

Library Special Collections Lecture Series

Revisiting Visionary Utopia: Katherine Tingley's Lomaland, 1898-1942

The crest of Point Loma, once a wilderness of sagebrush and chaparral, became in 1897 the site of one of the most interesting communities in the history of California. Within a few years, under the guidance of Katherine Tingley, an extraordinary group of writers, artists, scientists, and agricultural experts played a major role in the development of the Theosophical movement and the cultural progress of San Diego.

This series of seven lectures is in association with the Dept. of Special Collections in the SDSU Library, and its exhibit, Revisiting Visionary Utopia: Katherine Tingley's Lomaland, 1898-1942.

All lectures will take place in the Scholars Room of the Library's Department of Special Collections.

Lecture 1: The Life and Times of Katherine Tingley in the Context of the Progressive Movement

Presenter: Dwayne Little

Date: Monday, Sept. 24, 11 am–12:50 pm

Lecture 2: Katherine Tingley's Engaged Practical Theosophy: From Raja Yoga to Patriotism

Presenter: Kenneth Small

Date: Monday, Oct. 1, 11 am–12:50 pm

Lecture 3: Lomaland Creative Arts: The Music of Daniel de Lange and Art of Maurice Braun

Presenter: Kenneth Small

Date: Monday, Oct. 8, 11 am–12:50 pm

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Lecture 4: The Music of Sound: Kenneth Morris’
The Three Bases of Poetry
Presenter: Riain Hager
Date: Thursday, Oct. 11, 11 am–12:50 pm

Lecture 6: The Self as Poetry in Kenneth Morris’
The Three Bases of Poetry
Presenter: Riain Hager
Date: Thursday, Oct. 18, 10–11:50 am

Lecture 5: Shakespeare and Classical Greek Drama
at Lomaland
Presenter: Kenneth Small
Date: Monday, Oct. 15, 11 am–12:50 pm

Lecture 7: The Mythic and Visionary Short Stories
of Kenneth Morris
Presenter: Riain Hager
Date: Thursday, Oct. 25, 10–11:50 am

Presenter Bios



Dr. Dwayne Little is a retired emeritus professor of history at Point Loma Nazarene University. In 1983, he led a team of history and political science scholars that restored the amethyst dome of the Lomaland School of Antiquity.



Kenneth Small, whose parents were long-time residents of Lomaland, is a teacher of Zen meditation, esoteric traditions, Theosophy, and ethnobotany. He has given presentations on these topics in the United States, Europe, and Mexico.



Riain Hager is an artist, musician, and cultural/linguistic historian. His area of study is the intersection between literary forms and works of art.



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