

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Renowned Theosophical Speaker Coming to Richmond

A Rare Visit to the West Coast

RICHMOND, Calif., April 14, 2016—The Oakland Branch of the Theosophical Society is hosting Michael Gomes, renowned speaker for the Theosophical Society in America. Gomes, historian and author, is the Director of the *Emily Sellon Memorial Library* in New York City. He is one of today's most respected writers on esoteric movements, as well known to readers of occult and esoteric literature as to students and scholars of modern religion. His works include an abridged and annotated version of H.P. Blavatsky's *Secret Doctrine* and an edition of *The Secret Doctrine Commentaries: The Unpublished 1889 Instructions*. After the publication of his book, *The Dawning of the Theosophical Movement*, he was awarded the *Herman Ausubel Prize* for historical achievement by Columbia University in 1989.

Toward the end of her life, H.P. Blavatsky wrote a series of *Instructions* for the students of her newly formed *Esoteric School*. These Instructions mark Mme. Blavatsky's last effort as part of the centennial cycle to form a nucleus that could work through the Theosophical Society for the benefit of humanity. Are these *Instructions* still relevant in today's world?

Michael Gomes will be giving a three-hour presentation on *HPB's Esoteric Instructions* Saturday, April 23rd from 1-4 PM, as this question is explored. A suggested donation of \$5 is requested at the door but no one will be turned away; refreshments will be served. Parking and entry is behind 332 Harbour Way on 11th St., between Nevin and MacDonald Avenues., Richmond, CA. A few autographed copies of the book, *Esoteric Instructions*, will be available for sale for use during the presentation. More details are available. Call or email Peggy Heubel at (510) 292-8898 or oaklandts@gmail.com.

About the Oakland Branch:

One of the many branches and study centers of the Theosophical Society (Adyar, Chennai, India), Oakland Branch was chartered on October 1, 1898 by Col. Henry S. Olcott, first president of the parent Society, and co-founder with H.P. Blavatsky. Oakland TS has called the East Bay its home for over a century, celebrating its 118th anniversary this year. The Oakland Branch is located at 332 N. Harbour Way, Richmond, CA 94801, and can be found on Facebook at *Oakland Theosophical Society* and on the web at <http://www.oakland.theosophical.org>.

Contact:

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