

THE PLANETARY SYSTEM

IDEAS, FORMULAS AND FORMS FOR A NEW CULTURE/CIVILISATION

THE SOLAR ORCHESTRA

INSTITUTE OF THE SUN - 2023

Foreword



According to the sapiential Tradition, the solar System can be understood as an *Orchestra* of conscious, magnetic and intelligent Lives: of *planetary Logoi*, of *Singers* or *Musicians* who, on the scene of the Ecliptic, perform and interpret, each in its own way or according to its Ray quality, the *celestial Score*.

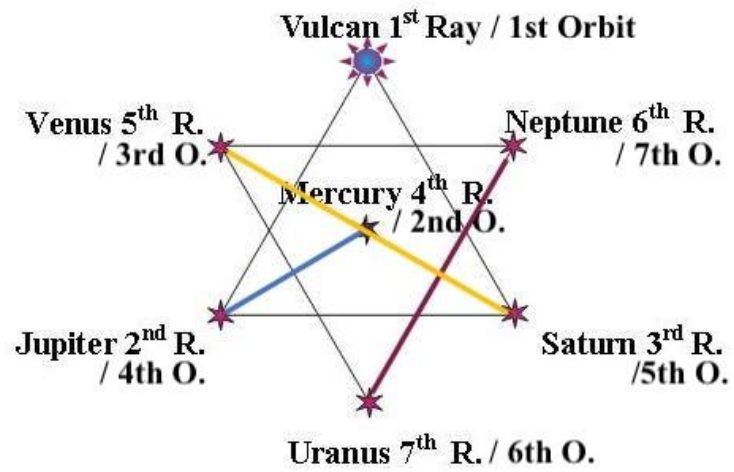
This Music, or common Plan of rendition, emanates from cosmic Composers and is rewritten ‘to His measure’ by our Conductor (again, according to His essence, the Second Ray of Love-Wisdom): the *solar Logos*, the cosmic Being guiding our Sun and its system.

We therefore want to compare in this paper the *Qualities* of the [Seven principal planetary Logoi](#) (which convey the Seven Rays into our Solar System) with the [Seven Intervals](#) of the [Science of Harmonics](#), in order to recognise better and better the *Sound* and *Light* of the Instruments of our magnificent Orchestra and thus learn to identify them as they perform the solar Symphony within us and through all things and events.

One fine day, loving more and more wisely the *Music of the Spheres*, we will begin to hear and imitate it in our inner Chanting, ordered as the Choir of *solar Angels* that we are in essence.

*Then the Magister Musicae will see
The Muses Mothers of the World return
To smiling and dancing in crowns around.*







The Sound of Vulcan

Vulcan, the Lord of First Ray, is the power of divine Will in manifestation, esoterically described as “direct and inevitable purpose”.

Being central to the System, It is the only one to have a ‘heliocentric viewpoint’: It lives at the centre of all orbits, in the fire of the **Sun** with whom It identifies. It is therefore the origin and ‘unmoved mover’ of all cycles, psychogeometries and evolutions of the solar system: It is the general reference point, in the place of maximum tension where one “bursts into flames”.

Vulcan stands for the *Heart of the Sun*, the Soul or solar conscious Entity to be worshipped as that which has accepted to stand in the place of the highest sacrifice for the common Good. From the ‘place of Fire’, **Sun/Vulcan** radiates his unitary energy within the System and the seven sacred Luminaries extract its valences, the seven solar Rays, each according to its central nature or essence.



Vulcan controls the anvil-like processes of time, and strikes the blows that give the metal its desired shape. It is forging the way for the coming Avatar, Who, at the right time, will appear embodying the Will of God, the divine will of good, of harmonious peace founded on understanding, of right relations between Kingdoms, men and peoples.

Vulcan stands at the centre and is the Centre of centres.

1. UNISON – FIRST RAY

Unison is a sound repeating itself, which vibrates with itself. In reality, it is not an interval, as it has no duality; yet it is the real generator of all the other intervals. It is the One. Its qualities are affirmation, command, power. It is the manifested Origin. It is the first Cause. Its energy is creative and destructive. It creates the other intervals and destroys crystallised forms. It is the first impulse, yet it restrains and stops all that opposes it. It is the basis of every movement and it is that which blocks movement. It is the sign of correct orientation, of the path which runs between the opposites. It is the ray of perforating light. It is a sword which divides, cuts off and restores simplicity to life. It is a stimulus, a call, a warning.

