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The Spiritual Path to Freemasonry
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In the Masonic Temple, there are two types of symbols "Emblematic" in relation to a universal Sacred Tradition that precedes and at the same time and includes Masonic Tradition. "Operating"; i.e Tools and Instruments of the Work to be carried in the same place. We will discuss the Symbolic Object; "Decorum" of the Temple, offered for contemplation and reflection, reflective of all the Three Degrees of our 'Order. In fact, the meanings of the Symbols of the second category are revealed gradually during the evolution of the Initiate through these Three Degrees.

The ancients distinguished two types of Sacred Space: The Fanum building built, fenced and closed, often surrounded by a sacred grove and the Templum, which could be either a building material, but high in certain precise conditions of space, or simply an outdoor place, however limited and designed according to the same rules used for the orientation and spatial Fanum, the Temple built. The Masonic Temple is a Shrine or Fanum; however, this Templum is only partially built. Like all Consecrated places, the Tradition is meticulously oriented to evoke and represent the intersection of the six directions of space in its centre: The Whole Universe in a smaller scale. Penetrating into the Temple, the first objects we encounter are the Symbolic Two Columns, ruins of two large pillars that preceded the entry into the fence of the Holy Shrines, Egyptian, and what the Jews, led by a nomadic civilization to the ignorant by the ancient Egyptians, resume in their famous Temple of Solomon. Let us not forget that the Pillars, in Sacred Architecture, are nothing more than a sophisticated memory of the "first pillar", ubiquitous in what they were, universally, the earliest shrines of history (along with the Caves) and in the Woods.

Our Two Columns are named, and not surprisingly, "Jachin" and "Boaz" an alteration of two words whose Jewish association instead, if pronounced properly, very significant is "Jah Ken Ba 'Oz" (Trad.) "He God established the Force "to another section to align the 'axis of the path of what will be the Way of the Initiate from West to East and from Darkness to Light. Obviously their respective colour, also is not random: Red, Jachin, in the south defines the polarity of Male and is Solar, as clearly the Black Bohaz, in the North defines the polarity of Female and Moon.

This consideration leads us to contemplate the following two items of Symbolism, an echo of the Pillars. The Sun and the Moon: Even in the Mitreo, (Holy Place of Iniziatico, the Cult of Mithras), reinforces the concept of this bipolarity that's complementary. A certain logic would dictate that the Sun is placed to the East, in the top of the column of the South, and that the Moon is placed, always in the East, at the top of the column of the North. But this is a must in the Pythagorean Rite and shared by the overwhelming majority of Lodges and Rites around the world. However this does not collect the votes of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite who prefer to set the Sun to the right of M Fri (always active side) and the Moon to the left (always the passive side), whereas in this case the Temple is not seen from the entrance, between the columns, but from within, seen from the East. This also explains why, and only in the Scottish Rite, 1 Sorv lies at the foot of the Col il of the North and 2 ° Sorv in the middle of the Col.: the South. Perhaps there is also a more subtle Symbolic Name.

Lao Tse as he said: "*Yang and Yin each contain within itself the seed of its opposites*" I mean, expressed in a way closer to our way of thinking, we can see a subliminal reference to the Caduceus of Hermes, Mercury and the two Serpents entwined around the Verga. This "Templum", "Reflection of Heaven on Earth," would not be complete if it were symbolically adorned with elements relating to the Macrocosm, the "Great Cosmic homeland."

In the footsteps of the Egyptian Tradition, the time material Masonic Temple is then painted with stars, and therefore is called Starry Volta. To be exact symbolic in the canons, the background colour of the firmament upon which the stars are painted turquoise should be it 's the exact colour of a particular time of the day. The "Ikea" that, once broke the veil of night, before the rise of the Sun and the Fog. A precise Masonic Tradition Italica, in reference to the two Solstices, were painted on the Volta, two particular constellations of Orion. That the zenith of the central Temple and Aquila, almost at the entrance of the Temple, above the two columns.

