Using historic places in modern pagan context



practical rituals at historic and prehistoric places

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WARNING

Riscs and side effects: Talking with pagans may kill your scientific reputation!





The friendly pagan from your neighbourhood

Terms

- Pagan
 - Mostly nature religious
 - Spirits in every plants, animals, nature phaenomena
 - Mostly polytheistic
 - Celtic reconstructionism, Hellenismos, Religio romana, Asatrú & Wanatrú, Schamanism (am. indian, siberian, core schamanism)
- Heathen
 - Eclectic religion
 - Gerald Gardener, Iolo Moranwag, Aleister Crowley
 - Prominent: Wicca
 - Also OTO, OBOD, Rosicrucian orders
 - Often mono- or duo-theistic

Personal background

- Ulrike J. Schepp the techie
 - University of applied sciences Giessen
 - Software engineer at a big German transportation company
 - Archaeological as a helper at Dünsberg excavation near Giessen/Germany
 - Founding member of the excavation support club "Archaeologie im Gleiberger Land"

Personal background

- Ulrike J. Schepp the private practitioner
 - Drifting eastward through the big world religions: Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Zen Buddhism
 - Switch back to Celtic Reconstructionism (CR)
 7 years ago
 - Organising feasts

I'm not infectious!

Celtic Reconstructionism

- Depending on scientific facts
 - Archaeological
 - Historical
 - Written evidence (old historians)
 - Roman psyops to filter out
- Modern extensions
 - What we have: a dash of salt on a baking tray
 - What we need: supplement to create practicable ceremonies and rituals
 e.g. a white bull for sacrifice from a confectioner

Practicing

- Feasts
 - Wheel of the year
 - Wakes on midsummer and midwinter
 - Ceremonies (handfasting, burial, sacrifices etc)
- Ecumenic
 - CR, Wicca, Asatrúar, european and american-indian schamanism, "free flying" witches etc
- Places
 - Everywhere (like on a parking area, meadow etc)
 - Respect for the place (except for some honks...)
 - Ancestors historic places

Ritual

- "Standard" Ritual
 - Taking the place "out" of the trival world
 - Inviting gods, spirits and ancestors
 - Thanking for all things since last ritual
 - Special doings like consecrating amulets, special sacrifices
 - Wishes till the next feast
 - Thanking gods, spirits and ancestors for their presence
 - Giving the place back to the trivial world

Places

- Ancestors chose the places by intention
- Good panorama
- Mysterous surroundings (canyons, cliffs, boulders, trees,)
- Connected to natural spirits (water, earth, fire, air)
- Special meanings (crossroads)

- Intro
 - People are doing real worshipping no play
 - No mockup
 - No photos during ceremonies
 - Personal anonymity



Stone near my home village (probably former marker stone)



Stone illuminated

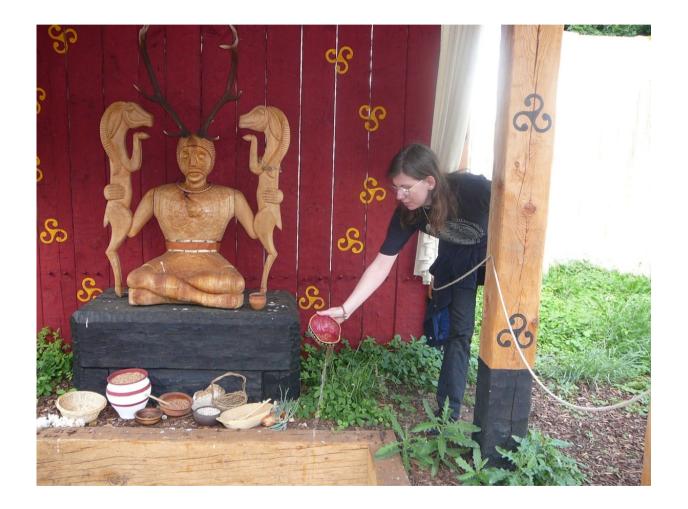


Participants



Altar at Pesch





Asparn

References

- No archaeologic references by intention!
- Celtic Reconstructionism
 engl.:
 http://www.paganachd.com
 protecting Tara
 http://www.paganachd.com/tara/index.html
 germ.
 http://forum.celticcafe.de
 http://wiki.celtoi.org/Hauptseite
- Different religions germ. Media information centre http://www.remid.de

Thank you for your attention