It is the Father; it is the Heaven; it is the centre.

Its action is impetuous and it liberates what is caught among the branches and the nets of manifested order.

It is Will: therefore it aims at a goal with implacable decision. Its purpose is progressive and total order, the Hierarchy of the best, of the beautiful and the good.

*Put on the dauntless spirit of resolution...
Be great in act, as you have been in thought.
(William Shakespeare, King John)*

Music of First Ray: Ludwig van Beethoven, Overture Coriolan – Op. 62, in C minor (1807)

Formula of First Ray

I am and I manage the solar Will: my power is sacrifice



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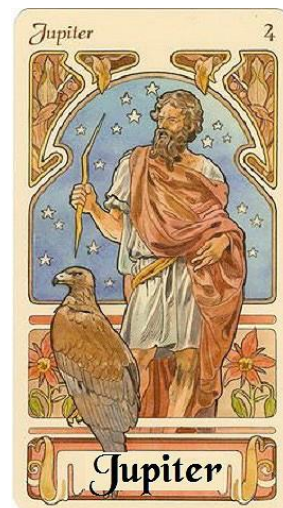
The Sound of Jupiter

Jupiter is the Second Ray of Love and Wisdom: It is the magnet of solar Love and Space.

The greatest of the sacred Luminaries, Zeus, the Father of the celestial Olympus, governs and promotes Expansion, presides over attractions, guides, protects and teaches. Through its second Ray, It becomes similar to the Space in which It navigates and takes on its qualities and power; its widespread love becomes transparent in that It identifies with all that It loves; given its nature, It tends towards the placidity typical of Space, which finds peace and stable equilibrium in its motionless omnipresence.

It represents the principle of fusion and cohesion operating in the spatial substance, capable, due to the high synthetic potential it expresses, of holding individualities together and making them one; spatial Love is the radiant and magnetic energy that acts as the ordering and legislative principle of the Cosmos, the attractive force of the transcendent and immanent planes.

In Jupiter we recognise the true rest, static and dynamic at the same time, of the entire solar System. As far as the divine essence of Space is concerned, the entire solar Community depends on its position in the Heavens; It is the great Scenographer who sets up and manages the setting of the Divine Comedy: while allowing for free and innumerable local variations, the Scene is one for all and each one has a part in it. It is the true heart of the System, the solar Christ singing the praises of the heavenly Mother, one by one, for a whole year in each Sign, teaching the 12 Lessons for the evolution of Consciousness. It is the Heaven in the Heart and the Heart in Heaven.



2. OCTAVE – SECOND RAY

As in the Unison, also in the Octave the sound repeats itself, but at the critical level in which, rising or falling, it is about to penetrate into a different sphere. The two sounds of which it consists are like the two columns of Hercules, placed to mark a universal boundary, which is not insuperable but clearly evident. On this side there is a certain world, on that another, governed by the same laws but different because it is higher or lower. The Octave is the foundation of creation and embraces it in every part and justifies all the parts. It is the “field” of evolution, of order. It is the diffused light on everything and everywhere. It holds in itself infinite complexities, yet it simplifies them in secret. It is Love and Wisdom.

Its qualities are obedience and comprehension. Its energy is all-pervading and nutritive. It is the correspondence and it enfolds, encircles, includes, surrounds. It is the horizon. It is a Magnet which coordinates, disposes, arranges, supports.

Search deep enough, and you will find that there is music everywhere. (Gustav Holst)

All my thoughts are about Love... (Dante, Vita Nova)

Music of Second Ray: Karl Jenkins, Benedictus (from the Mass *The Armed Man*), 1999

Formula of Second Ray

I magnetise Space: I love infinity





The Sound of Saturn

Saturn, Lord of the Third Ray, is the cosmic Thinker, the Knower.

Saturn administers the Truth, which is Light. He is the core of the driving Intelligence of the solar complex. It is from Saturn that the graduated and sequential orders and plans that realise the will of Sun/Vulcan depart: It is the true operational centre of the solar fleet. It plans and dictates all Orbits according to the central will, distributing parts and tasks according to co-measurement. Nothing forbids attributing the credit for the current layout of the solar System to this Luminary (crowned by its rings). It shows clearly the lines, functions, responsibilities of the various Luminaries, free yet obediently collaborating for the common Good.

