

New Beginnings!



Situated in the scenic Petite-Nation region of Québec, Village Lac Dumouchel is a spectacular feast for the senses!

STUDY IN THE OUTAOUAIS!

Courses in Buckingham, Quebec.

In addition to classes available at Village Lac Dumouchel, starting in January 1999, we will be giving courses in Buckingham, near Hull, Quebec.

Courses (in French) include Introduction to Palmistry, Introduction to Astrology and Stress Management Through Relaxation Techniques. Registration will be held on January 13th and 14th.

Each course is \$60. For more information, call Ms. Lise Robitaille 1-819-986-4212 at the Bernard Lonergan Library in Buckingham.

June 22nd saw the expansion of the Palmistry Center which, for 26 years, has been situated on Victoria Avenue in Westmount. Students and clients can now enjoy the benefits of palmistry and astrology at a beautiful countryside resort.

Our place in the country, *Village Lac Dumouchel*, consists of 300 acres of forests and mountains overlooking a spring-fed lake, north of Montebello in Chénéville, Québec.

While enjoying the comforts and benefits of healthy country living, students can pursue their studies toward a diploma or degree in Vedic palmistry and astrology.

Private cottages and rooms are available for clients, family, and friends who can spend quiet moments in the tranquility of nature, observe wildlife and enjoy home-cooked meals. The familiar services of the Palmistry Center—massage, palmistry and astrology readings—are still available and we are expanding to include a health spa and conference facilities as well. Courses in meditation, relaxation, stress management and yoga are also scheduled.

Plenty of Activities

Of course, open-air activities are also available. In summer, there is swimming, canoeing and badminton; in winter, you can snowshoe, ice skate, and then curl up around a cozy fireplace.

Village Lac Dumouchel offers a unique vacation opportunity—whether for the day, a weekend, a month or longer—clients can relax, unwind and learn more about themselves. And after their stay, feel renewed and better equipped to face the everyday demands of life.

Official Opening Ceremony

On October 17, 1998, the mayor of Chénéville, the Honorable Mr. Jean-Paul Dinel (pictured center) officially inaugurated *Village Lac Dumouchel*.

Seen here with him are Marie-Claire Sauvé (Secretary-treasurer), Kathleen Keogh (Vice-President), Peter Keogh (newly appointed Director of *Village Lac Dumouchel*) and Ghanshyam Singh Birla (President of the Palmistry Center).



The mayor cutting the ribbon.

A fire at the Palmistry Center

Devastating fire shuts down Center

The Center will require extensive reconstruction to be up and running again!



August 20 at 2:30 a.m., fire, originating in the back balcony of the animal hospital adjoining the Palmistry Center, spread rapidly along the roof to the Center.

Flames could be seen from downtown Montreal. A general alarm was called with seven municipalities responding and seven fire engines arriving on the scene.

The fire chief informed us that our sprinkler system helped contribute to their being able to stop the fire.

Later that day, a second and third fire broke out at the veterinarian's—the latter from a vat of rubbing alcohol used to treat the animals in surgery. Both times fire trucks were called to the scene.

Unfortunately, the cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

A CLOSE CALL

Two of the Center's employees—Guylaine Vallée, President of Galaxy Recordings, and the Center's Vice-President, Kathleen Keogh, were staying overnight working to meet a publisher's deadline. Awakened from a nap in her office in the back porch, Kathleen opened her eyes to a bright orange light. In fact, the whole back porch was on fire. She alerted Guylaine, who was in her office at the front, unaware of what was happening. The two managed to escape out the front door as fire

engines arrived on the scene.

They watched the building burn as neighbours were evacuated from an apartment building next door.

Especially sad was the death of nine cats at the veterinarian's. One was *Meiling*, the Siamese belonging to Patricia Conway who



Ghanshyam surveys the damage.

has, for the past two years, been helping us with the production of our books.

Our sincerest regrets for her loss along with the owners of the other eight cats.

SMOKE AND WATER DAMAGE

Due to extensive smoke and water damage our Handprint Gallery and Walk of Fame were destroyed. Many of our treasured books including original course material were lost.

We are still busy trying to restore our archives of over 30,000 handprints. These include the prints of many famous individuals, some of whom have passed away; for example, Pauline Julien, Marie-Soleil Tougas and the leader of the Jain movement Muni Sushil Kumarji. These handprints are irreplaceable and we have been working tirelessly to restore and preserve them.

RESTORATION FUND

Unfortunately, the Center did not have adequate insurance to cover "office content" and emergency relocation costs. For this reason, we have created a special restoration fund. All donations to this fund are gratefully welcome.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

The Center is still functioning and regular services are available. Although we have temporarily relocated nearby you can contact us at the same phone number (514-488-2292).

