



First International Tarotfest, Castle Liebegg, 3. June 2017

We are delighted to announce Switzerland's first ever International Tarot Festival to be held at the beautiful Castle Liebegg on Saturday 3rd June 2017. Castle Liebegg nestles in a stunning location of Graenichen, about an hour from Zurich.

Organisers are Wicca Meier-Spring, founder of the famous Hexen Museum, Switzerland (<http://www.hexenmuseum.ch/>) and Kim Arnold, founder of the prestigious UK Tarot Conference (<http://tarotconference.co.uk/>) as well as the London Tarot Festival. Wicca and Kim are committed to serving you with an event you will always remember as part of your tarot journey.

The vision of the Festival is to embrace every essence of the tarot and bring together like minded people to network, learn and study with our highly experienced speakers. This Festival will be a unique experience for tarot enthusiasts at all levels to learn Tarot from some of the best names in the Tarot world creating an event to promote tarot in a vibrant, positive and deep meaningful light to assist you with your tarot study.

Our Speakers are Kim Arnold, Kirsten Buchholzer, Regula Elizabeth Fiechter, Wicca Meier-Spring, David Wells and Susanne Zitzl.

The fee for the day is £175.00 or SFr. 235.00 or 207 Euro. Includes all workshops, hot and cold lunch, morning and afternoon refreshments with snacks and cake, plus a chance to visit the market place full of goodies to fill you with delight.

Nearest hotel can be booked via <http://www.herberge-teufenthal.ch/home>
Please state you are attending the Festival at the Castle for preferential rates.

The event will be held in English and German, translation will be provided

Bookings: (German) <http://www.tarotfest.ch/>
(English) <http://tarotconference.co.uk/tarot-fest-swiss/>

Kirsten Buchholzer, president of the German Tarot Association (www.tarotverband.de), is of course very excited about the project. She was lucky enough to meet up with the two lovely organisers and got to ask them a few questions.

Kirsten: Hi Kim and Wicca, lovely to meet you! I am looking forward to the Tarotfest very much. Kim, I have visited your October Tarot Conference in London a few times now and have always loved them. They are so well organised. lively, varied. I always learned a lot, met great Tarot people. So how did you come up with Switzerland as a new „playground“ for your concept?

Kim: Nothing like this has been held in Switzerland before, being keen to work with Wicca on a project it seemed the perfect location for a European Tarot Festival. Also Castle Liebegg is stunning, it is a wonderful opportunity to showcase Tarot in a beautiful surrounding. I love my London event and long may it continue, but wanted to spread my wings. Switzerland just felt right.

Kirsten: So working with Wicca was a main incentive. How did you come to know each other? Are you working together with the Tarot?

Kim: I met Wicca many years ago as she attended my Tarot Conference in the UK, sometimes in life you meet someone who you immediately connect with, when I met Wicca I felt as if we had known each other forever. Sometime later Wicca attended a Tarot retreat weekend I was running in Canterbury and our friendship just naturally grew. I admired her wisdom and knowledge not only about the Tarot but also Witchcraft. She is such a gentle knowledgeable lady, I felt privilege to know her and count her as a friend. Often when Wicca visited the UK we would meet, talk and laugh for many hours. I was so delighted to go to her Museum in Switzerland last year and had a private tour, I always knew Wicca and I would at some point embark on a project together, and us launching together a Tarot Festival, the first one in Switzerland seemed like a very natural step. Wicca already had the connection with Castle Liebegg and it seemed a perfect venue for the Festival. We are delighted to bring together our knowledge of not only our subjects and love of Tarot, but also event organising to bring to you the best Festival Europe has ever seen (along with mine in the UK of course, laughs).

Kirsten: Well this sounds like true soul mates meeting. Was it the same for you, Wicca?

Wicca: During my first visit at the Tarot Conference in London years ago, I was blessed with two gifts in one in having back a long lost friend and meeting a person with a huge spirituality and a real gift in Tarot and Clairvoyance. Kim and I clicked very fast and had so much fun together, that my belly hurt from all the laughing we had together. So the honour is very much at my side too to have Kim as a friend. When she came over to Switzerland, I invited her to stay in my part of the castle Liebegg and so she was able to get a feeling of the place, alone at night in a castle. In the morning we sat at the breakfast table and the first ideas for the Tarotfest just came to us. Castle Liebegg is a very inspiring place!

Kirsten: Switzerland is of course not so far away from Germany. We even do have a few swizz members in our association, but I have to admit I don't know much about the Tarot Scene any longer. Though I used to spend a lot of time there in the early 2000s. What is the Tarot scene like in Switzerland now?

Wicca: Tarot is very much known as well. As Switzerland is a small place we do only have a few authors or Tarot creators. Oswald Wirth was the first person who did an own Deck in 1926. But in earlier years AGM Müller was a famous producer of Tarot cards before they sold their business.

Kirsten: And how do you work with the Tarot?

Wicca. I have held workshops and seminars on Tarot for over 12 years and still it seems there is always something new to learn about it.

