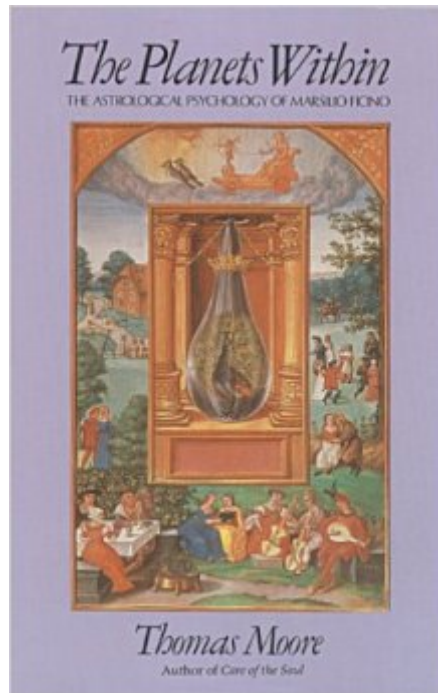


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The Planets Within: The Astrological Psychology Of Marsilio Ficino (Studies In Imagination Series)



Synopsis

The Planets Within asks us to return to antiquity with new eyes. It centers on one of the most psychological movements of the prescientific age—Renaissance Italy, where a group of inner Columbuses—charted territories that still give us today a much-needed sense of who we are and where we have come from, and the right routes to take toward fertile and unexplored places. Chief among these masters of the interior life was Marsilio Ficino, presiding genius of the Florentine Academy, who taught that all things exist in soul and must be lived in its light. This study of Ficino broadens and deepens our understanding of psyche, for Ficino was a doctor of soul, and his insights teach us the care and nurture of soul. Moore takes as his guide Ficino's own fundamental tool—imagination. Respecting the integrity and autonomy of images, The Planets Within unfolds a poetics of soul in a kind of dialogue between the laconic remarks of Ficino and the need to give these remarks a life and context for our day.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Marsilio Ficino was an astrologer and mystic - one of the precious few produced in the western sphere. It therefore seems somewhat strange that Thomas More seems so deeply uncomfortable with this singular fact and, at every turn, attempts some alchemy of his own in an attempt to cram all of Ficino's depth into the little box of analytical psychology (which remains an admirable field, nonetheless). Psychological insight can be of incalculable value in making mystical and esoteric treatises of the past more comprehensible to the modern reader but these are things which speak to man's heart and guts and soul... not just his psyche and I assert that by contorting Ficino into the

proto-psychologist of the renaissance you end up disavowing the greater part of his genius - a tragedy. If you are uncomfortable with the reality of astrology, Mr Moore, I suggest you leave the astrologers in peace.

I purchased this book as a student of astrology hoping to gain some exposure to old school astrology. I have been working on this book for over a year and still have not gotten to the astrology part (if there is one!). Very informative content about the general time period either way. The style of the book is pretty academic.

A great introduction and elucidation of the actual esoteric beliefs and practices of Ficino that shaped the Renaissance and that were also deeply influential in the development of Moore's own thought on psychology.

An excellent book! Glad I finally found it. My background in theology, philosophy, Neoplatonism and astrology prepared me to appreciate this book, in which these ancient traditions coalesce. I have read other books by Thomas Moore, but never came across this one before. The time was right!

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