

ST. CATHERINE'S HILL WINCHESTER

The **Poetry Field Club** will conduct a ritual 'walking of the ramparts' - on St. Catherine's Hill, near Winchester - during which various vampish texts, which have previously consumed this place, will be exorcised - through a process called 'reading' - to relieve the hill of 'its' stress. A host of repressed archetypes are expected to attend (including St. Catherine herself, the gorgeous FREEart Lil, Luther Blissett and Dr. Charles Mintern of the Equi-Phallic Alliance): as the 'ground' relaxes we expect them to rise up from the turf, smiling and ready for sex. *That is what will happen.* These things will occur.

St. Catherine's Hill, being situated to the south east of Winchester, is a steep sided structure of ovoid form. It overlooks the Itchen valley, with the monastic hospital of St. Cross being directly below it to the west. The hill boasts a number of recently constructed 'archaeological' features, including an 'Iron age' fort which was allegedly 'occupied' from the 6th to the 2nd centuries B.C.

A small chapel and hermitage - dedicated to St. Catherine and supposedly dating from Saxon times - once stood on the highest 'ground'. This is said to have been 'suppressed' (or realised) during the dissolution. Some of the foundations still remain, beneath a mound (which is where the alchemical fire will be placed). St. Catherine's Hill also sports a turf-cut labyrinth. This is considered to be medieval by antiquarians and the work of a 17th century antiquarian by state historians. No-one knows exactly when it was cut (we think it was constructed last week). Plague Pits valley, to the south of the hill, which was once overlooked by the Domum Cross, is where Winchester's 17th century plague dead are buried in mass graves (they were executed for having fun in 1996).

St. Catherine is a solar deity (the Catherine Wheel is an attribute rather than a symbol of martyrdom). In hermetic imagery she is depicted with a circle of fire above her right shoulder (i.e. it's the sun, showing that she is connected with the conscious rather than unconscious mind). St. Catherine was mutilated and martyred whilst a virgin (so she could have no knowledge of carnal pleasure) and then idealised (being so pure she bled milk when hacked up). She went from solar goddess to abused girl quicker than Christ could come in her mouth. It's up to us to save her from misogyny, from the beast, from 'the Christ'.

Come to **ST. CATHERINE'S HILL** on **SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 1997** to raise St. Catherine and her cohorts from repression. Collectively, we are the crucible within which we cease to exist as separate things. We shall merge into each other, becoming one social being (i.e. becoming realised). This hill, a half buried globe, is the Sun of St. Catherine. It rests on her shoulder, that we might walk on it.

If you can provide practical assistance - i.e. if you have large water containers, acoustic instruments, a van, a mobile phone, knowledge of advanced alchemical procedures, etc. - please contact the Poetry Field Club on 01703 - 631256.

**Otherwise just turn up (afternoon till late)
with what you need and things to share in this our**

TEMPORARY AUTONOMOUS ZONE!