Saturn elaborates and arranges its project, ever-updated and new and yet inflexibly aimed at the Goal. This Luminary is not only the Legislator but also the Planner of solar development.

The third Luminary from his fifth Orbit designs the flight plan of the entire fleet; It presides over the karmic retributions of all creatures, that is, It administers solar justice. Son of the One and the Two, It performs great luminous tasks; It creates the synthesis between solar will and spatial love, which is the splendour of the driving Intelligence. Received by Venus, his orders become executive.



It is up to Saturn, the cosmic Thinker, to “invent” Formulas with an ever-changing composition, according to the current condition of the solar System and the Goal of the great Plan. Saturn manages the thinking of the Sun and of any lesser thinker, such as man.

Saturn is the keeper of the initiatory gate which is crossed only when the consciousness is fully individualised and capable of responsibility both towards itself and towards others: in this sense Saturn symbolises the Lord of Karma and the Dweller on the Threshold, since man can only “cross the threshold” when he has paid all his debts and is free of the illusions of his personality. Not only “punishments” are bestowed by Saturn, but, in accordance with the Law of cause and effect, also rewards: depending on how man has handled his relationship with matter and the lower kingdoms, he can proceed freely or must submit to the Law.

3. FIFTH – THIRD RAY

The Third Interval is intelligent activity and active intelligence.

The [Fifth](#) is the innovator par excellence. Where it appears and acts it never leaves things as they were. The Fifth is an unexpected marvel: it is a new sound.

It is the three: and all that is three is perfect in its completeness. It is the builder of all the other intervals, to which it gives quality and form, if not life, which they obtain only from Unison (the Father) and from the Octave (the Mother). It is the one which revolutionizes and orders, which undoes and recomposes, which incessantly proposes new themes, without ever repeating itself. It is the one which glorifies the Father and exalts the Mother. It is the Demiurge, it is the great Architect of the universe. The Fifth is thus the Builder of creation, which populates with innumerable values, different and related to each other. It is the Lord of infinite peace, which continually disturbs every standstill or stagnation. It is perennial youth, it is the great investigator, and it continually seeks and finds, finds and seeks. Always engaged in discovering new horizons and knowing other truths, it is the very impulse of formal evolution and spiritual progress. It produces what is complex but its aim is regaining and understanding simplicity. It is the question, it is the great Interrogator, it is the great Weaver (transcendent). This third interval, or third fire, constructs without burning, not to veil with forms the ultimate reality, but to express all its aspects infinitely.

The Fifth is the open interval par excellence, as it unlocks all mysteries and passes through all gates. It is thus the

great agent of liberation, gained with active, strenuous, combative and bold commitment.

*Heaven doth with us as we with torches do,
not light them for themselves; for if our virtues
did not go forth of us, 'twere all alike
as if we had them not...*
(William Shakespeare, Measure for measure)

Music of Third Ray: Max Bruch, [Violin Concerto n. 1 in G minor, Op. 26 – Third Movement](#) (1866)

Formula of Third Ray

I illuminate and design the future: I radiate creative light





The Sound of Mercury

In the old fashioned way one could say that in the solar System a god, Mercury, presides over harmony, which It spreads on the waves of love; or also that, since imitation of what is higher is the shortest and fastest way, Mercury is the winged-footed pupil, who imitates the Master out of love.

Mercury balances and harmonises, presides over solar symmetry, is the equilibrium between unmanifest and manifest. It is the true *Magister Musicae* who sets the tempo of the symphonic execution of the System.

As the Fourth Ray Luminary, It governs the harmony sought-after by the entire solar System, but his action remains elusive and secret. It is the Lord responsible for symmetries, reflections and transparencies, and its works are impenetrable to direct observation. A perfect mirror is invisible.

As a matter of fact Mercury orbits semi-hidden in the solar splendour, while its frequency is the highest in the System. It sees, and accelerates, the evolutionary march in any creature, group, world. He who considers the world and existence in a purely objective way judges Mercury's action as evasive or non-existent; he who learns to "perceive the Heavens" in everything opens his inner eye, and then Mercury's work appears decisive to him.

As agent of the Fourth Ray, Mercury leads man around the wheel of life and through conflict enables him to achieve harmony. It illuminates the mind and is an intermediary between soul and personality, being the Messenger of the Gods.

