

David's Desk 196 Audio Companion

September 2023

James: Hi, David.

David: Hi, James.

James: Welcome to another audio companion for David's desk. This is number 196.

David: Yes. Amazing, isn't it?

James: Yeah, it is. Very interesting topic you have in this month's David's Desk. It's focused on Findhorn, and yet, as I was going through it, I realized, wow, this discussion that we're going to be having could be for any topic actually, any occurrence.

David: Yes, that's right. That was what was on my mind when I got the letter. I got an email from a friend of mine at Findhorn who was involved with the administration there saying that the foundation was closing down and ceasing all its operations by the end of September. It hit me as if somebody had told me one of my kids had died or had been injured. There was this immediate sense of...not so much grief, but more a kind of disorientation, like, "Wait a minute! Findhorn can't collapse! It's always there, it's a part of the universe."

And then, as I said in the article, after I'd thought about it a bit, I tuned into it and had this experience with the angel of Findhorn who basically showed me that from an energetic standpoint, everything was okay.

Since then we've been in communication with various people in the community. The community itself, which is quite separate these days from the foundation, is really grappling with how to creatively carry on the legacy and the work of Findhorn in ways that are more suited to the times in which we live. The head of the Foundation gave a talk to the community and they're looking at the creation of a

new trust, a new nonprofit that's more streamlined and better suited to what's needed now.

So even though one form is dying...and really, James, it was a form that was having great difficulty transforming itself; it was an old organizational structure, and over the years as the foundation and the community moved apart and became two separate entities, it became more unwieldy. It really needed to either die or transform. So on one level, it wasn't surprising, but nevertheless, it still was an impact.

James: My sense as I was reading and also just tuning in was that the Findhorn Foundation...as you say, as it's grown over the years, lost touch with its spiritual vision, its center. It grew out of that center—that's how it first started, with the vision of Findhorn and the energy of Findhorn and how that touched people's lives, but over time, it just feels like it became more of a center for visiting spiritual teachers as opposed to being true to its original vision, the energy of Findhorn itself.

David: Yes, unfortunately, that's a good summation. There were always people in the community and in the foundation who held to the original vision and the founding principles, but in another way, they did lose their way because they went through a whole period of rejecting—which is ironic [*chuckles*]-rejecting contact with the subtle worlds, which was actually at the core of their founding and what Peter and Eileen and Dorothy did. In a way, they hitched themselves to a different star and it wasn't as foundational as in the beginning.

The interesting thing, James, is that for people who went there who had no knowledge of the internal politics or the history of the community, just people who went as guests and underwent the the experiences that the community offered, the educational experiences, they all had magical, wonderful, transformative times. The transformative spiritual energy was there nevertheless. That was part of what I was thinking when I was writing this, is that we look around us in the world and we see all these things being

changed or destroyed or challenged, things that we took for granted that would always be here suddenly disappear. And yet, underneath all that, there's still this continuity of spirit and the continuity of the Sacred. There's always this creative, hopeful, dynamic energy that we can tap into. That's the real foundation and not the forms we create to express it.

James: I like that you brought those two perspectives together into a third perspective in your writing. You were saying it's embodying a consciousness that can handle the complexity with equanimity and poise. That seems like the thing to be able to do as we're ending 2023 and going into 2024. That is the call right there.

David: Yes, I believe so. It's easy to be pulled to one side or another. These days, for many people, it's easier to be pulled to the negative side to say everything is falling apart and going to hell. Then there are those that go to the other extreme and just say all is light and light is emerging and all is well—which is fundamentally true, but both those points are true. We need to grapple with the complexity of it and to say I need to embrace both those positions and hold them in a calm center

James: It's like holding the wholeness of the whole picture—the wholeness within ourselves and within the whole world.

David: Exactly. That's exactly right.

James: You also write, in addition to holding that whole picture in a centered way within yourself, that you feel the emergence of a spirit that in its love creates the space for healing and renewal. For me, that comes from within, from the equanimity and poise of dealing with the “both/and”-ness of what we're facing.

