The world quivers with a God-light at its core,
In Time’s deep heart high purposes move and live,
Life’s borders crumble and join infinity.

Remembering and offering by Martha Orton • First person exploration by Aditi Kaul • “Yoga is nothing but practical psychology”—An interview with A.S. Dalal by Matthias Pommerening • Parichand, Gardener of the Divine Mother by Shyam Kumari • Love: The Truth that saves by Larry Seiditz • The Mother as Savitri by Kailas Jhaveri • Current affairs • AV almanac • Source material • The poetry room • Apropos
About the art on the front and back cover

Front cover: Untitled, from pixabay.com. Johannes Plenio’s work may be seen on his website (https://j.plenio.de) as well as on pixabay.com (https://pixabay.com/images/search/user/jplenio/), and many others.


The authors and poets

Matthew Arnold (1822–1888) was a highly regarded English poet and cultural critic who worked as an inspector of schools.

Samuel Coleridge (1772–1834) was an English poet, literary critic, philosopher and theologian who, with his friend William Wordsworth, was a founder of the Romantic Movement in England.

Kailas Jhaveri (richard.kailas@gmail.com) is a senior member of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram and author of the autobiographical work I am here.

Aditi Kaul (aditikaul9@gmail.com) is currently based in Pondicherry and is deeply inspired by Integral Yoga. Her quest is to understand the "roughly created chaos" we humans are and bring some "divine order."

Shyam Kumari (shyamkumari@auromail.net) is an author of many books related to the Yoga.

Rick Lipschutz (lipschutzr@gmail.com), a clinical social worker and Sri Aurobindo devotee, scholar, and author living in Charlottesville, VA.

Radhe Pfau (radhe@lagracecenter.com) is Executive Director of La Grace Sri Aurobindo Integral Life Center near Greenville, SC.

Matthias Pommerening (matthias.pommerening@aurouville.de) is exploring psychology, Integral Yoga, and Auroville.

Punjalal (deceased) was a member of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram and a respected sadhak and poet.

Larry Seidlitz (lseidlitz@gmail.com) is an author, an editor, and conducts online courses and research on Integral Yoga.

Carel Thieme (carel@auroville.org.in) is a long-time Aurovilian involved in many Auroville activities and co-editor of Auroville Today.

Table of contents

Collaboration, Vol. 44, No. 1, Spring 2019

From the office of Collaboration

Notes on this issue ................................................................. 3

Current affairs

AUM 2019: Evolving through challenges into oneness consciousness ......................................................... 4
2019 Integral Yoga Retreat in Greenville, SC .................. Radhe Pfau ................................................................. 5
Briefs .................................................................................... 5

AV almanac

Things are moving in the International Zone ............. Carel Thieme ................................................................. 6

Salon

Remembering and offering ..................................... Martha Orton ................................................................. 8
First person exploration ........................................... Aditi Kaul ........................................................................ 9

Chronicles

“Yoga is nothing but practical psychology”—An interview with A.S. Dalal ................................................ Matthias Pommerening ........................................................... 10
Parichand: Gardener of the Divine Mother ................ Shyam Kumari ................................................................. 13

Essays

Love: The Truth that saves ........................................... Larry Seidlitz ................................................................. 19
The Mother as Savitri .................................................. Kailas Jhaveri ................................................................. 26

Source material

Mind of Light ................................................................. Sri Aurobindo ................................................................. 34
Descent of the Superman consciousness ................ The Mother ................................................................. 35

The poetry room

From “The supreme consummation” ............................. Sri Aurobindo ................................................................. 37
From “Religious musings” ........................................ Samuel Coleridge ................................................................. 37
From “The buried life” ............................................... Matthew Arnold ................................................................. 37
A deep desire ................................................................. Punjalal ................................................................. 38
Myth of Formlessness and Form: A Fragment .......... Karen Mitchell ................................................................. 39
How tenderly you smile, soul ....................................................... Rick Lipschutz ................................................................. 39

Apropos .............................................................................. 40
In this issue, *Current affairs* reports on the two annual Sri Aurobindo conferences in the US: the All USA Meeting being held June 20-23 in Washington State, and the Integral Yoga Retreat being held June 26-30 in Greenville, South Carolina. We also have an update on activities at the Mother’s Center of Boulder, Colorado. *AV Almanac* has an article by Caral Thieme of *Auroville Today* about recent developments in the International Zone of Auroville.

In the *Salon*, we have two short articles. The first by Martha Orton is a personal reflection on the Mother’s famous advice to “Remember and offer.” The second article is by Aditi Kaul and describes the process of “First person exploration,” a method of systematic introspective inquiry and observation of one’s being and nature that is aimed toward spiritual growth.