DONATIONS WELCOME

Your donations can be sent care of The Palmistry Center at 351 Victoria Ave, Westmount, Quebec, H3Z 2N1

An Interview with the Director of the Palmistry Center

A lifetime of looking into human hearts (and hands!)

The end of 1998 saw the publication of "Love in the Palm of Your Hand," a book by Ghanshyam Singh Birla that explores how palmistry can help people improve their personal relationships. In the following interview Ghanshyam discusses his approach to the art and science of palmistry and the inspiration behind writing this book.

Int.: When were you first exposed to palmistry?

GSB: My paternal grandfather was a student of astrology. He had my chart done by the family astrologer when I was born. Although it was predicted that I would be an astrologer, my father was not happy with the suggestion.

Consequently, he sent me to the orthodox *gurukula*, a strict school for Sanskrit studies that included rigorous exercise, meditation practices and mantra recitation. He instructed my teachers not to discuss anything related to occult studies. However, in the school libraries, I unintentionally discovered a vast wealth of ancient Vedic literature complete with references to palmistry and astrology.

Int.: Did that reinforce your desire to practice palmistry for a living?

GSB: Yes. However, I wanted to respect my father's wish. I completed my BA in literature and took a government job. At the same time, I also opened a private practice in palmistry in Delhi, collecting thousands of handprints of individuals from every walk of life.

Finally, I became so busy that in my MA year I left school and devoted myself full-time to palmistry.

Int.: What made you leave India for the West?

GSB: I wanted to practice palmistry for self-development.

In India there is a deep-rooted understanding of palmistry as a tool used for prediction and fate. In the West, there is a great understanding of willpower, mind over matter and a greater freedom to pursue that ideal.

At the age of 28, when the opportunity arose to work in Montreal, I left India and opened a centre here. I wanted to write, teach, and practice palmistry as an art and science of self-development. I found tremendous receptivity in the West to perceive palmistry not as a means of prediction, but as a means of becoming masters of our own destiny. We can create our own future if we understand how our thinking has affected who we have become in the present—how an understanding of our character, our strengths and weaknesses can help determine our future.

Int.: What inspired you to write Love in the Palm of Your Hand?

GSB: My daughter Rekha actually. (Incidentally, *rekha* means lines and signs of the hand.) She was working with me at the time, and saw many couples coming to my office looking for help in communicating more effectively with each other. It was one thing to point out areas of

incompatibility and misunderstanding, but another to suggest something concrete they could do to improve the situation when they left the office.

Int.: What are some of these concrete suggestions?

GSB: Palmistry is based on prakriti, which means the unfoldment of nature, or balance. In nature we know that certain conditions make us feel inspired and at peace, while others can create fear, turbulence and chaos.

Many signs in the hand reflect these contrary conditions. They are self-created by our own negative way of thinking or reactions to the challenges in our environment.

In the book, there are explanations of where balance and harmony are seen and how to restore this balance when it is missing. Many case histories are used to explain those conditions and show how certain individuals were able to restore happiness in their relationships and in their lives.

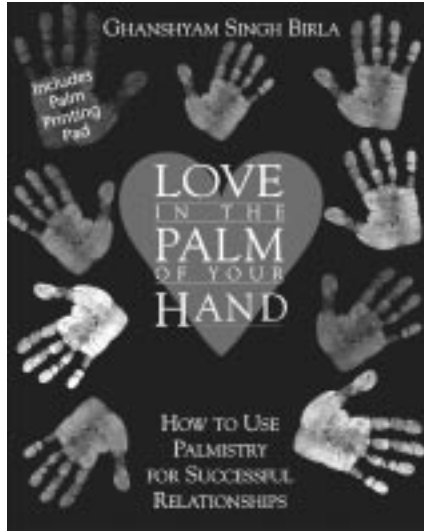
Int.: If I wanted a hand reading alone or with my significant other, how would I contact you?

GSB: Well, you can easily contact us via phone or email. But what pleases me most is that in every copy of the book, we have included a do-it-yourself palm

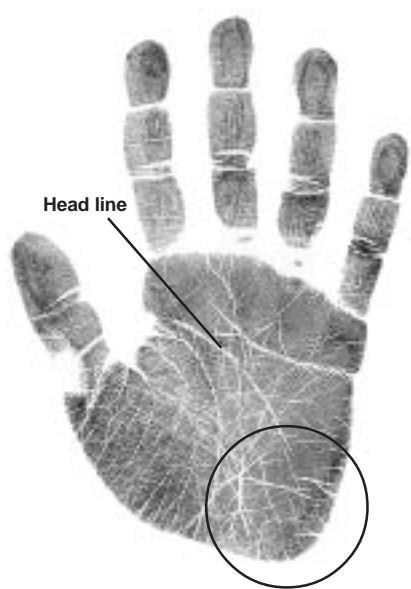
printing kit. That way you can take your own prints and check them directly. Of course, if anyone wants to, they can also send their handprints to us and have one of our consultants examine them.

