

# *Rosicrucian Park*



## **Akhnaton Shrine**

The Akhnaton Shrine commemorates the lives of AMORC's founder and Emperor H. Spencer Lewis (1883 – 1939), Emperor Ralph M. Lewis (1904 – 1987), and other devoted members and officers of the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC. Rosicrucian members visit this shrine to meditate and honor the memories of these dedicated Rosicrucians.



### **Alchemy Exhibit**

In anticipation of the opening of the new Alchemy Museum at Rosicrucian Park, the new Alchemy Exhibit (curated by Frater Dennis Hauck) features a journey through the seven stages of the Alchemical process, a meditation chamber, and a full-size reproduction of an Alchemist's workshop.

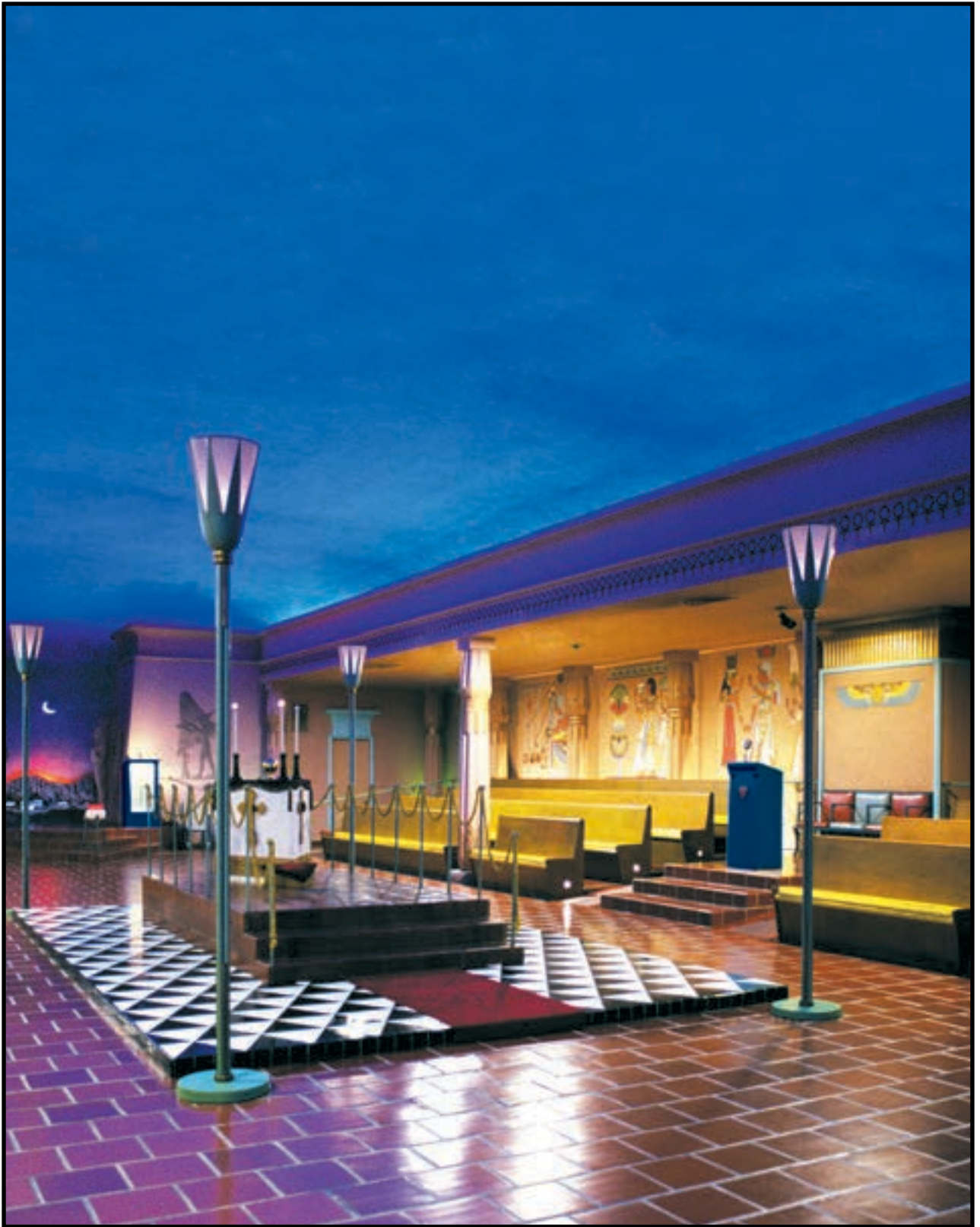


### **Alchemy Garden**

The new Alchemy Garden at Rosicrucian Park features four elemental gardens, each representing one of the primary elements of Alchemy - Earth, Air, Fire, and Water. Each elemental garden culminates in a raised planter at the center of the garden, formed in the shape of the Alchemical symbol that represents that garden's element. Each planter contains plants associated with the respective element, for use in the Alchemy Laboratory.

All of the plants throughout the garden are native to northern California or are drought tolerant and represent characteristics of the respective alchemical elements, by showing the appropriate colors, characteristics, or ecological habitat associations. For example, native plants that are ecologically adapted to fire are in the Fire Garden, along with plants with red flowers, bark, berries, etc.

Alchemy is one of the mystical traditions that greatly contributed to the Rosicrucian Tradition and is studied by Rosicrucian students.



## Grand Temple

This beautiful and inspiring building is modeled after the great Temple of Hathor at Dendera in ancient Egypt. The Grand Temple was dedicated on July 17, 1949 with water from sacred rivers around the world and continues to be the spiritual and mystical home for Rosicrucians throughout the world.



### **Obelisk**

This obelisk is a three-quarter size replica of the original which stood before the House of the Sun at Heliopolis – the Biblical city of “On” – in 2300 BCE. Obelisks represented a connection with the Divine to the ancient Egyptians. The hieroglyphs say in part: Horus, the one born of life, King of the North and South, Kheper-Ka-Ra.



### **Peace Pole**

This beautiful hand-crafted monument displays “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in twelve languages. There are tens of thousands of Peace Poles planted in 180 countries around the world - all dedicated as monuments to Peace.