In *Chronicles* we have two pieces on two extraordinary members of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram. The first is an interview of A.S. Dalal which was conducted by Matthias Pommerening, and focuses on Dr. Dalal’s many psychologically oriented compilations of Sri Aurobindo’s and the Mother’s words on various topics. The second, written by Shyam Kumari, is about Parichand, an exceptional sadhak who was the main gardener in the Ashram during the Mother’s time. Shyam Kumari has written the stories of many sadhaks in the Ashram in her series of books, *How They Came to Sri Aurobindo and the Mother*. This particular story was intended for a fifth volume that so far has not been published.

In *Essays* we have two talks that are focused on Sri Aurobindo’s epic poem *Savitri*. The first, by Larry Seidlitz, focuses on the deeper nature and significance of love as described in *Savitri*, in Sri Aurobindo’s *Letters on Yoga*, and in the Mother’s talks to the children of the Ashram school. The second talk is by Kailas Jhaveri, a senior member of the Ashram, and concerns the many parallels between the character Savitri in the poem and the Divine Mother of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram.

In *Source Material*, we commemorate the descent of the superman consciousness, an intermediate consciousness between the human and the supramental being, which occurred 50 years ago on 1 January 1969. The first selection, by Sri Aurobindo, concerns the mind of light, a mind illuminated and transformed by the supramental consciousness. This is followed by two selections from the Mother, the first describing her own personal realization of this consciousness in 1958, and the second describing her experience of the descent in 1969.

We close the issue with a selection of fine spiritual poetry in *The poetry room*, and spiritual quotations in *Apropos*.

### Invitation to submit a short essay for publication

With the intention to make *Collaboration* more interactive and participatory, we invite you to submit a short essay of about 300-800 words for the next issue on any topic related to Integral Yoga for the Salon section. We hope that the relatively short length of these articles may inspire more writers who may be reluctant to write the longer essays which have become the norm in *Collaboration*. For the next issue, please email your essay by August 1, 2019 to the editor at: editor@collaboration.org.

### The artists

**Johannes Plenio** (front cover artist) lives with his wife and three daughters near Munich, Germany. He is a passionate landscape photographer and uses creative techniques to “paint with light.”

**Larissa Koshkina** (back cover artist) lives in Russia where she photographs natural landscapes and creates colorful illustration compositions.

### Publisher

Collaboration (ISSN 0164-1522) is published by the Sri Aurobindo Association (SAA), a California nonprofit religious corporation, 2715 W. Kettleman Lane, Suite 203-174, Lodi, CA 95242 USA; e-mail: saa@collaboration.org.

**Editor**: Larry Seidlitz, 42 Pappammal Koil St., Anandam Apts. Ground Fl., Apt. 1A, Kuruchikuppam, Puducherry 605012, email: lseidlitz@gmail.com.

**Artistic Editor**: Karen Cornell; email: kcornell@cal.net.

**Copyrights**: Copyright © SAA, 2019. Photos of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, passages from their works, and excerpts from the books published by the Sri Aurobindo Ashram Trust are © Sri Aurobindo Ashram Trust unless otherwise noted, and are used here with the kind permission of the Ashram.

**Subscriptions**: A one-year subscription (three issues) is $25 ($35 for airmail outside the USA; $50 or more for a one-year patron subscription). Pay online by credit card at www.collaboration.org/journal/subscribe.html; or make a check out to Sri Aurobindo Association and mail to: Sri Aurobindo Association, 2715 W. Kettleman Ln, Ste 203-174, Lodi, CA 95242 USA. India residents, send Rs.200 in the name of Larry Seidlitz to: Larry Seidlitz, 42 Pappammal Koil St., Anandam Apts. Ground Fl., Apt. 1A, Kuruchikuppam, Puducherry 605012.

**Submissions**: *Collaboration* welcomes writing, photos, and artwork relevant to the Integral Yoga and spirituality. Submit material by email to: editor@collaboration.org; or by post to *Collaboration*, 2715 W. Kettleman Lane, Suite 203-174, Lodi, CA 95242 USA. *Collaboration* cannot be held responsible for loss or damage of unsolicited material. Letters and articles may be edited for style and space considerations.

**About SAA**: The Sri Aurobindo Association distributes information about Sri Aurobindo, the Mother, and Auroville, and supports projects related to the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Auroville, and Integral Yoga activities in America. Current members: Lynda Lester, president; Mateo Needham, vice president; John Robert Cornell, secretary; Margaret Phanes, communications officer; Mira Patel, director; Ananda Bhishma, associate and treasurer.

**Contributions**: Donations for the work of the SAA, Auroville, and the Sri Aurobindo Ashram may be sent to SAA. Donations are tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.