

Frank Chester and the Art of the Heart

Frank Chester is a master teacher, sculptor, and geometrician. In the year 2000 he developed an objective, lawful process, using science and art, wherein the invisible world could be made visible. The inspiration for this work came from his visit to Dornach, Switzerland, where he saw models of a series of seven-sided capitals (the tops of columns) in a building designed by Rudolf Steiner. As a result of this encounter, a seed was planted within him whereby he envisioned the possibility of constructing a seven-sided sculpture based on the geometry of these capitals.

Two years later he began his search for a three-dimensional, seven-sided sculpture. After much trial and error, failure after failure, and months and months of effort, he eventually discovered... a new geometric form with seven equal faces. In the history of mankind this geometry has never appeared on the earth before.

However, the significance of this form was unknown. (Rudolf Steiner said that “geometry was knowledge which man himself apparently produces, but its significance is completely independent of him.”) Since its discovery, Frank devoted himself to discovering the potential meanings of this form, and almost ten years of work have led him to see how it relates to the human heart, to the geometry of the Earth, to sacred architecture. And to the potential for inspiring others about the awe-inspiring connection between seemingly abstract geometries and the dynamism of life.

Putting this form through the alchemical transformative process of Earth, Water, Air, and Fire, many previously unknown geometric structures have emerged. This geometric form also demonstrates a remarkable correlation to the form and functioning of the human heart. On the basis of experimentation with various related geometric forms and the movement of water in a vortex, Frank is uncovering indications concerning the relationship between etheric formative forces and the geometry, structure, and physiology of the human heart. Thus the form is called the Chestahedron, both after its discoverer and because the form relates to the geometry of the heart, which sits in the chest.

This work points to a science of the future. It is a science that studies the objective structure of a manifested form and explores the form’s basic intention.

Frank’s work helps crack open new avenues of thinking, new ways of understanding our world, and provides insights that help us better understand ourselves. What he is doing, in a nutshell, is exploring the relationship between geometric form and the dynamic principles that underlie the operations of natural and physiological processes, specifically those related to the human being. He did not set out with this goal in mind, but rather followed the trail of a simple question concerning the possibility of a seven-sided geometric form with faces of equal surface area. (Seth Miller)

Frank is an artist, sculptor and geometrician who lives in San Francisco. He has taught art for more than thirty years in high schools and colleges. Since encountering the work of Rudolf Steiner, Frank has been exploring the relation between form and spirit. This has led him to take up research concerning the number seven. For the last several years he has been teaching sacred geometry at the Waldorf teacher training program in San Francisco. He has been presenting his research at international conferences and Waldorf schools in the United States and Europe.

Frank Chester will be joining us for a workshop in Portland on Saturday, September 29 – details coming soon. The material above was edited a bit and excerpted from his website (frankchester.com), where you can see more information, lectures, articles, and examples of his artistic pieces.