



2022
Program
Guide

JAN 21-23

STAARCON

HYBRID TAROT & DIVINATION CONFERENCE



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Cover Art: Ciro Marchetti

Dear Friends

THANK YOU for being a part of our StaarCon community, either in person or online.

In 2019, John and I decided to create an annual tarot conference in South Florida. Quickly I gathered some talented people to brainstorm a name for our conference, and to enlist them as volunteers. These people became our 'StaarCon Constellation.'

Things were coming together for our first annual conference to be held in January 2021. Yet, every time I turned to tarot for insight about the conference, the Tower appeared. By the summer of 2020 the message of the Tower was becoming clearer.

Rather than cancelling StaarCon 2021, we created a robust and exciting online-only conference. Now, StaarCon 2022 is here. We learned so much at StaarCon 2021 about what it takes to create a wonderful online conference. StaarCon 2022 will teach us what it takes to create an outstanding hybrid conference.

We diviners love synchronicity. Beverly Frable's article about the Tower in this program was a synchronicity for me. While the Tower is a card we often prefer not to receive, the Tower was a defining card for the beginning of StaarCon. This is not a bad thing. The Tower is a metaphor for the birthing process, and for awakening wisdom.

The Tower reminds us that there is no growth without struggle. I wish us all a conference that is full of Three of Cups moments, from which we receive plenty of Aces which remind us to be the Magicians we are. Yet, I also honor the need for those Tower moments which bring us closer to wisdom, healing, and growth. I am grateful to all of you for the role you have played in making StaarCon 2022 a reality.

I want to especially thank Ciro Marchetti for providing graphics, Amie, Isaac, and Luna Mouser for producing StaarCast and providing social media support, and Serena Fox for sharing her design skills with us. I also want to acknowledge my partner in life and business, John Gaudet, for his tireless work to make this conference happen. I want to thank the Staar Con 2022 presenters, who are generously sharing their skills and knowledge with us, and who have helped tremendously with promoting our event. I also want to thank our StaarCon sponsors. Look for their banners in the Accelevents lobby and take advantage of their special StaarCon offers.

As we grow together in this journey, please let me know how our staff of volunteers can support you throughout this conference, during the AfterGlow, and as we move on to StaarCon 2023 and beyond.

With spirit, magic and ... THANKS, Christiana

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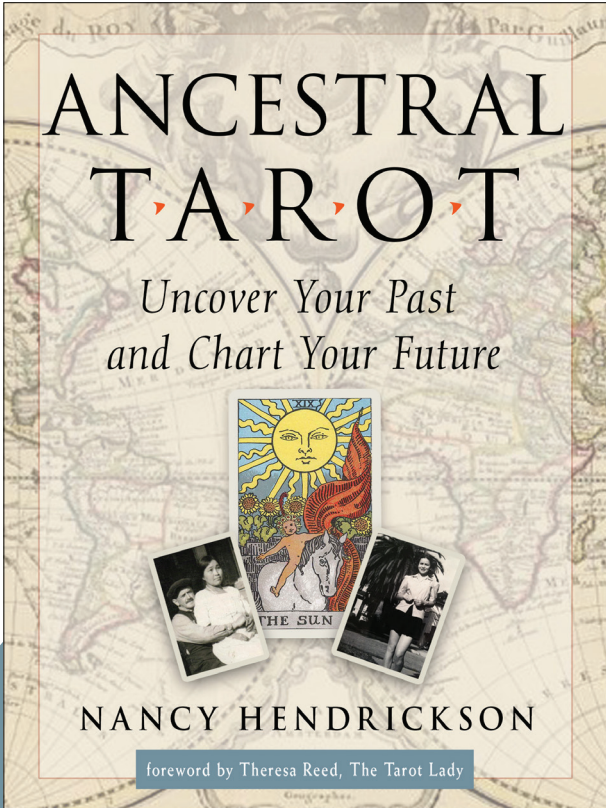
By Marion Kirk of MarionKTarot

The time you spend at StaarCon is a special opportunity to expand your heart, mind and soul by immersing yourself in the Magic of Divination. The collective energy that is present at a Conference is special. Its not quite quantifiable, yet you can feel the Magic in the very air that you breath.

