





SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

Lama Michel Rinpoche, Brazil



Lama Michel Rinpoche, born in 1981, has been recognized by Lama Gangchen and many great lamas as a Tulku - the reincarnation of a Tibetan Buddhist Master. He has chosen to be born in Brazil not only in order to benefit the whole country and South America, but the whole of contemporary society.

Lama Gangchen visited Brazil for the first in 1987, invited by Lama Michel's parents - Bel and Daniel. From this encounter was born a strong connection with the whole family, who founded the first of many Dharma Centers under the guidance of Lama Gangchen: the 'Shi De Choe Tsog' Center.

Over the years, contacts with Bel, Daniel and Lama Michel's sister Fernanda have increasingly been strengthened. Spontaneously, at the age of twelve, Lama Michel decides to leave his 'normal life' in order to engage in a monastic life in the south of India, where he presently resides.

Lama Michel has repeatedly visited sacred sites in India, Nepal, Indonesia, Cambodia, Mongolia and Tibet. During all these pilgrimages, he has had many intuitions, dreams and special visions. Lama Michel's character and his altruistic attitude began then to manifest themselves in a traditionally Buddhist way.

Great Lamas as Zopa Rinpoche, Daghiab Rinpoche and Gelek Rinpoche have confirmed that Lama Michel is the reincarnation of Drubchok Ghialwa Sandrup - a 15th century Lama from Gangchen Choepel Ling,

a monastery in Tibet, at the beginning of Lama Tsong Khapa's Ghelupa school, at the times of the first Dalai Lama. Panchen Zangpo Tashi, one of Lama Gangchen's reincarnations, founded the Gangchen Choepel Ling monastery. His successor, the second regent of the throne, was Drubchok Ghialwa Sandrup - a great yogi and master who gave various philosophical teachings.

Lama Michel is really a special young man, and many people have noticed his pure energy - which is like the energy of Maitreya, the future Buddha of Love. His Tibetan name is Chiang Chub Choepel Lobsang Nientrak - which means the 'Wise and famous Mind of enlightenment, who spreads the peace message of Dharma successfully'.



Lama Caroline, England



Lama Caroline, Dorje Kanyen Lhamo, was born in 1965 in the UK. She became Buddhist in 1986 after reading 'The Way of the White Clouds' and took Refuge with Geshe Namgyel Wangchen of Drepung. Caroline studied and did solitary retreats for five years under the guidance of Geshe Kelsang Gyatso.

In 1991 met Gangchen Rinpoche, and moved to Milano, Italy, to study with him - She has also had the great fortune to receive teachings on sutra and tantra from many other (Gelugpa) Lamas.

From 1993 - to present day she is travelling extensively with Lama Gangchen and visited Borobudhur for the first time in 1993. Lama Caroline together with the Lama Gangchen Peace Publications team, (Isthar Adler, Cosy Back, Ricardo Baddouh, Sharon Dawson,) compiled, edited and published the NgalSo Gyasto Sungrab, the Collected Works of Lama Gangchen, the core

teachings of the NgalSo Tradition.(his collected works on Sutra, Tantra, medicine, astrology, yoga) of NgalSo Western Buddhism.

In 2000 she was Officially recognised as a Lama by Lama Gangchen. She is a Lineage Holder of the NgalSo tradition, and became a Throne Holder in 2012.

2000 - onwards, Lama Caroline has been teaching and guiding retreats on Sutra, Tantra, Medicine, Astrology, and Trulkhor yoga at Albaganano Healing Meditation Center, Italy, and in other NgalSo Centers worldwide.

2003 - 4, she studied and received a Diploma in World Religions from the Open University, UK.

2005 - 8 Masters Degree (with merit) in Buddhist Studies from the University of Sunderland, UK - Her thesis was on 'A Tibetan Lama's Mandala Theory About Candi Borobudur Compared with Western Scholarship'

Since 2010 she studies Classical Tibetan and Sanskrit at ITAS, the Institute for Tibetan and Asian Studies at KarmaGuen, Velez Malaga, Spain.



