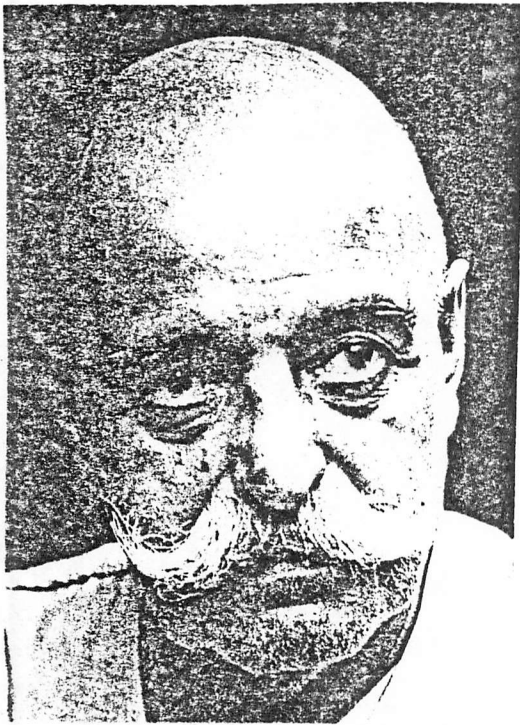


Gurdjieff Resurfaces After Mysterious Thirty - One Year Absence

Extra **** Aspen, Colorado — Georges Ivanovich Gurdjieff, the well-known Russian-Armenian mystic-philosopher, made a stunning reappearance on the world scene this Thursday after a long and mysterious absence.

Long believed dead since 1949, the famed mystic master of the thirties and forties called a surprise news conference in his Carbondale, Colorado home. He revealed that he had gone secretly underground in 1949 and that he had planned the move since the late 1920's. Always the enigmatic and paradoxical trickster, Gurdjieff said, "This should really surprise none of my students. I hope they have all learned a little something by this."



Gurdjieff in late 1946. No photographers were allowed in his interview Thursday.

His resurgence from the dead caught philosophers and Gurdjieff-enthusiasts completely off-guard. R. deRopp, a California-based scientist and intentional community expert who had written often of Gurdjieff's work, was quoted as saying, "I really thought that he was dead.

I wish now that I hadn't written some of those things about him." Other former pupils turned author echoed similar sentiments. During the past several years, books about Gurdjieff have been appearing with increasing regularity as his reputation as an alternative-culture folk hero grew.

When asked why he had decided to reemerge after his long disappearance, the aging sage replied, "I was becoming concerned over the direction that many of my study groups were taking in 'the work' - these groups were formed in many major metropolises to study and carry on Gurdjieff's ideas, his 'work' - "Things were just getting out of hand. Besides, I couldn't take all the EST crapp any longer."

During his absence, Gurdjieff has been working on a number of projects, including a new book entitled, *Gurdjieff: The Missing Years*, which is scheduled for release (Kundabuffer Press: Boulder, CO) later in the year. The volume would be number five in the series penned by the 103-year old author. Former titles in the series include *The Herald for Coming Good*, *Beelzebub's Tales To His Grandson*, *Meetings With Remarkable Men*, not to be confused with the recent movie, and *Life Is Real Only Then, When I Am*. This last title, formerly an exclusive limited-circulation manuscript, will be released simultaneously with Gurdjieff's new book.

In the latest of his series, Gurdjieff will reveal what he's been doing for the last three decades and how he was able to escape detection while leading the relatively public life of a dance instructor and local rug merchant.

When confronted with his rumored relationship with Carlos Castaneda and the long-enduring Don Juan The Sorcerer books, the sly Armenian would only retort with a, "Well, what do you think?"

Ending his press conference with a wry smile that peeked through his newly-grown moustache, the trim-looking centarian quipped, "Wait until you see what I've got planned next."