The Hexenmuseum Schweiz has been open seven years now and is very well known in Switzerland as well as in the Museums world of Germany, Austria, France and Italy. I did some work for special exhibitions in Germany, in Speyer for example was a big exhibition about Witchcraft some years ago but mainly we do work together with our friends in Boscastle, Cornwall from the Museum of Witchcraft. We are the only Museum of that kind in the German speaking part of Europe. We do have some very interesting and very rare examples of Tarot and Lenormand pieces in the Museum. The Hexenmuseum Schweiz will move to castle Liebegg end of this year and will reopen there in March 2018. So all is at one place, my House of Seminars called Wheel of Wisdom, the Museum and the Tarofest!

Kirsten: Well the project really sounds exciting. The German Tarot Association has held its last international convention in 2009. So time is definitely ripe for the next one. What can visitors expect from the Fest?

Kim: The TarotFest offers a diverse range interactive study designed for every level of ability and interest. Our day is packed with high profile German and English speakers (translators on site), lunch and refreshments throughout the day are provided within the ticket price, as well as a host of rooms to be used for the main speakers to offer readings as well as a market place where you can buy books, tarot decks and other goods of interest. We aim to create an event to inspire anyone who wants to learn more about Tarot.

Kirsten: People in Germany know of course Regula Elizabeth Fiechter, Susanne Zitzl and Kirsten Buchholzer. But not many are familiar with David Wells. Could you tell us a bit about his background?

Kim: David Wells is one of the most talented speakers on the Qabalah, he is also a very dear friend. In the UK he has a huge following and has travelled the world to share his knowledge. He has just launched a new book for Hay House on the Qabalah and I am thrilled he will join us in Switzerland, I promise those attending will love him!

Kirsten: Many of our readers got to know you, Kim, in an interview you did with Tarot e.V. a few years back (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/tarotverband/interview-mit-kim-arnold-organisatorin-der-uk-tarot-conference-london/10152232403826528>). But just to remind us on a more personal note: Which was your first deck Kim?

Kim: The first deck I ever purchased was the IJJ Swiss deck which I used for years. I do like traditional Rider Waite decks which I use on a daily basis. Like Wicca I too am a collector and have over 100 decks, however, my favourite is the Gill Tarot by Elizabeth Gill. It is an out of print deck now but I love the colours and images. I also have a hand painted Italian deck which is just major arcana which cost me a small fortune but I love to get it out and just look at the images from time to time.

Kirsten: Switzerland again! (laughs) And yours, Wicca?

Wicca: Mine was the Crowley Toth Tarot, I bought these huge cards, they were in a special size back then in the 1980's, I could not shuffle them properly but liked the pictures. As Museums owner I am a collector, and I do have several favourites, depending on what I am doing. For a reading I have another deck, then for doing Tarot Magick, what is my main use of Tarot cards. When I am giving Seminars on the meaning and using of the Tarot I prefer a Rider Waite one.

Kirsten: Tarot Magick is favourite of mine. Are there any cards that go particularly well with it?

Wicca: I do love the Aces of the minor Arcana as they are great for doing spells. I do love the eight of wands, for me always Witches on brooms coming to help me and of course the High Priestess and the Hermit.

**Taroffest auf dem Schloß!
Castle Liebegg, 3. Juli 2017**

Pfingsten noch nichts vor? Dann schaut doch beim 1. internationalen Tarot-Festival in der Schweiz vorbei. Es findet am Samstag, 3. Juni 2017, im wunderschönen Schloss Liebegg statt, etwa eine Stunde von Zürich entfernt.

Organisatoren sind Wicca Meier-Spring, die Gründerin des Schweizer Hexen-Museums (<http://www.hexenmuseum.ch/>), und Kim Arnold, die schon seit 14 Jahren die renommierte UK-Tarot-Konferenz in London organisiert (<http://tarotconference.co.uk/>).

Das Festival will den vielfältigen Herangehensweisen ans Kartendeuten Rechnung tragen und Gleichgesinnte vernetzen. Der Tag beinhaltet Workshops, Mittagessen, Erfrischungen und die Möglichkeit unseren Marktplatz zu besuchen. Ein voller Tag also, der sich dem Tarot Studium widmet.

Alle Vorträge und Workshops dauern eine Stunde und werden teilweise in zwei Sprachen abgehalten. Ausserdem bieten sich die Gelegenheiten für eine Sitzung bei einzelnen der international bekannten Tarotfachleute zu buchen. Diese sind im Ticketpreis von SFr 235 nicht inbegriffen. Dafür jedoch die Erfrischungen.

Unsere Referenten: Kim Arnold, Kirsten Buchholzer, Regula Elizabeth Fiechter, Wicca Meier-Spring, David Wells und Susanne Zitzl.
Weitere Informationen und Anmeldung: <http://www.taroffest.ch/>

Referenz zum Interview <https://www.facebook.com/notes/tarotverband/interview-mit-kim-arnold-organisatorin-der-uk-tarot-conference-london/10152232403826528>