

Full Moon in Sagittarius

Friday 9th June 2017

On this night we will be connecting to the energy of the Sagittarius Full Moon under the guidance of the great Magician Merlin.

This Full Moon is about communication, attitude, and our sense of adventure. Something has been building inside of us, and now is the time when the energy of the cosmos fairly demands that we let it out.

Sydney Ritual

Everyone walks in single file with beat of the drum entering the circle from the Western Quarter.

Sound Awen - AA--OO--WEN

A circle is cast around about, spirit stay in, world stay out; a circle is cast around about, a world within a world without; the circle is cast around and around, in spirit and power we are now bound.

East

Oh great seer Esmas,
Ancient one of Gorias
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle,
With the power of the spear of Lugh
Come forth so mote it be

North

Oh great seer Usias
Ancient one of Findias
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle.
With the power of the sword of Nuada
Come forth so mote it be

West

Oh great seer Semias,
Ancient one of Murias,
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
With the power of the cauldron of Dagda
Come forth so mote it be

South

Oh great seer Morfessa,
Ancient one of Falias,
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
With the power of the Stone of Lia Fail
Come forth so mote it be

Goddess

Lady of the Lake, the waters that flow in your soul inspire the nobility which shapes our destiny.

Lady of the Lake who sees beyond the veil allow us to experience your Mystery
Let love flow like the moon that penetrates the deepest longing of our heart.
Let us be as one tonight
Hail and Welcome

God

You who are the wind that gives voice to the trees
The Lord of Earth, the Sentinel of Eternity
You are the circle of standing stones
The fire along the blade of a sword
Mighty Merlin Come to us now
Hail & Welcome

Intent

The union of the physical and the spiritual in the search for truth & knowledge.

Meditation on Merlin

Activity

Creating a bracelet from a cord with 3 beads to represent three things we want to bring into reality. Each participant is anointed with water from the chalice. We all partake of ritual wine.

We hold hands and sing:

We are a circle, a living circle
With no beginning and never ending.

Closing

Goddess

Lady of the Lake, thank you for allowing us to experience your Mystery
Let love flow like the moon that penetrates the deepest longing of our heart.
Let us be as one
Hail and Farewell

God

Oh Merlin, seer, prophet, guardian of the world, master of forest and magic
Thank you for guarding & protecting this circle
May the light of Avalon shine within our soul
Hail & Farewell

Sound Awen three times. AA--OO--WEN

South

Oh great seer Morfessa,
Ancient one of Falias,
Thank you for your guidance & protection
With the power of the Stone of Lia Fail
Hail & Farewell

West

Oh great seer Semias,
Ancient one of Murias,
Thank you for your guidance & protection
With the power of the cauldron of Dagda
Hail & Farewell

North

Oh great seer Usias
Ancient one of Findias
Thank you for your guidance & protection
With the power of the sword of Nuada
Hail & Farewell

East

Oh great seer Esmas,
Ancient one of Gorias
Thank you for your guidance & protection
With the power of the spear of Lugh
Hail & Farewell

May this circle be open but unbroken
May the peace of the Goddess be ever in our hearts.
Merry Meet and Merry Part
And Merry Meet again.

Nowra Ritual

The Nowra and Sydney SOL Circles use the same quarter calls but the God/Goddess invocations and activities for each ritual are written by each group to suit their own preferences.

MERLIN INVOCATION

I call upon the great wizard Merlin
with respect and understanding
That we become a student to your ancient teachings
Merlin, Merlin, I invoke thee!

With your knowledge and wisdom show us the way
Guide us from darkness to the light
Help us remove the boundaries that we construct
Merlin, Merlin, I invoke thee!

Merlin, master and weaver of universal knowledge
Remind us of what was and will be again
Merlin, Merlin I invoke thee!
Merlin, Merlin I invoke thee!!
Merlin, Merlin I invoke thee!!!

CLOSING

MERLIN

We called upon you, the great wizard Merlin
With respect and understanding
Asking to become a student of your ancient teachings
Merlin, Merlin, we bid thee farewell

With your knowledge and wisdom, you showed us the way
And guided us from darkness to light
Helping us to remove the boundaries that we constructed
Merlin, Merlin, we bid thee farewell

Merlin, master and weaver of universal knowledge
Thank you for reminding us of what was and will be again
Merlin, Merlin, we bid thee hail and farewell!

The Ritual of the Wild - Meditation on Merlin for June Full Moon Circle 2017

We stand together in a circle in the woodlands. We stand, the wet leaves under our feet, the woods full of the fragrance of Winter. The air, damp with mist and cool on the skin. It is late evening in early Winter, and the time is mid Samhain.