Mercury is the Builder of Beauty, that divine good diffused everywhere, inexpressible, elusive, adored, that settles lightly on things and transfigures them. Beauty, the *sign of union*, is the great gift of Mercury.



4. FOURTH – FOURTH RAY

The Fourth Interval is the true *Magister Musicae* and has the task of harmonising through conflict. It is the magic mirror, yet is not inactive; it works without taking prominence; it fights and corrects, yet escaping; it is elusive. It knows reality and models lower things on it; when its work is done it disappears in the glory of the superior three. While the Fifth interrogates and investigates, the [Fourth](#) responds and concludes, resolves, levels and composes in an ordered system. It is the level of intuition, the proper world of ideas, still unitary but on the verge of precipitating into duality and multiplicity.

All that works for the positive and dynamic balance has something to do with this interval which, as a great orchestra conductor, can go unnoticed despite being the true centre of musical execution. The beauty that is obtained through the artistic work, that is reducing the chaos into such a fairly regular status in order to reflect quite well the celestial arrangement, that's precisely the authentic action of the Fourth Interval. It does nothing but continuously try to realise the model, the original and extremely pure Idea, and for this purpose it uses any operative technique. It acts in nature as a whole, but especially through man. Indeed, the human being (the fourth kingdom of nature) embodies the interval of a Fourth because of its position in the creation; its main work being to actively assist with loving intelligence the execution of the divine challenge. The divine models (Ideas) are cognizable to the human kingdom which gradually learns to arrange things in order to express them completely. It ensures that at the end everything is arranged according to number and co-measurement; the synthesis is composed from the whole of the parts; the primordial Sound translates itself into a concert. These great functions are achieved not thanks to isolated activities, but in collaboration with all the other intervals, viz. with the other

qualities of the primary Energy. The Fourth interval, even if central, gets lost in the others, and this shows the reason of its being so elusive. It is the Lord of Ideas; translates the One into the many, and extracts the original unit from the multiple.

*Look how the floor of heaven is thick inlaid with patines of bright gold:
there's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st but in his motion like an angel sings,
still quiring to the young-eyed cherubins;
such harmony is in immortal souls...*

(William Shakespeare, The Merchant of Venice)

Music of Fourth Ray: Arcangelo Corelli, [Violin Sonata n. 1, Op. 5](#) (1700)

Formula of Fourth Ray

I harmonise and reflect the Model: I express the beauty of Being





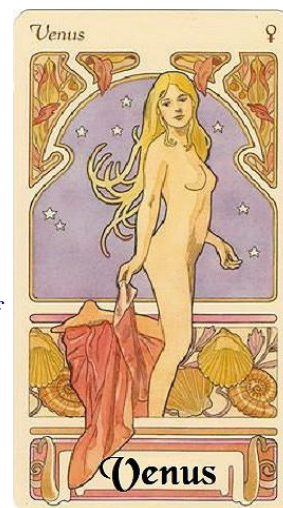
The Sound of Venus

Venus, expression of the Fifth Ray, executes what Saturn plans according to the will of Vulcan/Sun. It governs Manifestation, following the method of dual multiplication: “I build the two sides of the Way, otherwise who would ever find it?”.

The duality is perfectly expressed in Venus: in relation to the Earth, as morning Star It launches Life into manifestation, as evening Star It guides us out of it.

Venus is the solar Isis, *analogous* to Sirius, but It is also the bearer of the Light of the Pleiades and of the Eye of Revelation of Taurus to our planet, both in the physical and spiritual sense. This solar Angel is “the Lighthouse/guide to the heart of the Earth”: It is to the Earth what the higher Self is to man/personality. From Venus came the *Lords of the Flame* to give humanity the Seed of Intelligence.

Venus is the Intellect of Love, that intelligent Love, celestial and earthly, which creates Beauty, Proportion and Oneness. That is why It is also called the Heart of the Sun: “the little sun in which the solar orb stores his lights”.



Venus is the living golden section of the solar System, its motion draws the 5-pointed Star in the Heavens. All forms of Life are manifested according to its Law, all Works exist thanks to its action. “The Star of the Morning is a sign of the Great Epoch, the first ray of which will flash forth from the Teaching of Christ” (Illumination § 153)

5. THIRDS – FIFTH RAY

The Interval of the Fifth Ray – called Third in technical language – works dialectically; it opposes, analyses, discriminates, sieves, discerns, divides and dialogues. It is the mother of form, since it introduces the necessary dualism for its appearance and permanence. All that has a form can be therefore led back to this peculiar double interval; even a thought, since specific and consequently formal, has its own appearance and falls under its empire or its law. All intellectual work is dominated by the action of this interval; the mind itself, with its two great categories (abstract and dualistic) sets itself, as fifth principle, under the governance of the Third. The Third, with its vibration, veils Reality, clothing it with form. Thus the Ideas, once they are thought of materially, take on a mental aspect and become perceptible to the masses, but their light is dimmed.