To complete this "Celestial" Overview, it is necessary to integrate the twelve Signs of the Zodiac: The beginning of the sacred in many traditions Vetero Occidentali coincided with Calender of March, and more generally, was celebrated at the very moment of the Spring Equinox, the day 23rd of this month. In this circumstance, celebrating the start of the Life Cycle. A simple Symbolic logic for you to now understand is that the right place to enter the first Star Sign of "Fire, Aries," is at the beginning of the vertical column of the South, on the same, and so forth. The Sign of the warm season is vital to the development and includes Virgo. With Libra Equinoctial and Autumn Balancing, the place in the East at the beginning of the column "colder" of the North, you will begin the descent towards winter months, most favorable to the interior, and until the first sign of ' Renewal of water: "the Fish at the foot of the column of the North"

What a great esoteric Symbolic message: The vertical pin of the Masonic Temple is bordered by the occurrences of the two Solstices when its longitudinal axis, horizontal, between the West Gate and East Gate is determined by the two equinoxes. Is thus indicated by this Symbolism and is apparently Stellar, but in fact more "Seasonal" The course of Labour Iniziatico in the same year, and the type of Cosmic Energy progressively mutates that sustains it.

The meaning of another subject Symbolic Maggiore is often overlooked, and it is sin: That the "rope in knots and his" Love Knots" The rope, which must run at the top to the walls around the entire circumference of the Temple must be divided by "Love Knots" in twelve regular intervals. The nodes of the two ends, instead, should be made to bow. The last two divisions that result in these flakes must go down to the two columns J and B and the last part of the jagged flakes must touch the ground. The sixth Lace, Love, should be centered with the top of the Delta and overcome it.

"The rope in knots" of the Masonic Temple is one of the oldest remains of Sacred Geometry that Our institution continues to pass: Allows you to apply, inter alia, the famous Pythagorean theorem inherited from ancient Egyptians, for the path to the ground of the famous Golden Rectangle that will determine the exact center zenith of the Lodge, and will be placed at each corner of the Columns of the Three Lights. The fact that, originally, the rope used for the path of the Holy Place they were subsequently exposed to mo "fence" symbolic, is "subtle signals" the uninterrupted continuity of Tradition. The "Rope in Knots", fencing Space, enveloping and includes all present and all that is in the Temple. The ends that touch the ground, bring into contact with the "World of Underworld Hands and Ancestors" and finally "Love Knots" (taken much later in the arms of Savoy dynasty) and drawing the "Symbol of the Infinite" lead us into a dimension beyond time and space. A lot of levels, from the simplest to the most Arcane, Rope Knots are a clear and living Symbol of the Chain of Union. With this in Rope Knots, we were able to draw on the ground that the Golden Rectangle, completed, will become the Floor Mosaic: Its just settlement should be "108 houses in 9 X 12"

Once again, we can only point to the very different meanings Symbolic Object: Holy Number par excellence, 108 is symbolically expressed through the native Infinite Totality of existing things. Therefore, not only in our Western Tradition, but also in Taoism and Buddhism it is regarded as essentially esoteric. "108 ° is the measure of the angle of the upper triangular pediments of Greek temples", (and the same measure should be used for the Delta). Finally, 108 are houses of the "Magic Square of Saturn," and if through the Art of Magic, Neoplatonic, Planetary, let us go back to the myth of the final victory of the Olympians Gods over the Titans. Our Mosaic Floor becomes the Symbolic precise location of this battle, between Spirit and Matter, between thick and thin, between Light and Darkness. "The Way of the Initiate" walking the "tightrope" between black and white squares without stopping or slipping into one of these and is the one that leads to overcoming the apparent duality of the daily quota to I. 'Uniqueness of Bright Beginnings. We conclude this brief section on the Floor Mosaic with a rapid return to Egypt: The Book of the Dead of the ancient Egyptians referred to an identical floor that the deceased has to step over before weighing his Soul, when appearing before the gods, the floor of the "Hall of Judgment."

If you follow the consecutive order to the route of the Golden Rectangle, three of the four corners of the mosaic floor host the 3 Towers of Lights. Light from the East originally drawn, as if they were one 'issue, are gradually to manifest itself on the Three Towers. Three major archetypes of our Work: Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, as if to indicate that only these "Three Qualities" are for to bring order and harmony in the chaos caused by the apparent and pervasive dualism of Life. For each Archetype "domiciled" on the column, is an Order of Architecture: At Wisdom, closer to the East of the Temple, "The Ionic Order," the most balanced; The force, linked to the male side of the South and Solar: "The Doric Order", imposing; Beauty, linked to the lunar and feminine side of the North: "The Corinthian Order", the most harmonious and graceful.