Claudia Sobrevila is Senior Biodiversity Specialist at the World Bank. A Venezuelan national, she holds a degree in biology from the Central University of Venezuela and an M.A. and a doctorate degree (PhD) in Ecology from Harvard University. During her 10 years at the World Bank, she has provided technical and project management expertise to projects in more than 15 countries mainly in Latin America on the establishment and management of Parks, building ecological corridors, ensuring that biodiversity conservation is in the agenda of governments, on the establishment of environment trust funds, and more recently on the participation of indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation. She is a strong practitioner of participatory development.

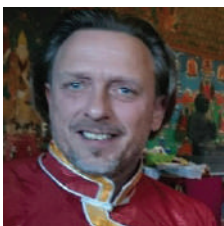
The wide input she seeks ensures stronger ownership of the decisions by an array of interest groups and may ensure more long-lasting effects in conservation. Claudia has led workshops to develop best practices on the issue of the role of indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation, on traditional knowledge of indigenous groups and on long-term innovative financing mechanisms for protected areas. Prior to her position at the Bank, Claudia was Chief Ecologist at The Nature Conservancy, where she did inventories of vegetation types and park planning in more than 8 countries and developed a Manual for Rapid Ecological Assessment that is being used commonly in Latin America. She was also Senior Director for the Andean Countries at Conservation International, where she promoted the concept and development of ecological corridors, particularly in the Peru-Bolivia Amazon Lowlands, which has become a major conservation strategy in these two countries.

Claudia has authored several papers and reports on rapid ecological assessment, ecological guide to a park, conservation planning tools, biodiversity conservation and more recently on the role of Nature and Peace. Recently, Claudia founded a non-profit organization "EcoVillages Foundation- Peaceful people in a Healthy Environment" to support poor indigenous communities in remote villages in Tibet and in the rain forests of South and Central America.



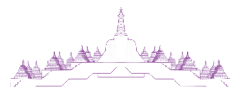
Rudolph Schneider - MD, was born in Basel/ Switzerland on the 8th of January 1949.

He received a formal education in a classic school, followed by Studies in medicine. Since 35 years he runs a medical office in Schinznach - Dorf as well as a medical school. He is a general practitioner with many specializations in Laser therapy, Traditional Tibetan Medicine, Homeopathy and Chinese Medicines, acupuncture. Married to Elsbeth since 1978, they have five children - wonderful time. Dr Schneider has been to Borobudur several times with Lama Gangchen.



Peter Gouw is a Master Sound Healer and director and teacher at Ohmpuncture - Resonance Therapy and Educations in Holland, has 32 years of experience with sound healing.

He also has extensively studied the authentic Buddhist practice with singing bowls. It is his mission to teach people about the use of singing bowls and resonance in order to help people find their own balance.



Alfredo Sfeir Younis (born 1947) is a Chilean economist, spiritual leader and healer, presently President of the Zambuling Institute for Human Transformation, founded in 2005 in Washington, DC, USA. Before opening the Institute, Alfredo had a twenty-nine-year career at the World Bank where he was hired as the World Bank's first environmental economist in 1976 and later was appointed Director of the World Bank Office in Geneva, Switzerland. He served as Special Representative to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization from 1996 to 1999. In both institutions Alfredo worked in the general fields of human rights, peace, and social justice; within this broader context he initiated and promoted policy in such areas as poverty eradication, international trade and finance, financing of development, gender and women's issues, trade and development, role of indigenous peoples, sustainable management of forestry and

fisheries, water management and irrigation, desertification, biodiversity, culture and spirituality in sustainable development, and alternative medicine.

He has received numerous awards from international organizations, including the Lifetime Ambassador of Peace (2001), Peace and Tolerance Award (2002), World Healer Award (2002), Messenger of Peace (2002), Peace, Mercy and Tolerance Award (2003), Supreme Advisor of the Buddhist Spiritual Forum Award, World Peace Mercy and Tolerance Award (2004), Diamond Peace Award (2005), and Peace Ambassador Award (2006).

Alfredo was a candidate for the 2013 presidential election as the leader of the Green Ecologist Party, but lost the election with less than 3% of the total amount of votes.