The Fifth Interval is the Master of concrete Science, of reasoning and logic. It is the Author of the world of the forms, innumerable and opposed to one another. It is the Lord of Thought, the first energy gifted with form, the creator of all the others, more dense and material. The Third hides the light, but to reveal it, not to extinguish it. It presides over all researches, experiments and laboratories. It is the mystery of dual action, of the nuptial, of the meeting of what is divided. It is the Logos, the Sound from which is born what is perceptible to the reason, the sentiments and the senses. And as every interval is by nature dual, the Third is the Lord of all the manifested intervals, it is the Immanent.

*Let no act be done without a purpose,
nor otherwise than according to a principle
that contributes to make the art of living perfect.
(Marcus Aurelius)*

Music of Fifth Ray: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Divertimento n. 1 in D major, K 136 (1772)

Formula of Fifth Ray

I execute and build: I manifest the divine Ideas





The Sound of Neptune

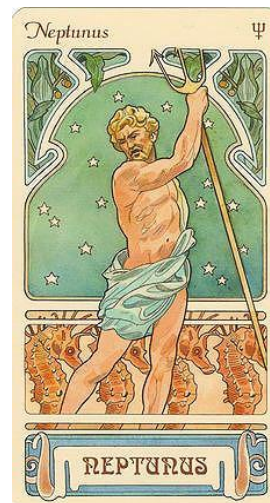
Neptune is the Sixth Ray, of abstract Devotion and Idealism: It is the sacred Guardian of the World of Ideas and of the Solar Temple. The most peripheral of the sacred Luminaries, the God of spatial Waters, It delimits the solar Community by extending it to the Infinite, according to the first rule of every sacred Communion: It represents on a systemic level the infinite capacity of the Desire for universal union.

Its solemn gait, the most “profound”, qualifies the entire System and its dates affect all developments, determining their ultimate deadlines.

Everything that circulates and flows is governed by Neptune, who baptises, sacralises and builds communities.

In this world period, Neptune is known esoterically as the Initiator. In certain ancient formulas, the great Teacher of the West and the present world Initiator, Christ, is spoken of as Neptune, Who rules the ocean, whose trident and astrological symbol signifies the Trinity in manifestation and Who is the ruler of the Piscean Age: “the fish goddesses who have leapt from earth (Virgo) to water (Pisces) unitedly give birth to the Fish God (Christ) who introduces the water of life into the ocean of substance and thus brings light to the world. Thus does Neptune work”.

Neptune is the Lord of Communion, the Essence and Sacrament of the new world Religion.



6. SIXTHS – SIXTH RAY

With the Sixths one has the impression of penetrating into a world which is more fantastic than real, yet convincing and present; it is like an enchantment which tests the capacity for reasoning, whose laws it distorts. Reality is here so veiled and distorted that one can be drawn to pursuing only its fleeting shadow, laboriously and with bitter disillusionment. There is only one way to escape from this swamp, which allures and disperses: to keep to the middle way, where there are no inversions at all and the field of the opposed forces is in balance.

The sixth *astral* principle has a function in reality. Its very nature is preliminary to higher conquests. Desire and sentiment are authentic vibrations, once the field is lightened and the mist dispersed. They are the natural complement to the intellect, the right moisture that tempers the dryness of reason. They are prodigious energies, which stretch out towards the Ideas of the fourth level, the authentic complement, that is, real and orderly. A very luminous desire is implicit in the very act of divine creation: this is undeniable and perhaps explains the real nature of the sixth principle; but it is necessary to purify it from the contradictions, the restlessness, the agitation and the false lights which immature minds perceive in it, disoriented by the inversion and dualism.

The Sixth Interval is search for the Ideas, it is pure Idealism. It is the Combatant, the Knight without stain and without fear. It is the Battle itself and it is the Banner.

