

Spirit Side Magazine

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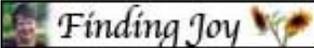
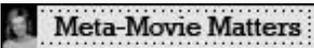
Contents

[Publisher's Note](#)

Featured Articles

- [Fascinating World of Imprints](#)
- [Is The Sacred Feminine Hope For The Future?](#)
- [Spirits and Electronic Phenomena](#)
- [A Different Way To Meditate](#)
- [Book Review: Life Without Lisa](#)

Monthly Columns

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

[Resource Directory](#)

[Upcoming Expos](#)



Is The Sacred Feminine Hope For The Future?

by Rev. Karen Tate

More times than I can count over the last year I've been asked, "Who or what is the Sacred Feminine?" And more importantly, "Why does that matter to me?" I can understand the confusion and lack of context. I grew up in New Orleans where many believe the world is only 6,000 years old. I can vouch for the fact it becomes a life changing experience when one discovers a female face of God actually existed 20,000 to 30,000 years ago and that knowledge becomes a part of one's reality. Since the release of the movie and book, *The DaVinci Code*, more people than ever before have questions about the Sacred Feminine and what embracing this spirituality may mean for the world.

First, to clear up any misconceptions, this is not about radical feminism, not that we don't owe a debt of gratitude to those pioneering women who sacrificed so much to make strides to advance women in today's society. But the Divine Feminine movement is about partnership, not just among genders, but within society, institutions and governments, for all peoples. It's about re-establishing virtues that patriarchy considered "feminine," and thus rendered insignificant and of less value, despite the fact embracing these qualities would mean a climate of kindness, compassion, justice and fairness might prevail for ourselves and our children. It might mean and end to war and environmental disaster. It would mean the end of a climate of power over and domination, though it could mean compassion with a sword when necessary. Bringing back into balance the male and female faces of God, the Sacred Feminine, alongside the Divine Masculine, would bring the world back from the brink in which it seems to be heading. To quote the famous Bahai leader, Abdul-Baha, "We believe the world of humanity is possessed of two wings: the male and the female. So long as these two wings are not equivalent in strength, the bird will not fly."

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For two decades Karen Tate's work as an independent scholar of the Sacred Feminine has been fueled by her intense interest and passion for travel, comparative religions, ancient cultures, and Goddess Spirituality. A prolific writer, published author, and tour organizer, Karen's most recent work blends her experiences of women-centered multiculturalism with her unique literary talents and travel experience to pen "Sacred Places of Goddess: 108 Destinations." To contact the author, please go to www.karentate.com.