Excerpt from an interview for "Insight Magazine," Toronto.

"Love in the Palm of Your Hand" is published in the USA by *Destiny Books*, a division of *Inner Traditions International*. It is available from the Palmistry Center or at your local bookstore.



Sample cases from “Love in the Palm of Your Hand”



Mount of Luna

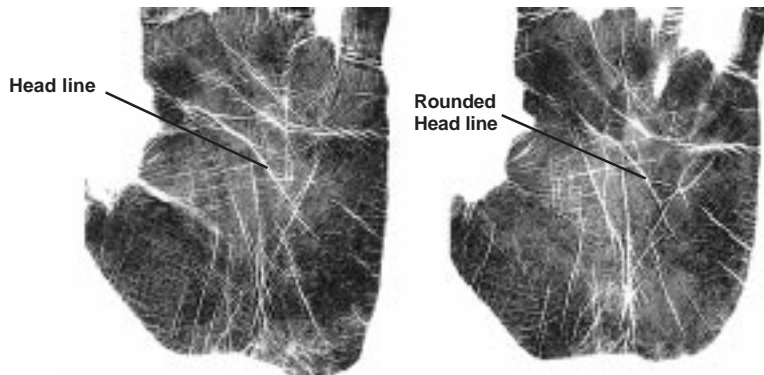
HOW DO WE USE PALMISTRY TO FIND LOVE?

Palmistry is the roadmap we consult on our journey through life. The study of the features of the hand with its lines and signs allows us to see where we are physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually. We can also see the direction we are likely to take—unless we choose otherwise. The map of the hand shows us possible obstacles and impediments to our progress, which we can either avoid or transform.

Carol: The Story of Her Imaginary Lover

Carol, a woman in her early twenties, dreamed of having a relationship. As she had an overdeveloped Luna, however, it was easier for her to simply create an imaginary lover. Every evening at the supper table she would describe to her family romantic encounters that she was having with a mysterious new boyfriend. As the weeks passed, her older sister grew suspicious, wondering why Carol hadn't as yet introduced him to the family. To satisfy her curiosity, she followed her sister to college. Again at suppertime, Carol recounted stories of her lover. This time, her sister confronted her and said, "But you were alone all day." Carol finally admitted that there wasn't anyone, and that the relationship was completely imagined.

With such a strong head line and well-developed Luna, Carol was encouraged to channel her creativity into writing. The focus and concentration required to do so anchored her in reality and helped her to differentiate between fact and fantasy. She went on to graduate, and eventually introduced a real boyfriend to her family.



Sarah (before)

Sarah (after)

Sarah: Change by Wisdom or Experience

Jerry's wife had been in a coma for many years when Sarah fell in love with him. Although she wanted them to live together, Jerry asked her to be understanding and supportive of his decision to remain fully committed to the care of his wife. She was unable to realize that Jerry's loyalty towards his wife was an indication of his profound spirit. Jerry also loved Sarah deeply, but she resented his unwillingness to live with her and nagged him constantly. Her straight head line indicates her unyielding temperament at that time.

It was only when he died shortly after his wife that Sarah came to understand the depth of Jerry's friendship and love for her. She was so moved by this realization that her heart melted. She became more loving and gentle and her head line began to curve.

THE COUNTRY LIFE

Students enjoy fresh air while living and studying in the Quebec countryside

If you have missed several of our staff members at the Center in Montreal, you will find them at *Village Lac Dumouchel*. Peter, Jacinthe, Chandan, Rémi and Heather have been busy at our new facilities with the help of many volunteers.

Since June, the *Village Lac Dumouchel* staff has been busy upgrading the premises to receive guests, students and vacationers. Seen at right: Peter Keogh preparing a resident-cottage for an out-of-town student!



Peter hard at work



Conference being held in one of our seminar rooms.



Guests chatting in the cafeteria after a lively seminar.

THE VILLAGE GETS A BOOST!



Johanne giving a class.

Johanne Riopel was first introduced to Ghanshyam 10 years ago while living in Toronto. He told her she would move back to Montreal and fall in love...and she did!

