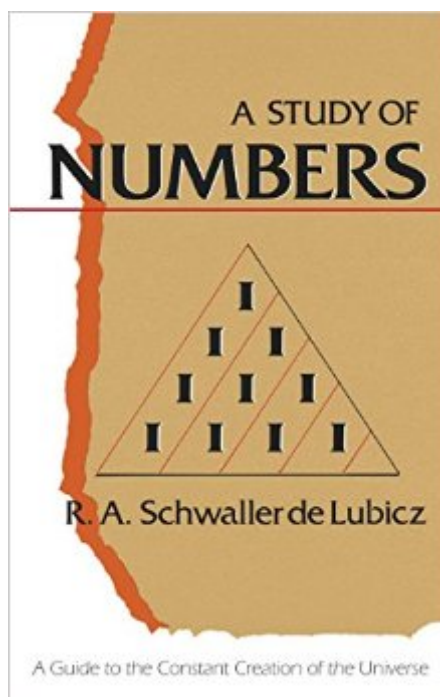


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A Study Of Numbers: A Guide To The Constant Creation Of The Universe



Synopsis

We lack direct consciousness of Space and Time. We can know of them only indirectly by mass, force, and energy, and by the intermediary of phenomena such as may be tested by our five senses. Without direct awareness of Space or Time, human beings lack two "senses" necessary for the knowledge of all causes. From this imperfection, of which we are always being made aware, is born our need to simplify. Thus we reduce everything to fundamental properties, without paying any attention to the underlying universal organization, the effects of which are all around us. The result is that the science of numbers, the most wonderful guide to the constant creation of the universe, remains an enormous hypothesis so long as its use has not awakened in us the higher consciousness of a universal order. By deepened knowledge of things and their process of becoming, we must come to recognize Numbers as a truth, and to experience with our senses the living relation of a cause to an effect, this relation being truer and more real than the effect could ever be. Published in 1917 under the author's given name of René Schwaller, *A Study of Numbers* is the first expression of the teachings we have come to associate with his later and better known name, R.A. Schwaller de Lubicz. It is a masterly account of the living, universal, qualitative, and casual reality of numbers. Starting from the irreducible one, Schwaller deals with the unfolding of creation through the cycles of polarization, ideation, and formation. Topics covered include: numbers, values, and relations; the disengagement of numbers; the harmonic basis of numbers; the development of values; and the establishment of harmony.

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Customer Reviews

The numbers offered by the Greek Pythagoreans in connection with the TETRAKTYS shown on the front cover of this book, are NOT arithmetical, i.e. they cannot be added, subtracted, multiplied and divided. The Monad (1), Dyad (2), Triad (3) and Tetrad (4) of the Tetraktys served the Pythagoreans NOT to describe the (physical) universe, but to express their deep experience of the (psychic) $\kappa\acute{\alpha}\sigma\mu\omicron\varsigma$ with a unique meditation practice dedicated to NOTHINGNESS. This offers a description of the self-observed recollection (anamnēsis) that emerges out of itself. What is observed in this way is, for instance, addressed in the theologumena arithmeticae attributed to the neo-Platonist (neo-Pythagorean) Iamblichus: “Four are the foundations of wisdom – arithmetic, music, geometry, astronomy – ordered 1 (Monad), 2 (Dyad), 3 (Triad), 4 (Tetrad).” The numbers are implicit in the Pythagorean oath, “by him that gave to our generation the Tetraktys, which contains the fount and root of eternal nature (physis).” They have a much deeper significance than assigned to them in this book that my critical review (here on) of The Theology of Arithmetic (1988) by Robin Butterfield indicates, which I consider a severe mistranslation of the theologumena arithmeticae. In Butterfield’s translation of it you find the first quote cited above completely mistranslated on p. 56 into: “Four are the foundations of wisdom – arithmetic, music, geometry, astronomy – ordered 1, 2, 3, 4.

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