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The Megalithic European: The 21st Century Traveller in Prehistoric Europe

Julian Cope

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Julian Cope : The Megalithic European: The 21st Century Traveller in Prehistoric Europe before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Megalithic European: The 21st Century Traveller in Prehistoric Europe:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Following sacred stones to Ireland and the Continent
By John L. Murphy
This compliments Julian Cope's "The Modern Antiquarian," which mapped colorfully and lavishly over 300 sites where one can visit the megalithic legacy of Britain. Expanding to Ireland and Europe for this volume, Cope and his family explore the stones left in places such as the Mediterranean and the Atlantic shores. A colorful and substantial work, it's a labor of love. He allows you to share his imagined recovery of a past few of us now can grasp at all--and how places become sacred. "Generations may come and go, but the great oak or yew on the edge of the grove remains the same. Mother's back grows crooked and bent, but the valley where the sun rises at the hottest time of the year shows no sign of change whatsoever. In a physical world awash with new significance, the new settlers will return again and again to marvel at the permanence of landscape features that they may have seen only fleetingly during nomadic times." So he writes on p. 24. The rock, Cope suggests, where children played twenty years on may be pointed out to their children. One may have once fallen asleep, dreamed on that sunny rock, and told friends of what was vividly dreamt. This story may be related to one's own children. They may play on "parent's rock" and what was dream may in time turn ritual. Others may try to fall asleep on the rock, to dream dreams, and some eventually will recount a dream worth recounting to others in the settlement. So the practice begins, of the dreaming-rock, and this may be conjured by the community as "the stone that speaks." He enters into the mindset where the Great Mother ruled, and he's not afraid to be bold. Concerning etymology and sexuality, chapter five compiles "The Book of Ur." Not Abraham's Ur of the Chaldees birthplace, but in this "etymosophy," a list of words related to ancient goddess-wisdom. Ur leads us to Eriu, Erin, and Erse-- alongside Eros-- as wordy relatives nearest my home-turf. Koeur, Hoer, Bree, and Ma may be discerned even by the Lindsey Lohans and Oprah-fans of today as nestled into terms such as "core, corpse, corn, kernel, chord", as "her, whore, house, heretic, haughty, hurricane," as "Bridget, pregnant, pretty, pray, braid," and as "matrimony, marry, mate, , and Macha"--whom he links between the "pre-Keltic" formidable queen of Emain Macha in Ulster with a grove-spirit burnt by the River Kidron by her son King Asa in 1 Kings 15:13. That shows the scope of this elucidation. Cope offers three packed pages of miniscule if well-arranged (his books are easy to consult and fun to view) definitions. While some of these may not be supported by stodgier peers (and I wish sources for his interpretations were more evident), it's a mind-expanding read. With maps, photos, prose, and a gazetteer, this volume can also be compared to his Head Heritage site, as a fruitful interplay of text and resources that enable visitors today to treat such monuments with respect.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A wealth of information
By Customer
Excellent reference and resource book. Met all expectations.
1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good library volume for anyone interested in this period
By RICview
We first saw this book at an inn in Portugal. It has terrific photos and maps of megalithic remains in Europe. Quite helpful if you are interested in the period and planning a trip, or want to review what you have seen. The essays are well written and comprehensive

Julian Cope's long-awaited follow up to *The Modern Antiquarian*, his bestselling and critically acclaimed guide to ancient Britain. *The Megalithic European* takes us on a breathtaking journey around prehistoric Europe's first temples.
Contents* *The Megalithic European* is a monumental colour guide to the standing stones and ancient temples of prehistoric Europe.* In a 6-year personal odyssey (leaving no stone unturned) Julian Cope covers 300 of the important sites of Northern Europe and the Mediterranean.* The book looks further, revealing several thousand years of information which scholars have previously ignored, to the Classical temples of the Eastern Mediterranean and Aegean Seas.* Section 1: a series of essays, looking at the universal desire of all settlers: to celebrate and mythologize the landscape in which they have chosen to live, highlighting comparisons with British settlements.* Section 2: a gazetteer of the many ancient sites in Europe that Julian Cope has personally visited, from Ireland to the Netherlands, from Crete to Denmark, discussing many areas outside the European arena, from Mount Ararat in Armenia to Mount Fuji in Japan, via the celebrated Mount Olympus of the Greek Myths to the legendary Tree of Yggdrasil of the Norse Myths.

ON THE MODERN ANTIQUARIAN: 'Insightful essays...Terrific and daft in equal measure.' MAIL ON SUNDAY 'Not only a joy, but a useful field guide.' THE GUARDIAN 'A handsome traveller's text...A remarkable fusion of scholarship, practical advice and visionary insight.' THE EXPRESS 'A sumptuous technicolour delight. Erudite, playful and provocative.' MOJO 'A strange and marvellous artefact, remarkable for its seriousness as much as its frivolity.' WEEKEND REVIEW, THE INDEPENDENT 'Utterly unique...opens a real window on Britain's prehistory.' THE TIMES 'A ripping good read.' THE TIMES 'Immensely detailed and sumptuously illustrated...an essential guide' THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
About the Author
Julian Cope shot to fame with the band Teardrop Explodes during the Punk era. He has continued to make albums and produce other performers. He is hailed as a visionary by those people who recognise his genius and a madman by those who find him perplexing. He has written three books all of which have received ecstatic reviews. His most recent book, *The Modern Antiquarian* established itself as a classic travel guide to ancient Britain. It sent ripples through the world of archaeology and spawned a BBC

documentary of the same name. It book remained in the bestseller lists for many weeks.