We have joined together within this circle and within this space to connect with and explore the figure of Merlin. Not the Merlin of the Arthurian stories, but Merlin, the Wild Man of the Woods, who ran wild for thirty years within the forest of Caledonia after the Battle of Arderydd (arderith), where the last Pagan king of Britain, Gwendolleg, and all of Merlin's friends and relations were slaughtered, and Merlin himself even slayed his own nephew.

As the battle ended, and the air was left thick with the copper taint of spilled blood, a stillness fell upon the battlefield and the land. Merlin looked through the mist around him and saw hundreds of dead bodies, and he realised he was the last person standing – he was completely alone in the world. With that realisation came the fact that he could not return to society, a place that he could no longer recognise, as the new Christian faith spread across the land.

So Merlin chose to retreat from the world of the humans, and of the mundane, and he chose to live in the forest, alone, yet with the company of the animals. He lived as a forager and trapper, keeping himself alive by eating the flesh of animals, the fruit of the trees and bushes, the plants, and the fungus that forms on dead branches and the forest floor.

The Caledonian forest was vast at that time, and those who came upon him would ask him to prophesise for them. He would tell them their future, and very often what he foretold would come to pass. As he spent his time within the woods, he befriended certain animals one of which was a little piglet, and he also rode the backs of wolves and deer. He became the Wild Man of the Woods – that archetypal figure that lies within the hearts of us all. That part of our human soul that, when it sees the woodlands, cannot help but be called by the dark shadows within – we wonder what it would be like to return to that place and time when we relied heavily on the Earth and the seasons for our lives.

So we stand here under the trees, and we each spoke our own truths. We speak of our own madness, times in our lives where we felt like our soul has been stripped to the very bone, that we in fact disappeared, and didn't know ourselves. We may have fallen so deep that we no longer existed, and reached the bottom of that pit, ready to rebuild ourselves, slowly, gradually, until we became the person we are today.

We stand here, in this forest, together, yet alone. It is here that Merlin joins our circle, standing in the centre, looking at each of us intently, burning his gaze deep into each of our souls. He asks us in a booming voice "are you ready to give up that which you hold onto, that which is no longer needed, so that you may receive what you have been missing?". If you are truly ready to receive the ancient knowledge and magick I am willing to share with you, you must first lose everything.

If you are ready, answer Merlin now.

At this point you begin to remove your clothing. You are now exposed for all to see. You stand there naked in front of the group, in front of Merlin, but instead of feeling shame or embarrassment, you feel free and empowered. You have lost everything and yet you have never felt more alive and at peace. Take a moment now to lose yourself in the woods, and connect with Merlin to receive the ancient knowledge and magick that he chooses to share with you. When it is time I will call you back.

Return now to the circle in the forest. You have lost yourself in the woods with Merlin and now return a wild woman, just as Merlin did after the battle of Arderydd. And just like him you were touched and found something real, something so beautiful that your life will never be the same again. Merlin instructs you to lay down upon the earth. One by one he covers our bodies with debris from the forest floor. In the cold night air, you lay there, touching the soil with your bare skin, yet you are completely connected to Merlin and the Mother and you are safe and warm and loved. You take this in for just a moment before Merlin instructs you to sit up and kneel before him, your

hands and foreheads touching the earth. You take in the smell of the scent of the wet fallen leaves on the forest floor, and the mustiness of the mushrooms and fungus that are scattered around us all.

As you kneel in this pose, comforted by the earth, Merlin recites a poem. These are the words Merlin cried as he held, in despair, a little piglet, knowing that his life would never be the same again. And so, we too, with our heads to the earth, take in the words and feeling of this poem, knowing that our lives will never be the same again.

Listen little pig,

Oh little trembling one,

Under this thin blanket, I can find no repose,

And since the battle of Arderydd, (pronounced arderith)
I no longer care,

If the sky falls,

Or the sea overflows.

I-aaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmmmmmm

And as the image of what lay within our hearts comes into our heads we shout, cry out, and whisper in long tones.....

I-aaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmmmmmm

the Spirit of the forest!

I-aaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmmmmmm

the beating heart of the earth!

I-aaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmmmmmm

the stag of seven tines!

I-aaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmmmmmm

the blood within your veins!

I-aaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmmmmmm

the love that never dies!

I-aaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmmmmmm

And each one of us in this moment touched by the madness and wonder and enigma that is Merlin are connected to the wild woman within and we let go of all that has gone before and offer ourselves to the journey that lay ahead and the knowledge that has been bestowed upon us.