Working full-time as a translator with an accounting firm and spending her evenings studying palmistry, within five years, Johanne was teaching and reading hands at the Center. We are happy to announce that Johanne is now a full-time staff member at *Village Lac Dumouchel* offering consultations, teaching and translating a series of palmistry books.

FLORAL FEST

Extensive landscaping is currently underway at *Village Lac Dumouchel*. Long time friend of the Center, Osy Paulig, has already designed a lovely rock garden, created new bicycle trails, and planted over a thousand spring flowers. Guests can look forward to these budding prospects in the spring and summer!



Osy and his team!

PAW-MISTRY FOR PETS!

This past September, *Global Television* in Montreal visited our Center for a story about the growing interest in astrology for pets!

As strange as it may sound, in India, it is not uncommon for astrologers to be asked questions about the well-being of animals!

At the Center, over the years, we too have been requested by clients to check the astrological charts of their beloved pets.

The chart can be an accurate reading of the pet's character and offer many insights into its behavior.

If you know the birthplace and birthtime of your pet, we can also recommend specific healing gems, therapies or even suggest ideal names for them—all according to the principles of astro-palmistry.

One of our satisfied clients is "Maxine" a gorgeous Greyhound who was entered in a dog show. Maxine was recommended to wear a tourmaline gem several weeks before the show. We were happy to learn that Maxine won the prestigious blue ribbon for best dog!

Since one success usually follows another, we were pleased to hear that soon afterwards Maxine's love life also improved, when she met the "dog of her dreams"!



Highlights of the Year

ICE STORM SHELTER

The worst ice storm of the past fifty years hit Quebec and Eastern Ontario in January 1998. In Montreal alone, over one million homes were without power for several weeks. During this time, the Palmistry Center opened its doors as a shelter. Hearty soups and reflexology massages were offered by our staff and volunteers.

BOOK SHOW SUCCESS



Ghanshyam was a popular figure at the *Canadian Booksellers Show* held in Toronto in June. At the *Ten Speed Press* booth, he read the hands of buyers, distributors and other authors at the promotion of his book *Love in the Palm of Your Hand*.

Left: Ghanshyam reading the hands of a Buyer.

PALMISTRY IN THE MEDIA

- Guylaine Vallée made two guest appearances on *Télévision Quatre Saisons*. In October, she discussed the benefits of palmistry on Lise Watier's *Évasion beauté*, and was invited back again in November to discuss the correlation between astrology and gems.

- In November, Guylaine was a guest on the popular talk-show *Nulle part ailleurs* on *Radio-Canada Ottawa* and was interviewed by Stéphane Riopel host of *Bien branchés* on the community television in Chénéville, Quebec.



Guylaine and Lise Watier (at right) prepare notes before taping the show.



- Beloved Québec singer, Marie Carmen, invited Ghanshyam Singh Birla to a press conference at which her new album was released.

- Kathleen Keogh was featured in an article on Palmistry in the October issue of the national magazine *Homemaker's*.

Left: Marie Carmen at her press conference

TWO NEW BOOKS SIGNED

Inner Traditions International signed contracts for two new publications to be produced by The Palmistry Center. The books entitled, *Magnet Therapy* and *An Introduction to Vedic Palmistry* are scheduled to be released in the Fall of 1999. To keep posted on their release dates, check www.innertraditions.com.



THE PALMISTRY CENTER • GALAXY PUBLICATIONS & RECORDINGS
351 Victoria Ave, Westmount, Qc Canada H3Z 2N1
Tél.: (514) 488-2292 • 1-800-307-2292 • Fax: (514) 488-3822

PALMISTRY ON THE ROAD

This year was a success for the Center on the trade fair circuit. At all the venues, the Center's presentation booth was often crowded with people interested to know more about themselves through mini handprint analysis!



Kathleen reading hands at the Toronto Health Show

Upcoming Fairs in 1999

Look for our booth!

Toronto: Psychic, Mystics & Seers Fair, Feb. 12 to 14 at the Trade Center and Whole Life Health Show in March 1999 (TBA).

Montreal: 29^e Salon international d'ésotérisme, March 12-14, at Place Bonaventure.

Ottawa: Psychic, Mystics & Seers Fair, April 9 to 11 (TBA).

BOOKING AN APPOINTMENT

We travel regularly to Ottawa, Toronto and Sherbrooke. We offer courses, workshops, private hand readings and astrological chart analysis. We would be happy to visit your area. Contact Denise at our toll free number (1-800-307-2292) for more information.



Denise: The face behind the familiar voice!