available.

A wider horizon of creativity, effectiveness and well-being opens to those who are able to see work, even work in a result-oriented company, in a more "soulful" way. This is the point of the writing of **Serge Beddington-Behrens**, that is a preview of his book *Gateways to the soul: inner work for the outer world*, which is being published in August 2020.

Between the contributions of this issue, the resource of the intuitive feminine opens up throughout Eva's way of knowledge, which rebels against the harsh father's law and opens the doorway - one more gate - to the humanness as we know it. That is part of the story told by **Ingo Benjamin Jahrsetz**, in his speech in the last Eurotas meeting.

"Sacredness appears when the ego disappears from the stage - says Jahrsetz - and "awaking up is not an experience; it's a radical change in the perspective of how we see the world."

So, where do those doors lead? What's out of them? We are asking ourselves

this, at each level of human knowledge. It's a these days news that Nature published, on October 23th, the report (due to the physicist John Martinis and his group of California university at Santa Barbara) about the experimental Quantum Computer, named Sycamore, based on the Qubit, the quantic information unit. The fascinating theme, from a non-technical point of view, is that the working principle of this computer is no more a binary system 0/1, but a "field" of global information. This kind of information, that performs the exchange between each single Qubit, is grounded on the non-local proprieties of quantum particles and on their entanglement.

Pure science and technology point up new ways of placing and understanding phenomenal experience. What only a few decades ago was no more than a series of mathematical insights, becomes more and more often verifiable in factual and experimental reality.

Thus, human consciousness and human knowledge extend their boundaries; perhaps it would be better to say that they shift their center of gravity. In fact, if we talk about enlargement we are supposed to mean that we start from a center, a center which probably coincides with mankind. But if we shift the center,

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then we enjoy a different perspective. Universe is greater and bigger than ever and a strange vertigo moves out the observation point, making it multicentric: here and elsewhere at the same time. A vertigo that seems to come from far away and that has the flavor of a long awaited reconciliation.