

Myth, Folklore, and Legend:

The Video Legacy of Joseph Campbell

Tuesday March 3: 6-9 PM for initial presentation and subsequent Tuesdays.

“In all the world, there is but one story.” That was Joseph Campbell’s conclusion after studying the myths, legends, and folklore of many cultures over his entire lifetime. Campbell, who was one of the leading experts on mythology, died in 1987 and is probably best known for the interviews that he did with Bill Moyers for PBS.

What do old myths and legends have to tell us about our daily lives in 21st century America? Novels and movies like “The Di Vinci Code” and “The Matrix” have popularized the contemporary notion of myth....the end of the Mayan calendar which ends on December 21, 2012 (along with similar references to the same date in the Hopi, Aztec, Egyptian and European traditions) have fascinated others. (“Nostradamus, 2012” is currently running on the History Channel!) Atlantis, Lumeria, Mu! Did they exist and if they did, what do the stories of their civilizations have to tell us? And if they didn’t, why were the stories “invented”? Edgar Cayce (the great American “sleeping prophet”) predicted the rise of Atlantis in 1990....is there any evidence that he was right? Why were ancients so in tune with the stars and with making calendars? (How could their ancient calendars be more accurate than ours?) How old are earth’s civilizations? Who built the Sphinx and why?

If these and other similar questions interest you, we’d invite you to join us at 6:00pm on Tuesday, March 3rd and subsequent Tuesday evenings. We will begin by focusing on what Joseph Campbell had to tell us through his interviews with Bill Moyer and others and will branch off into other video based materials as interests dictate. This is intended to be a relatively structured introduction that will take us where the group wants to go as we go along.

