

Orders and Secret Societies: Mysteries and Esoteric Traditions

Ordo Draconis Rubri, Ordo Gnosticus Universalis, and Ordo Niger Templi

Ordo Draconis Rubri

The [Ordo Draconis Rubri](#) is an esoteric fraternity rooted in Transylvanian occult traditions, presenting itself as the heir to a medieval knightly order. Over the centuries, it is said to have evolved into a secret society operating mainly in Transylvania, Romania. It should be noted that this organization has no connection with the modern [Dragon Rouge Order](#), or Ordo Draconis et Atri Adamantis, founded in 1989 by Thomas Karlsson in Sweden, which belongs to the contemporary draconian lineage of the Left-Hand Path.

The history of the Ordo Draconis Rubri is said to have been marked by severe persecution under Romania's communist regime, leading to the decimation of its members and the dispersal of its archives. Only a few fragments of manuscripts, letters, and ritual documents attributed to Dorian Bibescu, [Irina Bibescu](#), and Radu Dragonescu remain. These documents describe a practice centered on harnessing a subtle energy called the "[scarlet breath of the dragon](#)," flowing through the veins and chakras. Strictly codified, this discipline carried significant psychological risks, including madness, hallucinations, collective hysteria, paranoia, and suicidal impulses among vulnerable individuals.

The ceremonies, called "red masses," took place in a temple within a former Gothic church. The green marble altar, adorned with a human skull featuring wolf-like canines, symbolized primal instinctual power. A silver chalice, an athame, and a red copper statue of a winged dragon served as meditative focal points. Red, black, and white candles arranged according to sacred geometry, together with a circle engraved with solar and lunar motifs, facilitated altered states of consciousness and the perception of invisible presences.

After 2015, the gradual disappearance of members—including Irina and Dorian Bibescu—reportedly left Radu Dragonescu as the last known heir, whose current whereabouts remain uncertain, possibly in France or living in voluntary isolation.

Ordo Gnosticus Universalis

In 2009, rumors suggested a connection between the Ordo Gnosticus Universalis and the "Black Order of the Temple" (Ordo Niger Templi). However, no historical or institutional evidence confirms this link, which remains primarily speculative and rooted in esoteric and conspiratorial discourse.

The Ordo Gnosticus Universalis is a contemporary initiatory order founded in 2006 by Tatiana Jestakova, who was introduced to esoteric circles by Radu Dragonescu—also known as “Kinuga Anatasinjah”—and later became a disciple of the Bibescu couple. The order defines itself as a pluralistic, gnostic, and esoteric philosophical organization. It synthesizes diverse forms of gnosis and spiritual traditions, emphasizing inner initiation, consciousness transformation, and direct access to spiritual knowledge.

Gnosis refers to profound spiritual knowledge that reveals the mysteries of the divine origin of being and enables the liberation of the soul beyond material appearances. The order incorporates elements inspired by historical Gnosticism—cosmic dualism, divine emanations, and the aspiration to liberating knowledge—along with contemporary practices such as meditation, yoga, and somatic exercises designed to foster intuitive awakening.

Tatiana Jestakova was initiated into various esoteric methods, including practices associated with the Red Dragon Order, centered on the scarlet breath of the dragon to mobilize subtle energy, and the [Black Water Brotherhood](#), known for shamanic initiatory rituals inspired by Thracian traditions. Although these latter practices differ from the red masses, they can be equally demanding and psychologically and physically intense, involving extreme perception exercises, sensory deprivation, or ritual immersion. In her teaching, however, Jestakova transmits neither these rites nor their variants; her seminars and lectures focus on theory, meditation, and yoga practices, without occult rituals or clandestine initiations.

The Ordo Gnosticus Universalis emphasizes practical and experiential gnosis, encouraging inner exploration through meditation, conscious breathing, symbolic work, and the study of Gnostic myths. Its aim is to cultivate a direct experience of the divine and awaken inner knowledge, adapting Gnostic principles to a contemporary context without relying on complex or potentially dangerous ritual structures.

As such, the Ordo Gnosticus Universalis presents itself as an educational and initiatory organization, offering spiritual seekers a coherent framework for exploring inner knowledge, personal transformation, and the integration of Gnostic principles, while maintaining distance from the ritual practices of historical esoteric orders.

Black Order of the Temple (Ordo Niger Templi)

The Black Order of the Temple is an esoteric and conspiratorial concept associated with the medieval Templars, described as a secret hierarchy operating behind the official Order of the Templars. According to esoteric literature, this invisible elite—sometimes associated with figures such as Bernard of Clairvaux—pursued mystical or Gnostic objectives beyond purely military aims,

including the reconciliation of monotheistic religions and the establishment of an ideal governance. These theories often invoke Eastern influences (Sufism, Isma'ilism, Kabbalah) and secret alliances with spiritual and political purposes.

The main author developing this idea is Jacques Rolland, in *L'Ordre noir des Templiers* (Éditions du Rocher, 1997), who describes the Black Order as a synarchic structure operating in the shadow of the official Order, pursuing a universal spiritual goal, without any known institutional continuity after the dissolution of the Templars in 1312. The Templars' original headquarters were in Jerusalem, in the stables of Solomon's Temple, granted by King Baldwin II around 1119–1120. No specific headquarters is attributed to the Black Order, which is portrayed as discreetly influencing medieval events through political and religious alliances.

In *Les Templiers: Les archives secrètes du Vatican*, Rolland draws on unpublished documents to reconstruct Templar history, refute heresy accusations brought by Philip IV the Fair, and suggest that the Vatican may have preserved certain Templar secrets, possibly linked to the Black Order, from the papal dissolution to modern times.

Some esoteric authors extend these hypotheses, claiming that the Black Order was founded to protect a hidden messianic legacy. Laurent de Varga, in *Histoire mystérieuse des Templiers*, explores the mysteries surrounding the Templars, such as the curse of Jacques de Molay and certain secret ceremonies, without explicitly mentioning the Black Order, but emphasizing the Vatican's role as the keeper of secret archives. According to Yves Gautier, the Black Order established Avignon as its capital after the Templars returned from Jerusalem in 1291. The order itself was composed of former Swiss Guards, cardinals, Freemasons, and other influential figures, who exercised influence over political and power structures through their positions and alliances with other European occult orders.

These hypotheses remain speculative and lack academic verification, belonging to esoteric and conspiratorial tradition rather than documented history.