

Natural Inclusion

How To Evolve Good Neighbourhood

By Alan Rayner

“In nature everything is distinct, yet nothing defined into absolute independent singleness”

William Wordsworth (1770-1850) from *Guide to the Lakes*

“Form is a dynamic inclusion of space - not an occupier of space - and so is not definable in absolute terms in an unfrozen world”

“Inclusionality enables us to understand our local selves and others dynamically as ‘somewheres’ in the context of everywhere, not ‘somethings’ as isolated objects”

“Death is a delocalization, not an ending of consciousness”

This book

About the Author

Alan Rayner was born in Nairobi, Kenya in 1950. He obtained BA and PhD degrees in Natural Sciences at King's College, Cambridge and is currently a Reader in Biology at the University of Bath. He is an accomplished biological scientist, ecological philosopher, artist and writer. He has published around 140 scientific articles, 6 scientific books (including *Degrees of Freedom - Living in Dynamic Boundaries*, Imperial College Press, 1997) and a 3 volume book (*Inclusionality: The Science, Art and Spirituality of Space, Place and Evolution*, 2004). He has contributed to a variety of science- and art-based TV and radio broadcasts and presented many seminars and conference papers as well as convening several international conferences and symposia. The latter include a pioneering Science-Art event, '*The Language of Water*', which, in 2001, resulted in an acclaimed BBC Radio 4 series, '*Water Story*', and in 2006 '*Unhooked Thinking*', a landmark in changing our perceptions of addiction. He was President of the British Mycological Society in 1998 and has been a BP Venture Research Fellow and a Miller Visiting Research Professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

SUMMARY

This book offers a way out of the fearful addiction to conflict that has become deeply ingrained in human culture through viewing life as a struggle for existence. It describes a radical transformation of our understanding of evolution in which space, far from keeping everything separate, is a vital inclusion in the fluid dynamic geometry of nature. This opens up a new way of appreciating our natural human identities as complex, dynamically relating flow forms rather than isolated individuals. Hence it may be possible to live in a truly loving, creative and sustainable way within rather than at odds with our natural dynamic neighbourhood.

