





Alex Grey

# SACRED MIRRORS

and related paintings and sculpture

March 2 through April 11, 1993

University Galleries at Illinois State University

110 Center for the Visual Arts, Normal 61761 (309) 438-5487

Artist lecture, and consecration of *World Soul*  
(in collaboration with Allyson Grey)

March 23, at 7:00 p.m.

Reception immediately following

**GALLERY HOURS:**

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

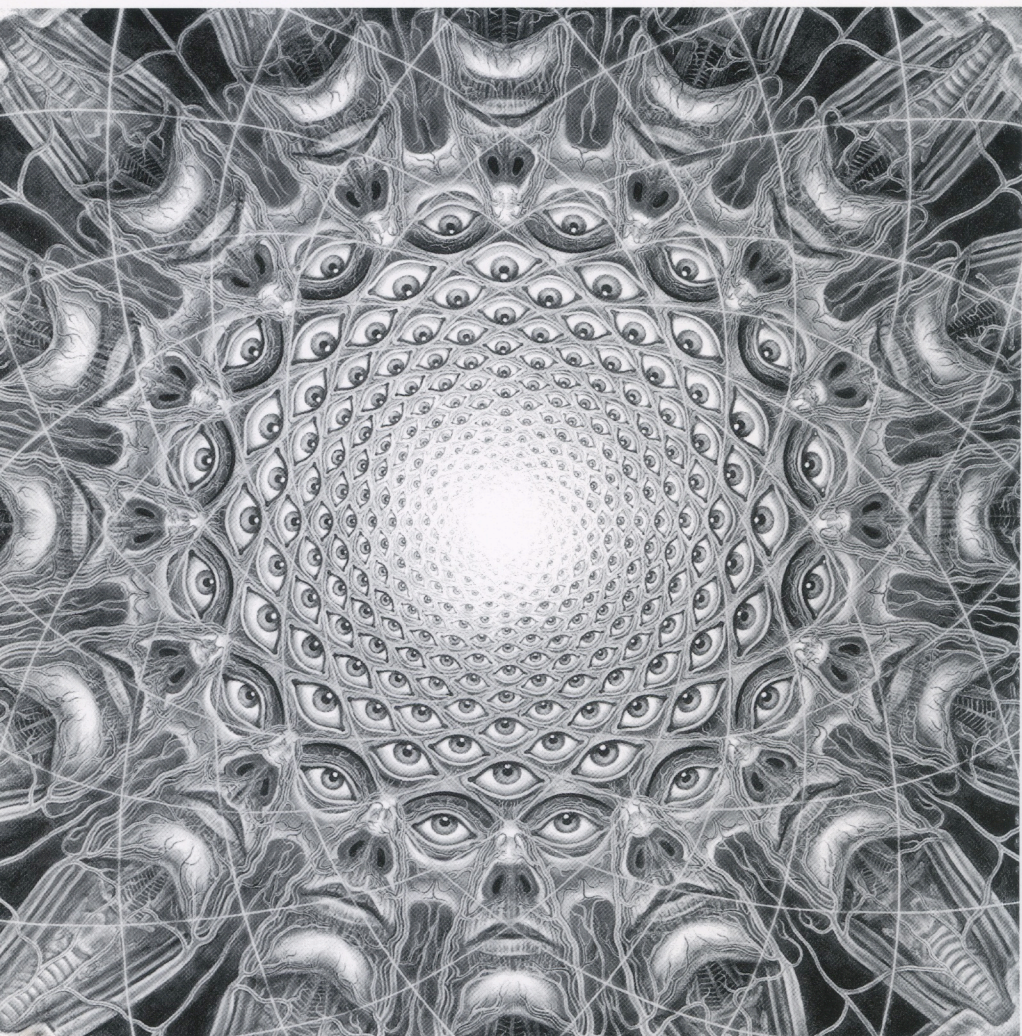




Above: **Birth**, oil on linen, 60" x 44", 1990-91

Cover: **Psychic Energy System** (from the series of 21 Sacred Mirrors), acrylic on linen in mixed media frame, 84" x 46", 1980





Above: **Collective Vision**, oil on linen, 38" x 38", 1992

Right: **World Soul**, clay working model, finished piece in bronze, 66" x 72" x 18", 1991-93



*There's a whole power of the imagination which can only be liberated by mystical experience, which opens to the spirit whole new kingdoms of delight.*

—Andrew Harvey,  
author of *Hidden Journey*, 1991

*During times of cynicism and despair, experiences that empower people to heal conflicts and choose life are especially valuable. I wanted my paintings to visually chart the spectrum of consciousness from material perception to spiritual insight, and to function, if possible, as symbolic portals to the mystical dimension.*

—Alex Grey,  
“The Sacred Mirrors,” 1990

Until quite recently, I never considered that the halos encircling the heads of the divine in paintings I had viewed since childhood were anything more than conventional symbols of illumination. An experience I had in the presence of an avatar changed my mind: I saw and felt a brilliant and pulsating golden light emanating from this holy person; it spread like fire to the bouquets of roses at her side and to the kneeling pilgrim whose head she was touching.



People throughout time have had similar visions of light, and many of the artists depicting auras have worked from the most direct and personal of experiences. Alex Grey is an artist who has seen such radiances and has dedicated his work to inspiring other seekers of the Self. Requiring months of concentrated labor, his hyperdetailed renderings of circulatory networks and complex energy fields embody the spirit of illuminated manuscripts painted by monks in medieval times.

There is increasing evidence that light is beginning to penetrate the cynical and materialistic shell of our contemporary experience. Esteemed physicist Stephen Hawking speaks of our future ability to “truly know the mind of

God.” Meanwhile, in a time of widespread famine, environmental imbalance, and constant fighting over whatever natural resources remain, we are becoming painfully aware of the interconnectedness of all beings, places and actions. In their clear and passionate evocation of the union of matter, energy, and light, Alex Grey’s paintings bridge the inner and outer landscape of our shared divine legacy.

—Barry Blinderman, 1993



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