This spread has been designed to invite you into this magical world so that you can get the most from your StaarCon experience. You may wish to carry out this spread a few weeks after StaarCon by changing the questions to the past tense and comparing them to the cards you first pulled. Consider how the experience was different or similar to your expectations, for example, did your main focus change over the course of the conference? Take some time to journal your thoughts, you may surprise yourself.


1. What should my focus be for StaarCon?
2. Where in my Magical/Divination practice will StaarCon help me?
3. What will I achieve during my time at StaarCon?





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NANCY HENDRICKSON

foreword by Theresa Reed, The Tarot Lady



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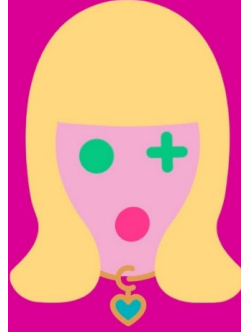


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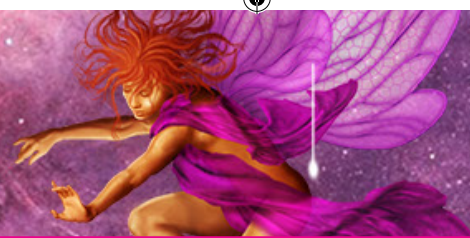


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AGENDA . . .



FRIDAY • JANUARY 21 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Preconference Intensive with Christiana Gaudet: Finding the Magic of Tarot

Friday 9:30 am: In person vendors will begin setting up, online exhibition hall is open! Check out our vendors, and find your digital swag in the Acelevents lobby. **Friday 7:30 pm-8 pm:** Opening Ceremony—Join us as we set our intentions for our weekend together. **Friday 8:00 - 9:00: Panel Discussion—When Tarot Meanings Change, or Do They?** Reading Non-RWS Tarot. If you think a Tarot card's meaning doesn't change between a traditional Rider-Waite-Smith and a deck like the inkblot inspired Hidden Waters, you'll want to join in this fascinating panel discussion. We'll be looking at a variety of decks and seeing who on the Panel reads RWS regardless of deck and who reads based on the imagery. You can vote in a poll at the beginning of the Panel and another at the end — let's see which side of the debate wins the day. Facilitated by Nancy Hendrickson, panel members are Jenna Matlin, Fred West and Christiana Gaudet.

SATURDAY • JANUARY 22		
TRACK 1	TRACK 2	PUBLIC
<p>9:00 AM Main Stage Casting Charms for Divination with Mary Ellen Collins</p> <p>10:15 AM Main Stage Journaling with the Tarot with Diane Wilkes</p> <p>11:30 AM Main Stage How to Craft Amazing Three-Card Readings with Jenna Matlin</p> <p>12:30 PM Lunch</p> <p>2:00 PM Main Stage Headlining Presentation with Rachel Pollack</p> <p>3:45 PM Main Stage Going Deep – Incorporating Pendulums and Oracles into Ancestral Work with Nancy Hendrickson</p> <p>5:00 PM Main Stage Engaging the Runes: Establishing a Connection for a Vibrant Relationship with John Hijatt</p>	<p>9:00 AM Breakout Session Interpret Your Dreams Using Tarot with Brenda Elizabeth</p> <p>10:15 AM Breakout Session Ogham Divination: A Connection with Trees as Spiritual Teachers with Beverly Frable</p> <p>11:30 AM Breakout Session Incorporating Magickal and Spiritual Traditions Into Tarot Readings with Kristen Barnes</p> <p>12:30 PM Lunch</p> <p>3:45 PM Breakout Session Court Cards and Kingdoms with Kim Danbert</p> <p>5:00 PM Breakout Session 2022 VI The Lovers – Embracing a Year of Love and Healing with Katrina Wynne</p>	<p>9:00 AM Breakout Session Horary Astrology: A Sneak Peek at a Divination Technique with Birgit Kiemes-Windmill</p> <p>10:15 AM Breakout Session Healing with the Suit of Cups with Amie Mouser</p> <p>11:30 AM Breakout Session The Beatles & Tarot: A Fab Combination! with Frank Kwiatkowski</p> <p>12:30 PM Lunch</p> <p>2:15 PM Breakout Session The Art of Visual Communication with Ciro Marchetti</p> <p>3:45 PM Breakout Session A Spiritual Journey: How We Create Spiritual Power Tools with Nancy Amy Zerner & Monte Farber</p> <p>5:00 PM Breakout Session Tarot Movement and The Tarot Dance with Serena Fox</p>

