

What's Catching Fire Inside of You?

by Christina Grote
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Something is bubbling up into our consciousness, a sense that we are on the verge of a major transition, an intimation that things are changing in ways that we can't quite see. More and more people are talking about an evolutionary wave, a new consciousness arising, a sense that we are going somewhere – together. Could it be that life is more than a random series of coincidences and evolution is more than random mutations? Maybe the universe is going somewhere, and what we think and what we do really does matter.

The emerging worldview of *Evolutionary Panentheism* places humanity at the leading edge of consciousness, as the divine or source is waking up in us and through us. As this happens and we practice deeply, our latent supernormal capacities can begin to emerge as part of this evolutionary disclosure. Our ITP practice gives us the foundation to align ourselves with the trajectory of the universe.

What is this new awareness? Where are we heading? What tools and qualities do we need to navigate to further this development? How can we best contribute our energies, individually and collectively, and further the momentum of the wave? How does the practice of ITP help?

To deepen our understanding of this new vision, articulated most recently by ITP co-founder Michael Murphy, we will gather in May for our annual ITPI conference, *Catching Fire*. The theme of *Catching Fire* speaks to the emerging evolutionary wave and worldview, as well as our personal experience of what is catching fire within us.

We will sit with scholars from the Esalen Center for Theory and Research, a think tank based at Esalen Institute founded by Michael Murphy. Greg Shaw, Professor of Religious Studies at Stonehill College, will share his knowledge of the historical roots of *Evolutionary Panentheism*, the philosophical basis of ITP, dating back to the ancient Greeks and the idea of the dual soul. Loriliai Biernacki, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at University of Colorado, will speak to extraordinary capacities as they appeared in ancient India and connect these to their modern manifestations.

Carter Phipps, author of *Evolutionaries* and past editor of *EnlightenNext*, will present on the evolutionary movement through modern history and help us to find our place in it. And of course, our own Michael Murphy will be with us, as well.



Practices will be woven into the weekend where we can connect and integrate our learning and insights. Experiential presentations on *The Five Keys to Mastery* will be shared by ITP Tulsa group leaders, and Second City stage performer Rachel Hamilton will guide us in the practice of Improv for fun and flow as we play the edge and live into “Yes, and what’s next?”

As with all our ITPI gatherings, there will be live music and celebration and time to enjoy the beautiful Earthrise campus in Petaluma, California. Join us for what promises to be our most inspiring conference yet!