Each year the United Nations celebrates September 21 as the International Day of Peace. Peacebuilders everywhere perform a powerful act of planetary acupuncture on this date by sending energy through all the Peace Poles around the planet for a Global Attunement of Peace.

At Rosicrucian Park we also celebrate the Rosicrucian Day of Peace on the fourth Sunday of June. All are welcome.



## Pythagoras Statue

Pythagoras (ca. 570 to 490 BCE) is one of the most important philosophers in the history of the Western world.

He deeply influenced astronomy, cosmology, mathematics, and philosophy – especially the Rosicrucian Tradition. The Pythagorean Way of Life serves as a model of moral and ethical values that deeply resonate with the Rosicrucian Tradition. His study of the universe was inspired by his desire to feel a closer connection with the Divine. This inquiry, initiated 2,500 years ago, can rightly be called the beginning of the scientific inquiry that continues to today.

This statue is an authorized reproduction of the original created by Nicholas Ikaris, which stands at the harbor of Pythagorio, Samos, Greece – the birthplace of Pythagoras.

As with the Magician or Magus card in the tarot and Hermes Trismegistus in the Hermetic Tradition (As above, so below), Pythagoras stands with his right arm extended upward and his left arm extended down at his side, holding a right triangle. Pythagoras gazes upward toward the *Cosmos*, a term that he coined to describe the great, harmonious whole. *Cosmos* means: Something beautiful to look at.



## **Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum**

Architecturally inspired by the Temple of Amon at Karnak, the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum houses the largest collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts on display in Western North America, including objects from pre-dynastic times through Egypt's early Islamic era, as well as Assyrian and Babylonian artifacts.

The Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum continues to enrich the community with many cultural and educational activities.

### HISTORY

The Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum began with one small artifact (see RC1 on next page), a Sekhmet (lion goddess) statue, which stood on the desk of H. Spencer Lewis, the founder of the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC.

In the 1920s AMORC supported the excavations of the Egypt Exploration Society in Tel-el-Amarna (Akhetaten), the city of the Pharaoh Akhnaton. In gratitude, the Egypt Exploration Society donated several artifacts from their finds to AMORC.

H. Spencer Lewis encouraged members to add to this collection, which they did.

In 1927 H. Spencer Lewis conceived of a public collection. He had glass cases built for the artifacts on the second floor of AMORC's Administration building.

