



A joint venture between

The Centre for Genderpsychology (GB)  
and L'hom – für Männer, (CH).

# Men and the Future: Sex, Authenticity And Power

## An International Symposium for Men

Starts evening 31 May 2012 finishes lunch-time 3 June, near Frankfurt, Germany

*A unique invitation to men to come together and find new interior directions for a sustainable future. Talks, workshops, World Café, fire-rituals and games will inspire and challenge us all. Working languages will be English and German. Young, middle-aged men and elders are all welcome. Come and join us – the future needs you!*

Men today face major challenges. The activities of males seem to be responsible for the paralysis of a world threatened by climate change, collapsing economies and social unrest. Brought up to work, fight wars and not to feel, men have been called 'the disposable sex'. But now radical and bewildering changes in work, gender roles, and science make masculinity increasingly difficult for men to identify with. While being over-stimulated by images in the media and online, real sexual and family relations make new demands on them, and, at a loss, many retreat or respond inappropriately.

And yet this crisis is also a collective opportunity for men to creatively discover and develop new sustainable ways for the future. Male sexuality, vulnerability and power, authority and accountability are central themes. Real change cannot take place without conflict, but with the right will and right skill we can emerge with renewed perspectives and a clear path. This international Symposium is dedicated to that goal. Men are the future!

The first Symposium will take place in Germany near Wiesbaden, close to Frankfurt Airport, and we invite men from all European countries to join us to exchange new ideas and establish contacts and on-going solidarity. It has been jointly convened by Nick Duffell and Robert Fischer, from England and Switzerland respectively. The main languages will be English and German.

Nick and Robert have both worked with men for decades and in several countries; they are both experienced psychotherapists and trainers in sexuality, gender and relationship issues. Nick works in England, France and Scandinavia, Robert in the German-speaking countries as well as Ukraine, Russia, and the Baltic States. They will be assisted by Michael ten Hoevel and others, and will be inviting guest speakers.

Talks from different experts will give impetus and inspiration; experiential workshops will help delegates discover new dimensions of masculinity. "World Café" processes will stimulate the creativity of all participants and help bring about things new and as yet unknown. Throughout the entire period of the symposium, a fire that we ritually light and finally extinguish will be our energetic centre round which we will collect - as men have done for thousands of years - for talk, music, song and story-telling from many lands. In the breaks, games like football and tug-of-war – age-old ways that men trained in competition and cooperation whilst having fun - will evoke our playfulness and the strength of our bodies.

We hope to make brief presentations and reports from the World Café as podcasts or videos on the internet, to be accessible to those who can not be there. We think it is high time for such Europe-wide cooperation and would like to share the challenges and experiences with as many men as we can. Last but not least, we want to celebrate, play crazy games, sing soulful songs, laugh and weep out loud, or deep inside of us.

## Languages

English and German

## Who

The Symposium has been jointly convened by Nick Duffell of The Centre for Gender Psychology, Great Britain and Robert Fischer of L'hom – für Männer, Switzerland. Both have worked with men in different countries for decades. Michael ten Hövel (D), Eivind Feigen-schau Skjellum (N), Gerhard Kulzer (F/D) and other men will support the symposium in different ways.

## For Whom

The Symposium is open to men of all ages who are engaged and curious to create dialogue about the present state and future development of masculinity, whether they have had a long involvement with Menswork, personally or professionally, or whether this is their first adventure in this area.

## Where

The center is called Sampurna ([www.sampurna.de](http://www.sampurna.de)), situated 35 minutes by car from Frankfurt Airport, a major European hub.

## Cost

We are offering early-bird discounts and a subsidy for participants under 25.

Course fees (excluding accommodation) Prices, in Swiss Francs, payable on booking.

Over 25s, if paid in full before 29/2/12: CHF 320. Otherwise CHF 370

25 under, if paid in full before 29/2/12: CHF 170. Otherwise CHF 250

Full board and lodging, payable to the venue in Euros:

From €0 to €00 per 24 hours according to room choice. That means €50 to €00 for the long weekend. For cheaper rooms you need to book early.

Travel is at your own responsibility. In case of serious currency revaluations please contact the organizers.

## Booking procedure

You may book your place at the Symposium on our website ([www.men-maenner.net](http://www.men-maenner.net)), by email ([seminare@mann-frau.com](mailto:seminare@mann-frau.com)), or by letter to the organizer (see below) providing your full name, age, address, phone numbers, email, website, occupation/ profession. You may pay by Paypal or by bank transfer to the organizer. Participants from Switzerland get an „Einzahlungsschein“.

For withdrawals before 29/2/12 your payment will be fully refunded less a handling charge of CHF 50. Thereafter there will be no refunds unless you find someone to take your place,

If, for any reason, the Symposium has to be cancelled full refunds will be made.

To book your accommodation please contact the venue directly: Sympurna Centre [www.sampurna.de](http://www.sampurna.de), +49 6129 50 25 71, [info@sampurna.de](mailto:info@sampurna.de)

## The Organizers

Männer – Symposium 2012

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