Remember to download the Acelevents App! DoubleTree Hotel Guests at StaarCon! Be on the Lookout for Jenna Matlin's Pool Party! The time will be announced at Opening Ceremony and listed in the virtual lobby on Acelevents.

JOIN US FOR THE STAARCON AFTERGLOW!

For thirty days after StaarCon ends, you can watch recorded classes, shop in the virtual exhibition hall, and hang out in the lounges on Acelevents. We will schedule some special lounge events to continue important conversations that began at StaarCon 2022.

We have a few that are already scheduled, so mark your calendars now:

Monday, January 31, 7 pm ET An Evening of Tarot Improv: A Fool's Improvised Entertainment Journey with Mitchell Osborn

Thursday, February 5, 7 pm ET Brainstorming a Star Trek Tarot Deck with Christiana Gaudet and Barrett Army

Thursday, February 10th at 7 pm ET Tarot Healing with Amie Mouser

SUNDAY • JANUARY 23		
TRACK 1	TRACK 2	PUBLIC
<p>9:00 AM Main Stage Improv to Improve Your Tarot Reading Skills with Mitchell Osborn</p> <p>10:15 AM Main Stage The Animal Medicine Walk with Bernadette King</p> <p>11:30 AM Main Stage The Eight E's to Reading Success with Michelle Welch</p> <p>12:30 PM Lunch</p> <p>2:00 PM Main Stage Headlining Presentation: Unleashing the Storyteller Within with Sasha Graham</p> <p>3:45 PM Main Stage Practical Palmistry with Gita Rash</p> <p>5:00 PM Main Stage Living a Tarot Inspired Life with Jaymi Elford</p>	<p>9:00 AM Breakout Session The Astrology of Tarot – Your Tarot Decan with Marion Kirk</p> <p>10:15 AM Breakout Session The Divination Power of Food with Joanna Salerno & Lainie Sevante Vulkan</p> <p>11:30 AM Breakout Session Feel Free Not to Comprehend the Tarot Reading: The Querent Will Get It Even if You Don't with Maria Luisa Salazar</p> <p>12:30 PM Lunch</p> <p>3:45 PM Breakout Session Tarot Casting: Setting the Stage for Layered Card Systems with Jamie Sawyer</p> <p>5:00 PM Breakout Session Reconnecting the Constellations! Moving You Deeper into Tarot Birth Pairs with Fred West</p>	<p>9:00 AM Breakout Session Creating Your Own Ritual and Ceremony Using Tarot with Vicki Santell</p> <p>10:15 AM Breakout Session Mediumship with the Petit Lenormand with Michelle Barrie</p> <p>11:30 AM Breakout Session Tarot for Families with Aunt Lily's Tarot with Claire Lily</p> <p>12:30 PM Lunch</p> <p>2:15 PM Breakout Session Spirit Drawing with Lisa Hunt</p> <p>3:45 PM Breakout Session Pitched to Publish: Writing for the Cartomancer with Amber Highland</p> <p>5:00 PM Breakout Session Creating Spreads and Spells with the Major Arcana with Rose Robinson</p>

All Attendees are invited to join us for Libations and Divinations, Friday and Saturday evening at 9:15 pm. We will meet in person at the DoubleTree bar, and online in the DoubleTree Bar Lounge on Acelevents.

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TOWER

Trivia

by Beverly Frable

The Tower is often interpreted as a sign of some form of transformation—perhaps one that’s abrupt and unexpected.

