



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

Spring 2019 Courses – Registration begins February 12

## UNDAUNTING DANTE: ART & MUSIC OF THE DIVINE COMEDY

**Tuesdays 10-11:45 AM, March 19 – April 23**

Dante's *Divine Comedy* has been called the most beautiful poem ever written, but it is much more than that. It is a brilliant work of imagination that weaves together Greek and Roman myth, European history, and universal psychological development with deep cross-cultural resonances. Written during Dante's dark midlife, it is an epic achievement that saved the author's own life! Now it can immeasurably enrich yours. We will explore the historical, social-political and religious background of the *Comedy*, and dive into this fascinating journey to discover how it echoes in the works of Michelangelo, Giotto, Dore, Rossetti, Rodin, Blake, Dali, Tchaikovsky, Liszt, TS Eliot and countless other artists, composers and poets.

**Kayleen Asbo**, PhD, is a mythologist, cultural historian and musician who weaves together literature, music, art and psychology for truly transformational learning experiences. A cultural historian and pre-concert lecturer for the Santa Rosa Symphony & SF Conservatory of Music and Osher Lifelong Learning programs. Kayleen has lectured on Dante around the world, including France, Italy & England. Her musical program, *Dante's Mirror*, is available on CD. [www.kayleenasbo.com](http://www.kayleenasbo.com)

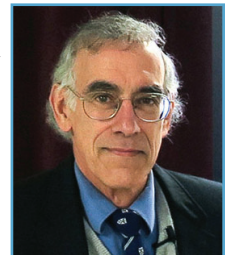


## OH JERUSALEM: A HISTORY OF THE NAVE OF THE WORLD

**Thursdays 10-11:45 AM, March 21 – April 25**

This is the heart of it, the whirlpool of human hopes and follies, the fault line of East and West. "Oh, Jerusalem," cried the prophet. We will visit naively, with no religious agenda or slant, to see why our world is forever transfixed by this bit of unhappy ground, why the stones underfoot moan with more passion than any place on earth. Trace the history from Abraham to Solomon to Nebuchadnezzar to Titus to Arafat, from Lot to David to Jesus to Mohammad to Saladin to Netanyahu to failed warriors and failed peacemakers yet unborn. We will use images of the greatest Western art, maps, and evocative texts from the Bible and Koran to trace the 3000 years of pain and struggle of a place we cannot escape. "Oh, Jerusalem," wept Jesus.

**Douglas Kenning** (PhD University of Edinburgh) enjoyed a career of two decades as an assistant professor of literature & history at universities in Tunisia, Japan & Italy. He has been a professional biologist, actor, army officer, Manhattan taxi driver, study-abroad academic director, and writer of books, articles, and stage plays. He lives half of each year in the SF Bay Area, giving talks and lecture series on subjects related to ancient Mediterranean civilizations, with the other half year in Siracusa, Sicily, where he leads Sicily Tour, an organization offering history & myth-focused small group tours around Sicily & the greater Mediterranean basin. [dkenning@sicily-tour.com](mailto:dkenning@sicily-tour.com)



**Registration begins 2/12/2019.** Classes held at Raven Performing Arts Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg. Enrollment Fee: \$95 for each six-week course. Fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable (see back side for enrollment form).

Presented by Healdsburg American Association of University Women (AAUW). Proceeds support local educational programs and scholarships for women and girls.