Recognized as a healer and spiritual authority by many masters from different faiths, Alfredo publishes and lectures worldwide on spirituality and global issues.



Honoured by the Italian Society for the progress of Sciences, **Tiziano Pera** was consultant for the Italian Ministry of Innovation, University and Research (MIUR), Delegate of the Rector of Turin University, for decentralized degree courses, member of the Scientific Committee of the Regional School Office of the Piedmont Region (USR-Piedmont) for the School's CompetenzISS Plan as well as President of the Association "The Baobab, Research Association" and member of the Scientific Committee of Giunti-Scuola as editor for the Science and Technology department. Professor at the University of Milan and Turin, he further taught in collaboration with prestigious Organizations, including the European Centre for Education (CEDE), the Free University of Active Education (LUDEA), the Milan Centre for Innovation and Educational

Experimentation (CISEM), the Italian Federation of Exercise Centres for Active Education Methods (FIT-CEMEA), the Associations of Teacher Researchers on Chemistry (DDSCI) and History Teaching (CLIO'92) as well as with the National Institute of Innovation and Educational Research Documentation (INDIRE), dealing with innovative pedagogies and assessment in school competence. Author of many books and articles, Tiziano is a member of the University of Turin Research Group (GRDS-UNITO) and coordinates several research groups working in the field of "competence teaching" at all levels of schooling.



Sunny Kuo

1948 Born in Taipei, Taiwan; 1965 Moved to Japan; 1969 Entered Kyoto University (Kyoto, Japan); 1971 Moved to USA; 1977 Master Degree of Operations Research University of California (Berkeley, USA)

1980 Established "Digital World" Computer Company (SF, USA)

1984 Established "SWENCO" Electronics Factory (Shekou, China)

2004 Established "Peace Media" (Hong Kong)

2013 Established "Kuo Hsueh-Hu Foundation" (Taiwan/Hong Kong)



Felix Shen was born on June 19, 1948

1970 Graduated from Cheng - Kung University Taiwan, China

B.S. degree in Hydraulic Engineering

1973 Graduated from Utah State University Logan, Utah, U.S.A

Master of Engineering degree in Civil Engineering

1976 Sampo Corporation - Taiwan, China Sales Manager

1977-1985 Sampo Corporation of America ELK Grove Village, Illinois

Sales manager, Vice President of marketing, Executive Vice President

1985 Vice President of Sampo Corporation - Taiwan, China

1987 President of Sampo Corporation - Taiwan, China

1989-2005 Chairman of Sampo Corporation Taiwan, China /Rechi Precision Corporation/Sampo Technology Corporation /Castlenet Technology Corporation/ Uniwill Computer Corporation/ Chairman of Avalon Global Group St. Petersburg, Florida, U.S.A

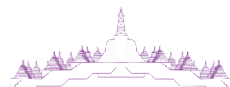
2005 Chairman of Celgen Bio Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. Shanghai, China

Present Group Chairman of Sino Union Group (Beijing and Shangdon), Sampo Corporation (Taiwan), Rechi Precision Corporation (Taiwan), Amigo Logistics Corporation (Taiwan), Sampo Home Inc. (Taiwan)



Elkana C. Waarsenburg, MD, (1976) works as a family physician in The Netherlands. She is specialised in palliative (end of life) care. Her main interests are integrative medicine, lifestyle medicine, spirituality and Buddhism. She initiated and directs a lifestyle and oncology program in primary care in Assen, the Netherlands.

She gives medical education training about lifestyle, spirituality and end of life care in the Netherlands and Italy. She is the chair of the Lama Gangchen International Global Peace Foundation (LGIGPF) in the Netherlands.