In 1929 AMORC sponsored an initiatic journey through Egypt, led by H. Spencer Lewis. This trip generated much enthusiasm, which resulted in additional donations of artifacts and funds for the Museum.

By 1932 the collection had outgrown its second-floor home, so an additional building was constructed – the Rosicrucian Egyptian Oriental Museum.

Ralph M. Lewis, H. Spencer Lewis's son and successor as Imperator of AMORC, directed the growth of the Museum over the next few decades.

By the early 1960s the Museum's collection had grown to more than 2,000 artifacts. A fully modern and larger museum facility was now needed.

In 1965 Ralph Lewis personally led the research team that explored many tombs and temples in Egypt, on which the new Museum building was modeled.

In November 1966 the new Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum opened.

Today the Museum, with over 4,000 artifacts, houses the largest collection of authentic ancient Egyptian artifacts on display in Western North America.

The Museum hosts more than 100,000 guests per year, including 26,000 school children.

The Museum highly values collaborative research and in recent years has worked on projects with: Stanford University, UCLA, NASA Ames Bio-computation Lab, the British Museum, National Geographic, the History Channel, and others.

The Museum's future looks promising with new exhibits, tours, and workshops, continuing research and scholarship, and a perennial commitment to education and service.



1930.



This incense burner was used during rituals in an ancient Egyptian temple.



Sekmet statue – RC1 – the first artifact in the collection that would become the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum.

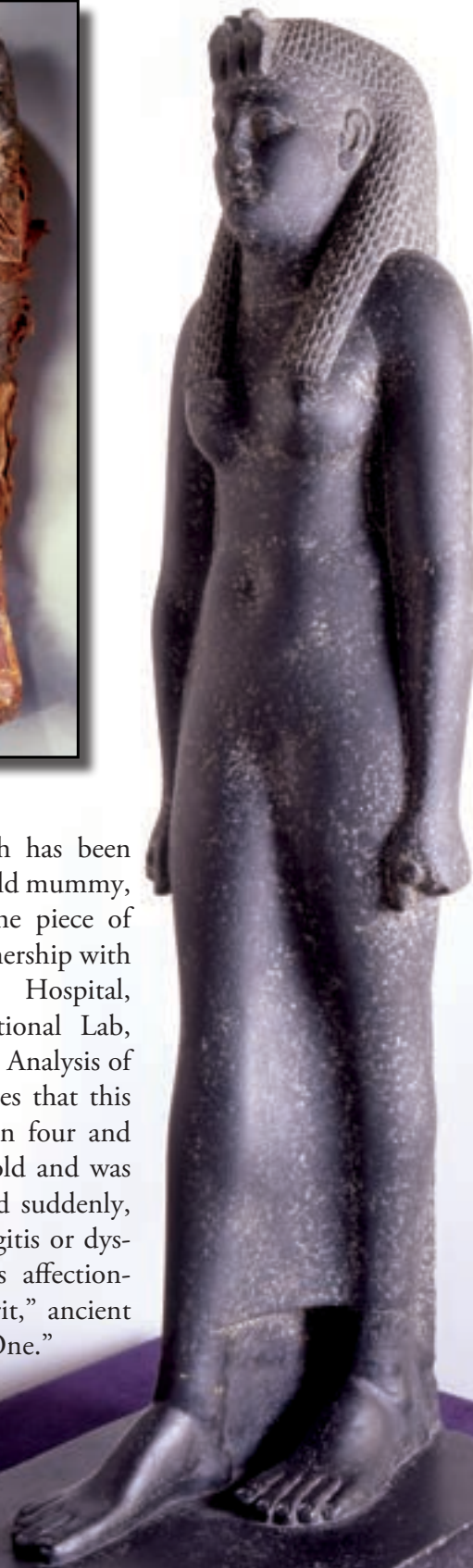


### Sherit

Extensive research has been conducted on this child mummy, without removing one piece of linen, through a partnership with Stanford University Hospital, NASA Bio-computational Lab, and Silicon Graphics. Analysis of the CT scans indicates that this little girl was between four and a half and six years old and was healthy until she died suddenly, possibly from meningitis or dysentery. Today she is affectionately known as “Sherit,” ancient Egyptian for “Little One.”