Art will unify all Humanity. (Nicholas Roerich)

Music of Sixth Ray: Samuel Barber, [Adagio for Strings in B-flat minor, Op. 11](#) (1936)

Formula of Sixth Ray

I take care of communities: I guide them back to the sacredness of Heaven





The Sound of Uranus

1. Uranus is the Lord of Seventh Ray, connected to Order and Ceremonial Magic.
2. It is the Lord of Heaven: *Uranos*, Lord of the Cosmos, of its fiery coherent and hierarchical entirety.
3. If Gaea, his Bride, counts one, Uranus counts seven times as much, and presides over all septenary rhythms: It is the rhythmic clock of the solar System.
4. Uranus introduces the septenary structure of the universal Hierarchy in the whole of Creation and guards its initiatory Gateway. It is the planet of occultism, because it “veils the essential; it conceals that which is to be discovered, and in due time makes the secret known”.
5. Uranus is the Lord of celestial and terrestrial Order: It watches over the cultures and civilisations of peoples. Through its Seventh Ray, It acts down to the lowest level of creation, the etheric-physical plane, and incessantly imprints the celestial order upon it.
6. Uranus watches over boundaries of all kinds to ensure the Communion between within and without: It looks into the inner and outer Space, and watches like a Sentinel over the common Unity and Freedom.
7. Uranus asserts the Rules. It is the Master of Rites and Ceremonial Magic. It unites the Highest and the Abyssal.



7. SEVENTH/TONE – SEVENTH RAY

The Seventh Interval – the Master of Ceremonies, the Guard, the Magician, the Master of Rites, the Standard – is rightly considered as an outsider; not an enemy, but a citizen of another order, a member of another system which, though supported by identical laws, remains separate and does not mix with the others. It is thus a symbol and a reminder of the fact that, given a world that is orderly and perfect in itself, other worlds always exist which are just as legitimate and regular, which must be taken into account and with which it will be necessary to be attuned in a superior and more inclusive harmony. The presence of the seven is a severe warning: there is no limit to the process of harmonization, there is no rest from searching, perfection is not the standstill of lethargy; all this is implicit in the symbolism of the seven. The seven *is*, and keeps alive restlessness and anxiety for perfection. It is like the inspector who does not check the peace that has been reached but the capacity to go beyond it in view of new beginnings.

Since it is the extreme point, so to speak, of the senarius, the [Seventh Interval](#) is both a gate and a Guardian, watching over the regularity of the order and excluding from it the outsiders and the unworthy; this inflexible regulator of the rhythms is like a voice which calls and invites those who are qualified to participate in the harmony; it is the Town-crier of the Order, or its Messenger.

Its functions are precise and clear, as all ceremonies and any rite must be – these actions have, in fact, the aim of excluding irregularities. It is a builder of states of dynamic equilibrium and must therefore continually be in equilibrium between major and minor, between positive and negative, between light and dark, between full and empty. Thus it ends up by being the Celebrant of the eternal marriage between spirit and substance.

The Seventh is the one which fixes, materialises, arranges and distributes. From its hands, so to speak, issues a piece of tissue or a net, which, however intricate, is nevertheless regular and cleverly composed. The great Work started by the supreme Lord of unison is here completed in its final form: the canvas is finished and the drawing appears. What the transcendent weaver (the Fifth) thought and willed finds, through the work of the Seventh Lord, its manifested completion. But this conclusive act is only the beginning of a new journey, as the life imprisoned in this canvas must in the end be liberated and go back to the primary source.

The other Interval of Seventh Ray, the Tone, is the guarantor of harmony between the intervals, major and minor; it is the necessary tester and in this it assumes, in the lower sphere, analogous functions to those of Unison, the supreme creator.

The seventh lord is a Magician, who manifests a dualism on purpose and controls it, without remaining its prisoner.

*Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy.
Music is the electrical soil in which the spirit lives, thinks and invents...*
(Ludwig van Beethoven)

*... All things, among themselves,
possess an order; and this order is
the form that makes the universe like God.*
(Dante, Paradiso – Canto I)

Music of Seventh Ray: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, The Magic Flute, Priests' Chorus (1791)

*O Isis and Osiris, what bliss!
Dark night is banished by the splendour of sunlight.
Soon the noble youth will feel new life;
soon he will be wholly devoted to our service.
His spirit is bold, his heart is pure,
soon he will be worthy of us.*

Formula of Seventh Ray

I assert Order: I restore hierarchical Unity

