

Lives are eternal, psychic Marilyn Rossner proclaims

By DAVID CALLENDER
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Marilyn Rossner doesn't consider it strange when she sees a person bathed in an aura of pink, red, and green. She's equally nonplussed by disembodied voices, or when she notes a spirit following a living person around.

The Canadian psychic says she grew up accepting her observations, and until she was a teen-ager, "I assumed everyone was having this experience."

Rossner, who led a workshop on psycho-spiritual development at a Verona home this past weekend, assures listeners that "we are all using this ability, sometimes consciously, sometimes unconsciously."

A petite woman with long strawberry-blond hair, Rossner looks like a modern-day mystic. Religious medallions of all faiths — a golden Sanskrit "Om," a cross, a five-pointed star, and mala prayer beads — drape her flowing purple-and-turquoise peasant dress.

"I'm as much at home in a synagogue as a Hindu temple, or a Christian church, or a yogic ashram," she says.

Although she says she can perceive auras and spirits, her eyes are especially sensitive to bright lights, so she usually wears prescription sunglasses.

Rossner, who is a professor of special education and works as a behavioral therapist, says she believes psychic phenomena may be the "missing link" between science and religion.

"It's all part of the universal consciousness," she says. "There's an infinite intelligence, a universal essence. There's a divine oneness, which we call God. We are connected and we are interconnected."

It started when she was 4, sitting in a classroom shortly before Christmas. "There was this enveloping energy. It was light; there was a form, and from an inner voice, the words came to me, 'Christ is God. Christ is Lord, indeed,'" she says. The vision was particularly unusual because she had been raised an Orthodox Jew.

When she was 6, she had another profound experience. As she walked home from school one day, "I looked to my right. I saw a form that seemed to talk. I heard a voice say, 'Look, I'm here.' I looked, and it was my grandmother. She said, 'I am dead. Tell your mother that I died, but I'm really alive. Go and tell your mother to name her new baby after me.'"

At the time, her family lived in Montreal, but Rossner's grandparents lived in Toronto. Rossner relayed her grandmother's message to her pregnant mother, who was "quite shaken by it. Then the next morning we received a telegram saying that my grandmother had died the previous day."

Despite these contacts with another dimension, Rossner says she still didn't consider herself unusual. It was not until age 14, when she heard a voice tell her a friend would die within three weeks, and the death occurred as predicted, that she learned her awareness wasn't shared by others.

When asked how she knew of her friend's impending death, she explained, "There was one thing that was different: I see green and pink and red around me. I didn't see that around her; I saw something else."



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Psychic

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No one else could see what she was talking about. Her friends told her, "but Marilyn, we're wearing our high school uniforms. We just see the blouse and the uniform."

"I remember taking their arms and touching them, and saying, 'You mean you just see what I can feel?'"

Rossner describes her perceptions as a "spectrum of consciousness." Mystical experience, she says, transcends cultures, classes, history, religions and philosophies.

"We are spirits encased in physical bodies and we have powerful minds with which we can create," she says. "I know that there is no death; our life is eternal. We can be joyous and

have an understanding of our goal and our purpose."

Her visit to the Madison area marked the end of a month-long tour of the U.S. and Canada. From her travels, she notes, "people are being made aware inwardly that there is something else" outside the physical world.

"We're on the edge of a second Copernican Revolution. I sense that by the end of this century, (psychic powers) will be considered everyday knowledge. All of life is a series of cycles, and we're now in a cycle where we're going to be led from the unreal to the real, from the darkness into the light, from the fear of death to the knowledge of immortality."