David: Yes, for me as well. That's exactly right, James, and that is something I wish to communicate in this David's Desk.

James: I really do feel like you touched on some very important aspects that are bigger than the Findhorn Foundation.

David: Yes, I believe so too.

James: I can see it and I can feel it in Lahaina in Maui—it feels that way as well. Can I actually hold all of these feelings that are moving through me, can I hold it all with equanimity and poise. That's a toughy.

David: That is the challenge of our time because a world is dying around us, and if that's all that we see, then we really are going to be in trouble. But if we can recognize that a world is also being born around us, then...the thing is that I believe if I only focus on what's being born without understanding and appreciating what's dying, there's a chance of not learning the lessons and just continuing. There's been so many examples in history where people undertake a new venture and create a new vision only to end up replicating the very thing that they were trying to escape from,

James: To be able to hold something is to be spacious within yourself, to actually have the space within yourself that you can hold the both/and-ness of what's happening and step into a different relationship with those both/ands. I feel like we're shifting the energy upwards to allow us to do this.

David: Yes, I totally agree.

James: It's also something that Lorian is becoming better at articulating going forward. Because Lorian and Findhorn are connected—they're they're literally connected, aren't they, in your world as well as mine?

David: Yes, they are.

James: We in Lorian have a different path and chose to be in the world in a different way, yet the impulse that we're working with is very similar to the impulse that Findhorn came out of, the energy of Findhorn.

David: Yes, it is actually. Findhorn arose out of this desire to say something new can emerge and here's what it might look like. But don't pay that much attention to the forms; rather, pay attention to the spirit of that which is emerging. That's the same vision that Lorian has always had as well. One big difference is that Lorian didn't take on a form in the same way that Findhorn did, so we didn't have that particular demonstration. But I feel over the years, and it's especially true now, we have created a field of thought and inspiration and energy that is our demonstration of that essential principle at work.

James: I also note that you have a footnote to your writing for your David's Desk this time, that many of the founders of Lorian were coming out of Findhorn at that time, so many of the Lorians are also Findhorn fellows. Even though they've physically left Findhorn, they as well, I notice, are impacted by the news that the Findhorn Foundation is letting it go. You'll be having a session with Roger and Katherine Collis, Mary Inglis, and your wife Julie, and you'll be talking about Findhorn. It's almost like putting a human face on that, the energy and the process.

David: Yes, the story behind this is a bit ironic because this gentleman who heads up the Center for Contemporary Mysticism got in touch with us and said, our people would really like to know more about Findhorn and its history, and in particular its vision of the sacred within all things. I contacted a number of us, actually, and it was Julie and an I and Roger and Katherine who said yes, and we were four of the original Lorian founders and we met at Findhorn—all of the people who created Lorian met at Findhorn. And Mary Inglis, she did not become part of Lorian until very fairly recently, but she's been an integral part of Findhorn and one of the leaders there for probably 30-40 years now. But the irony is that he was preparing publicity for this event and discussing Findhorn's educational programs, and then we had to say, well, no, that doesn't exist anymore. But it's like that song that says the song is over, but the melody lingers on—the basic work and message of Findhorn continues. And so I think this event, this conversation we're having

will be a wonderful way to emphasize that and to emphasize some of the same things that I was saying in David's Desk.

James: I think that's a great opportunity for people to experience your embodiment of the Findhorn vision in conversation with others who have come through that time when Findhorn was very powerfully related to the vision and the energy of that and has carried forward over the decades. So I'm looking forward to it. I signed up as well.

David: Oh, great, well done! [*chuckles*]

James: Well, thank you David. It's interesting and maybe one day we can carry forth a conversation around the grief and the loss and the new beginnings and hope and the holding of all of that in this equanimity and poise because I do feel it's something that would be very worthwhile for our community and our listeners and the readers of David's Desk.

David: All right. I'll look forward to it, my friend.

James: All right. Thanks, David.

David: Thank you. Blessings to everyone.

James: Blessings