Rogier Hoenders, MD, PhD, is a psychiatrist, senior researcher and director of the Center for Integrative Psychiatry of Lentis, Groningen, the Netherlands. He is also a clinical instructor psychiatry and therefore involved in teaching, training and supervising residents psychiatry. He is the chair of the two yearly congress integrated psychiatry. His main interests are prevention and therapeutic lifestyle changes (mindfulness, exercise, nutrition, relaxation), spirituality and natural medicine (herbs, vitamins, supplements)



Born in Verbania, **Silvia Magistrini**, was an Arts and Science lecturer in her hometown high school Lyceum until her retirement; she loves to be a grandma, read, write and travel. For many years, she participated in poetry contests, until her commitments in the Public Administration (Councilor for Education and Culture of the Municipality of Verbania from 1997 to 2009 and Counselor from 2009 to 2014 at the VCO Province) no longer gave her the necessary time.

In those years, the municipality of Verbania greatly shared cultural and educational interests with the community of Albagnano, which was just then established, giving birth to a "small Assisi", in the hills above Verbania: the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation in collaboration with Verbania Municipality organized four annual world congresses offering a platform for peace, education, science, health and well-being. At each of these very national and international congresses, a series of programmatic Declarations on issues of peace, protection of the person, the environment and health, for a world of peace in dialogue with peoples were signed.

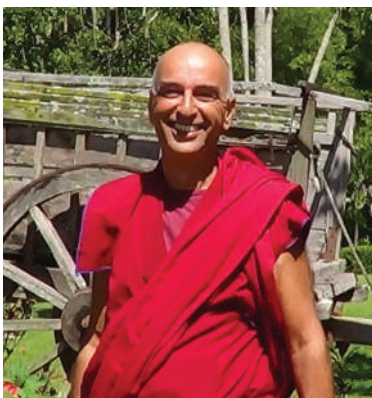
Silvia has been teaching literacy courses at Unitas of Verbania and Omegna for several years and has taught at the Verbania penitentiary House where she is currently serving as the Municipal Guardian of the Detainees. Since 2010, she is Chairwoman of the Company "Dante Alighieri" (Verbania and VCO Committee). Despite the aforementioned commitments, she never gave up traveling, accumulating fascinating experiences as a result of extraordinary meetings with peoples, cultures and landscapes. Following the many itineraries along which she has deployed her passion over the years, she has accumulated photos and poems that she has partially translated into the book entitled "THE WORLD IN YOUR EYES" (Baobab Publisher).



Ulrich Hüsichelrath (Tashi Gyatso) was born in Wülfrath, Germany 1969.

He has been working in management for 15 years before starting his own business in consultancy and coaching 11 years ago.

In 2006 he met Lama Gangchen Rinpoche and Lama Michel Rinpoche for the first time in Holland. In the same year he became their student and took refuge. Since 2009 he has been in charge of the German branch of Help in action.



Daniel Calmanovitz, electronic Engineer graduated at Escola Politécnica da USP - Brazil. Presides the Advisory Board of the Centro de Dharma da Paz - temple for practice and study of Tibetan Buddhism in São Paulo, founded in 1988, and is the President Director of Fundação Lama Gangchen para a Cultura de Paz, created in 2006. Disciple o Lama Gangchen Rinpoche and Buddhist practitioner since 1987, was ordained monk in February 2011, at the holy stupa of Borobudur, Indonesia. He coordinates and is instructor of courses, retreats and meditation practices and Buddhist philosophy, as well as peace culture education programs. Participates in teachings and retreats with Lama Gangchen in Brazil and around the world, and

accompanied him on many pilgrimages to Buddhist holy sites in India, Tibet, Nepal, Indonesia, Myanmar, and others; he had also the opportunity to participate in retreats and teachings with other renowned Lamas. Father of Fernanda and Lama Michel Rinpoche, whom he accompanied during the first two years of stay at Sera Me monastery in southern India. Represents the FLGCP in inter-religious meetings as well as other related activities.