HAVE YOU EVER given thought to the source of this image? Apparently, there are two main theories regarding the inspiration for the origin of the image.

THE FIRST: The Tower image is a representation of the Tower of Babel, a story that appeared in biblical literature. One version shared is that the descendants of Noah built a tower that would “reach to the heavens”. Their goal was to be like God, no longer needing Him. This displeased God, and He destroyed the tower. The image of the Tower, consequently, is a depiction of God’s anger: a toppling building, punishing those who were building it.

An image of the destruction of the Tower of Babel which is similar to the Tower card can be found here: <https://www.artbible.info/art/large/619.html>.

THE SECOND theory is the most likely (in my humble opinion). This belief is that the

inspiration for the image of the Tower is based on the legends of the Infancy Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew (that’s a mouthful!). The Infancy Gospels were popular in medieval times, telling of things such as destruction of false idols and other Divine acts against falsehoods. Petroglyphs (basically rock carvings) dating back to the 13th century capture scenes that depict these stories. The images shown are located at Amiens Cathedral, the largest of the three great Gothic cathedrals located north of Paris, France. The highlighted scene is the one that some claim inspired the Tower image we recognize today.

More information about this theory with an image of the petroglyph depicting a “tower like” experience can be found here. The tower image can be found in the top row, middle: <https://www.fourhares.com/tarot/XVI/index.html>. Would either of these theories influence how you interpret the Tower?



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Beverly Frable

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Poetry as a Tarot Art Form

by Christiana Gaudet

AT STAARCON, our mission is to honor our tarot artists, and explore tarot art. Yet, tarot art is not only the images which comprise a tarot deck. Tarot art can also be the creativity tarot inspires. There can be tarot dance, tarot stories, and tarot poetry. We will explore some these concepts in a few of our workshops at StaarCon 2022.

I am a fan of tarot poetry. There is a unique connection between tarot and poetry. We tarot readers know that when we are giving a reading, teaching a class, or talking about a card, we often become more eloquent than we might be in normal conversation.

Tarot inspires the way we communicate.

There are many published books of tarot poetry. Sometimes the poems are written by poets who happened to be inspired by tarot. Sometimes they are written by tarotists who happened to be inspired to write a poem about a card.

The relationship between tarot and poetry goes back to early tarot history. In the 1500s tarot was a card game played by wealthy and influential people in Italy and France.

In Italy, the game of tarot led to a fad called “tarocchi appropriati.” In this game players would make up verses that were inspired by the cards and descriptive of one another. Eventually, these verses became predictive. It is theorized that this may have been the beginning of the concept of divinatory tarot.

Whether one considers oneself a poet, or a lover of poetry, there can be great insight that comes from writing and reading tarot poetry.

There is something magical about the way tarot inspires words, and the way that words and pictures move together in our conscious and subconscious mind.

On page 18, you'll find two tarot poems I wrote.
I hope you will be inspired to write some tarot poems as well!



Artwork © Pamela Steele



Artwork © Ciro Marchetti

TEN OF PENTACLES

To recognize one's true inheritance
 To be grounded in history, to honor the ancient
 To watch the generations in their dance
 To endure, to age wise and patient.

This is the Castle, this is the Crown
 The power of legacy, the legacy of power.
 The myth of brave deeds far renown
 And wise counsel in war's darkest hour.

As we find our place in myth and mystery
 The future emerges from choices of the past.
 We create our grandchildren's history
 From the power of Earth, strong and steadfast.

STRENGTH

As water with patience carves into stone
 So do hearts carve one on the other.
 And when nature battles civility
 New friends are drawn together.

Each has more reason to fear than to love
 The dangers beckon, not understated.
 This war is waged not with bullets but blooms
 And fine compassion, communicated.

The gentle maiden must be of mind fierce.
 She has enraptured a fierce jungle king.
 The beast submits not by violence but choice
 To a union of forces opposing.

Strength then is found not in warfare or blood
 Nor in doctrine nor laws to rely on.
 True strength is found in faith and control
 With your hand in the mouth of a lion.



Artwork © Pamela Steele

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