According to the Tradition Italico-Pythagorean, three specific colors are matched to the three archetypes and their respective Orders. They were the symbolic colors in Liturgies used in Ancient Egypt: Blue for Wisdom (Divine Size: Amon, Zeus, Jupiter), Red for Strength (Vitale and Body Size: Horus, Ares, Mars), Green for Beauty (Size and sensitive Soul: Hathor, Aphrodite, Venus). Only in Italian Freemasonry as a whole, this Symbolism, "Archetypal" is reinforced by the presence in the Temple of Simulacra of three emblematic Gods: Minerva (Wisdom), to the East and to the right. (Active side) of M Fri Hercules (Strength), Guardian of the South. Venus (Beauty), Watchful Guardian and smiling in the North.

The Power of Three Lights on these pedestals is significant in the "Awakening of the Lodge itself" through the reboot to the activity of his first three positions: When the Opening of Works and throughout her return, the M Fri "embody itself", WISDOM, Prime Sorv "embody itself", "BEAUTY" and finally the Second Sorv "embody itself", "THE POWER" This of course, and only at the Symbolic level and "virtual", at least in the first three Degrees of the Order. The Pillars of the Three Lights, carriers of the three major archetypes of initiation of Labour are not to be confused with "The Three Great Lights of Freemasonry" present on the altar.

The Ara is in fact the "Tabernacle" that receives no more Symbolic Archetypes of Labour, but the same principles of ethics, Spiritual Symbols of the Masonic Order. A Holy Book is open as a treasure box with two tools of Geometry: The Square and the Compass. Yes, in ancient China prior to the birth of Lao Tzu, the legendary Emperor Fo Hi, is depicted with a club in his left hand and a compass in the right. This implies a very long universality of Symbols. This allows the layout of the right angle and that, in itself, represents half square should be placed in symbolic relationship with the Earth, that is with the "definite things" and the "world of Appearance with the Material and Contingent earth energies. The Compass however, that from a central point and allows you to draw a circle of infinitesimal extent, in theory, (and it all depends on the size of the compass) a circle, whose size would include the entire universe, holds the Totality and may be correlated with Heaven and Cosmic Energies. One can speak of the different positions in which, according to the degree they are weaved with these two instruments; Symbolic positions so that they allude to the progress of the Initiate in Art, on a street that goes from dark and the prevailing density of matter to the Sublime Light of the Spirit. Without any one of these two extremes are removed or denied.

The Square & Compass are placed on the holy book, "Book of Sacred Law". For the Scottish Rite, always very fond of Biblical legends, this holy book is the Bible (open, the Apprentice to the page of the Prologue of John's Gospel). But whatever Spiritual Testament of the Great Tradition can agree with Masonically, the second place, the country and the culture in which it is the Loggia that animates the "Symbolic Temple Ideal" that describes: Koran in a Muslim country, Torah in Israel, Sutra, Buddhist, Tao Te Ch'ing, China, etc.. etc.. The meaning is the same: The Holy Book, however, depicts the Great Cosmic Law through which it manifests the Grande Architect of the Universe. It should be remembered, however, another complementary symbol, usually forgotten and belonging to the Masonic Tradition Italica, "The Ruler of 24 divisions." It refers, among other things, to the 24 Hours of the day: Symbol of measuring time, just and temperate, use, which will make the initiate.

We now come to a Symbolic Object, Maggiore, specific to Italian Freemasonry for its presence in the Temple during the first three grades of the Order:

The Candlestick Planetarium. Final remark about the Cosmos and Celestial Energy, complementary of the Zodiac, the Volta and Starry Constellation. The Candlestick Planetarium called "Septenary" clearly refers not only to the seven days of the week, but to the Seven Levels of Initiation and Implementation, (the "Seven Heavens" Protected by the Seven Spheres). Its symbolic meaning, common to Platonism, Pythagoreanism and was especially used in the ranking Initiation of Mithraism. It thus forms part of Our Classic Heritage.

The Symbolic Higher Purpose and more typical of Freemasonry and the most "mysterious" is the Delta: "The Essence generates two princes, and all three show the Beginning of All Things," (Hermetic Texts).

E 'with this quote that will arrive to basic Symbolism, but very delicate, Delta:

G. A. D. U.

Its purely Masonic because the frequent use of the Tetragrammaton is in its center place. The right symbol that should adorn its interior is the Eye (for greater accuracy, Left Eye, the "Magic" which is omniscience and omnipresence of the Divine Spirit, the "Eye of Horus", "I 'Uedjat "of the Ancient Egyptians". The Delta that correspond geometrically, is not an Equilateral Triangle, Isosceles Triangle, but at a higher angle which would have to fit 108° should finally be wrapped pierced with his rays.

And my hope is that this brief description makes us reflect on the infinite wealth of content that is always Our Tradition handed down.