Vera Lucia Gravina Pladevall Moreira, was born in the city of São Paulo - SP on June 16, 1961. At the age of 21, she graduated as a Nurse at PUC-Campinas. She began her career working with new-borns acting as supervisor of Sao Paulo Maternity. She then served in the public health area as a technical assistant in the Oncology Programme of the State Department of Health of São Paulo. She was responsible for the implementation and training at the primary level of cancer prevention of the uterus, cervix, breast, skin and mouth, throughout the State of São Paulo. Vera worked for the health programme of 'woman and adolescent' focusing on the prevention of pregnancy in

adolescence and she worked as a nurse for eight years in the area of STD AIDS. She first came into contact with the Rolfing Method in 1993 and, following three years of training, she began her work in this field. In order to increase her competence, she graduated in Traditional Chinese Medicine; and completed the following courses:

- Peter Levini's Somatic Experience course
- Family Constellation course at the University of Samadeva
- Sacral Skull Integration and Sacral Skull Therapy at Upledger Brazil.



Born in Germany, **Thomas Nietzsche** studied Computer Science and Psychology. Besides his work always interested in medicine, in understanding the causes of sicknesses and a strong wish to be able to help those who suffer, he came into contact with Lama Gangchen Rinpoche in 2004 and started following his guidance, teachings, initiations, retreats and pilgrimages in the ensuing years. From a young age enjoying sports and physical activities, he wished to develop more awareness about the interaction of body and mind, and how to influence the flow of energies inside and outside with the help of NgalSo Trulkhor Yoga.



Borobudur...





 ...Albagnano



Sing! Heavenly Life

The incarnation of His Holiness Gangchen Rinpoche is the continuous stream of living through all ages. As we assemble here in celebration, we are offering our homage to a great mind vast as space, a pure mind entering into all realms of 29 knowledges, an edifying mind purifying all sentient beings, and an inexhaustible mind living through all ages. His presence inculcates the mutual reflection of the unitary and the manifold where the individual and totality are interdependent. All the prayers in several languages and by persons of different nationalities are the depth of compassion of H. H. Gangchen.

The Avatamsaka-sutra says: "Mind makes the Buddhas." His Holiness has come to this world to make us plumb the ocean of essence so that wisdom and compassion illumine our lives. His benign presence among us adorns and purifies many lands, enriching infinite sentient beings with generosity, morality, diligence, wisdom and meditation.



The Vimalaprabha commentary on the Kalacakra-tantra speaks of the assimilation of the body and the universe (dehe visvasya mananam). From the emanation of the universe to the highest meditation on the mandala, this body of ours contains the light universe. The dharmadhatu is shining light and concentration is its perception. As H.H. leads his acolytes in circumambulation of the five terraces of the Borobudur, it is to awaken them to luminous wisdom or hod.gsal.gyi ye.ses in the words of Tsonkhapa. The annual pilgrimage to the grandiose sanctum of Borobudur is the Bodhisattva aspect of H.H. constantly nourishing the aspirations of his followers and unfolding their complete human potential. As a Bodhisattva, H.H. translates aspects of knowledge into insights and actions conducive to common weal.

The cataclysmic events which have seen the end of Classical Tibet have resulted in the exodus of learned and dynamic Lamas like Ven. Gangchen to Western countries. They have established major Dharma centres and the one in Albagnano has the solid backing of the traditions of Tibet and Indonesia as well as its relevance to the European context. It is both samsaric and extra-samsaric. It reminds me of the destruction of 1600 monasteries by the Hunas in Greater Gandhara as recorded by the Chinese pilgrim Sung-yun in 520 AC and by Hsuan-tsang in 630 AC. The devastation could never be reconstructed, but at the request of Bhikṣu Rajavamsa of Uttarapatha or Trans-Gandhara the Gupta Emperor Sakraditya (alias Kumaragupta I, ruled 415-455) built the Nalanda monastery. This is clearly specified in I-tsing's "Biographies of 60 Tang Monks". The Mini-Nalanda of Albagnano is in this time-hallowed tradition and some day it may become a major centre for Buddhist art, thought and practice to enrich life, when humanity has black pebbles in one hand and white in the other. H.H. Gangchen is the dawn to show accumulated store of our good deeds.