Akhnaton ring – This ring, on display in the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum, once belonged to the Pharaoh Akhnaton, early in his reign, before he changed his name.



### Cleopatra VII

This is one of only five existing statues of Cleopatra in the world.





## **Rosicrucian Labyrinth**

The Rosicrucian Labyrinth is based on the design of the Chartres Labyrinth, which has inspired spiritual wayfarers for at least 800 years. Labyrinths around the world have been effective meditation tools for millennia.

The paths of the Rosicrucian Labyrinth are surrounded by native plants, which create the outline of the labyrinth design. The paths were built sufficiently wide so that guests in wheelchairs can easily navigate the turns. An oak grove, sacred in many of the ancient mystery traditions, surrounds the Labyrinth.

This beautiful Labyrinth, accessible to all and nestled within a sacred grove, provides the opportunity for the hundreds of thousands of members and guests who visit Rosicrucian Park each year to experience its tranquility in new and profound ways. It also demonstrates the benefits of living in harmony with our environment and our natural resources – a principle at the core of the Rosicrucian teachings and a practice especially important at this time in humanity’s history.



## **Rosicrucian Peace Garden**

*What you see before you is a manifestation of the love Rosicrucians feel for this place that we call Rosicrucian Park and the commitment we feel toward the ideals of Peace and Tolerance.*

-Grand Master Julie Scott, Rosicrucian Peace Garden dedication speech, 2004

This beautiful educational garden, authentic to the Eighteenth Dynasty of ancient Egypt, is based on examples of gardens from the remains of the city of Akhetaton, now called Amarna. The ancient Egyptians would relax in a garden like this next to their home—a garden full of medicinal plants and beautiful and fragrant flowers.

Thoughtful attention was given to every detail in the Rosicrucian Peace Garden, creating a truly educational and inspirational experience for guests at Rosicrucian Park.

Rosicrucians and friends around the world celebrate the Rosicrucian Day of Peace on the fourth Sunday of June each year.

*I contribute to Peace when I respect Nature and preserve it for generations to come.*



### Rosicrucian Planetarium

This building of Moorish design (honoring the important contributions of the Arab astronomers) was the fifth planetarium built in the United States and the first to house an American-made star projector, designed and constructed by H. Spencer Lewis. Today complimentary space shows are presented daily.



Right: H. Spencer Lewis demonstrating the new star projector that he had personally made by hand. From *The San Jose News*, 1936.



## **Rosicrucian Research Library**

The collection of the Rosicrucian Research Library began in the early 1900s. The current building, envisioned by Ralph M. Lewis, was designed by his brother, architect Earle Lewis, and was constructed in 1939.

Dedicated to the pursuit of Rosicrucian knowledge, the Rosicrucian Research Library contains a remarkable collection of books and other research materials on most esoteric subjects, as well as cultural, scientific, and other fascinating material.

Rosicrucian members, visiting scholars, students, and interested members of the public are welcome to study here.

The new Rare Books Room displays some of the Library's most important works, including the Rosicrucian Manifestos of the early 1600s, rare books by Jacob Boehme, Michael Maier, Robert Fludd, Francis Bacon, Louis-Claude de Saint-Martin, and other exceptional works.

*Fama Fraternitatis*, *Confessio Fraternitatis*, *Chymical Wedding of Christian Rosenkreutz*. The Rosicrucian Manifestos. 1616.

- *Secret Symbols of the Rosicrucians of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, hand colored by Emperor H. Spencer Lewis.
- *Of Errors and Truth* by Louis-Claude de Saint-Martin, 1775.
- *Rosicrucian Reflections* by Emperor Christian Bernard. First edition, signed, 2012.



Rosicrucian Park has been organic since the year 2000 and since 2005 more than 5,000 native plants have been planted, replacing water-hungry lawns, resulting in a savings of more than 10 million gallons of water per year!



Grand Master Julie Scott receives a proclamation from San Jose mayor, Ron Gonzalez, celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum.



Alchemist Dennis Hauck, Ph.D., FRC, leading members and guests on a tour of the new Alchemy Exhibit at Rosicrucian Park at the Exhibit Opening, June 2015.



Grand Master Julie Scott and members at the Dedication of the new Rosicrucian Labyrinth, June 2015.