

# Shadow Worlds A History of the Occult and Esoteric in New Zealand

ANDREW PAUL WOOD



## \$55

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## FROM GOMORRAH ON THE AVON TO WITCHCRAFT

A vigorous strand of interest in the occult, the spooky and the mysterious has been part of our history since 1840.

*Shadow Worlds* takes a lively look at communicating with spirits, secret ritualistic societies, the supernatural, the New Age — everything from The Golden Dawn and Rosicrucianism to Spiritualism, witchcraft and Radiant Living — and introduces the reader to a cast of fascinating characters who were generally true believers and sometimes con artists.

It's a fresh and novel take on the history of a small colonial society that was not quite as ploddingly conformist as we may have imagined.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ANDREW PAUL WOOD is an independent art and cultural historian, critic, culture journalist, and translator based in Ōtautahi Christchurch. He writes for prominent publications in Aotearoa New Zealand and elsewhere on art, architecture, design, travel, history and literature, and is involved in cultural initiatives around the country. His expertise ranges from the artist Theo Schoon to the history of the pavlova. He is arts editor for takahe magazine.

#### SALES POINTS

- A proven market for books about the spirit world
- Accessible, entertaining and informative
- Wide ranging across a range of belief systems

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As when with downcast eyes we muse and brood, And ebb into a former life, or seem To lapse far back in some confused dream To states of mystical similitude... - ALFRED\_LORD TENNYSON, TO\_\_\_\_YAS WHEN WITH DOWNCAST EYES'', 1872



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There slumber in every human being faculties by means of which he can acquire for himself a knowledge of higher worlds. Mystics, Gnostics, Theosophists — all speak of a world of soul and spirit which for them is just as real as the world we see with our physical eyes and touch with our physical hands. – RUDOLE STEINER, KNOWLEDGE OF THE HIGHER WORLDS AND HIS ATTAINMENT, 1914





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Chapter 5. Rudolf Steiner and Anthroposophy

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#### Leila Waddell, violinist, 'Divine Whore', 'Mother of Heaven' and 'Scarlet Woman'.





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