The Neo-Borobudur at Albagnano reminds me of the first Tibetan monastic complex of Samye built over 12 years (ca 775) on the pattern of Odantapuri in India. The Council of Samye held in 792-794 established the direction of Tibetan Buddhism and henceforth Sutras and Tantras were translated only from Sanskrit originals. H.H. Gangchen carries forward the same tradition of a new paradigm of Tibetan Buddhism that is relevant to the times and spaces of modernity, Albagnano celebrates H.H. in the beauty and shadow of his mind, his fierce will and gentle smile to simplify the steep plunges into psychic depths, and his sudden burst of laughter emanates from within the civilisation he inherits.



After the persecution of Buddhism in Tibet by Emperor Langdarma (832-842) and the end of the "First Diffusion of Dharma," Buddhism witnessed the "Second Diffusion" (phyi dar) in Western Tibet under the Guge Kings. Rinchensangpo established 108 chapels (lhakhang). He founded the largest complex of Tholing on the model of Odantapuri exquisitely decorated with statues of stucco, wood and bronze and frescos on the walls. The Vajradhatu-mandala of the Tattva-sangraha with Vairocana predominates in the temples founded by him. H.H. Gangchen too has been inspired by this mandala and he has dedicated 108 mandalas at Albagnano which remind us of the mandalas of ALL the Tantras at Tholing.

Emperor Songtsengampo the founder of Buddhism in Tibet endowed the Jokhang cathedral at Lhasa. The Chinese scholar Liu I-Szu has identified scores of great round columns and wooden capitals herein as in "Roman style." A group of three large statues of earth and clay in the Potala Palace represents Songtsengampo and his Chinese and Nepalese queens. One shows a European ethnic style which is found nowhere else. Prof. R.A. Stein (Tibetan Civilization 1972:287) says: "one of the female figures strangely resembles a sculpture from late Mediaeval Europe. The impression must have been still stronger in the originals since the eyes are blue". What a surprising destiny that H.H. Gangchen should create his most dynamic sanctum in a Roman locus in the spiritus movens of one of the queens of the first Buddhist Emperor of Tibet.

Atisha arrived in Tibet in 1042 at the invitation of King Changchub, grand nephew of King Yesheo of Guge. In the process of renewal, he created a galaxy of learned monks who renewed the monastic discipline, the traditions of yogins of contemplation and study of Abhidharma. H.H. Gangchen brings back to life this lineage of Atisha in the learning of Lama Michel, Lama Caroline and several others who bring together intellectual cognition and actualisation of blissful consciousness. H.H. Gangchen is endowing the new generation with the power to release the emotional impulses to renovate and transform the individual.

A kernel of historical truth lives in the doings of H.H. Gangchen: the memory of the triumph of cosmic symbolism in the 108 mandalas, to establish a connection between the land and the sacramental purity of all meditation, so that Albagnano becomes an ideal centre, a Sumeru of reintegration in cosmic conscience. It is a veritable Beryl Pure Land (vaidurya-nirbhasa) of the Buddha of Medicine, a kingdom of perennial bliss. H.H. Gangchen has named it Spiritual Healing. A work of Kathog getse pandita (1764-) says that a palace is constructed from the light of Bhrum, where the symbolic recreation of ourselves becomes dynamic, where the physical potential and spiritual meaning fuse into life-enhancing vim and vigour. Activating one's inner potential is becoming truly human, more creative, and more spontaneous. H.H. Gangchen is the inspiring Guru who addresses himself to an array of practices to inculcate insight into life. Every cell in our body responds to every thought we think. Diseases become eases when we embrace a new pattern. We have to trust the process of life. Thought power is an affirmation of us, rather than negate ourselves by invalidating the self. Spiritual Healing of H.H. Gangchen is to come out of the emotional and spiritual negativities, and to be supported by the universes of the body and mind. H.H. Gangchen is here with us to generate profound concentrations and to evolve an inner high technology to tame our wild world of psycho-grazing greed.

We hail the blissful celebration of H.H. Gangchen in the words of Shantideva:

By virtue amassed by all that I have done,

May the pain of every being be completely healed

The rhythms of living deepen in H.H. in a sublime vision of "Sing, Heavenly Life". A thousand autumns be Yours and every autumn a thousand days.

Lokesh Chandra

Prof. Pandit Lokesh Chandra, New Delhi (India)

















