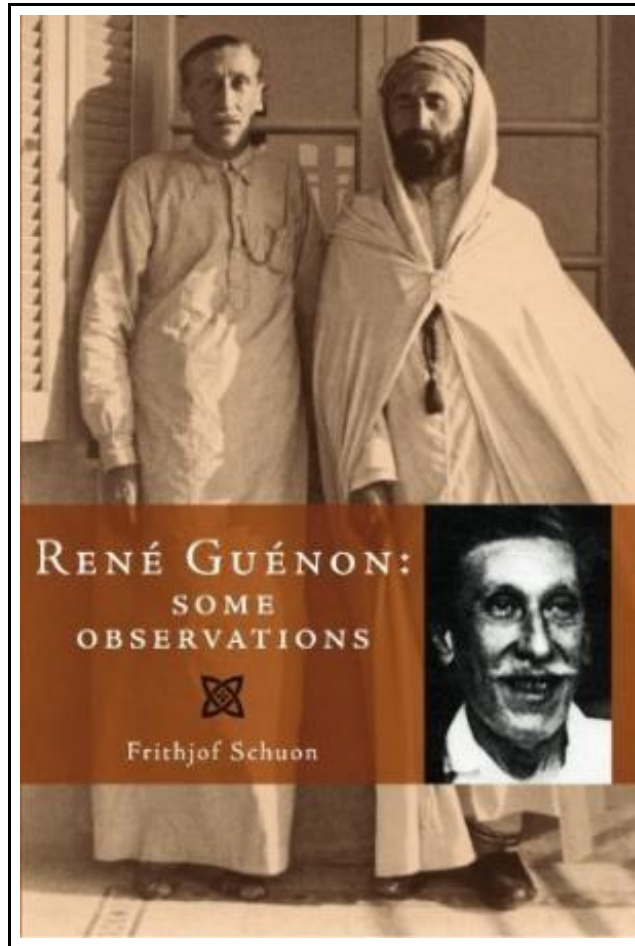


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REN GUNON: SOME OBSERVATIONS



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Sophia Perennis et Universalis, United States, 2004. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 223 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Ren Gunon (1886-1951) was the founder of the Traditionalist School. Along with Ananda K. Coomaraswamy and Frithjof Schuon, he reintroduced traditional metaphysics and esoterism into the Western world after a lapse of centuries, and was perhaps the first to present the doctrines of the Vedanta, Taoism, and Sufism not as Eurocentric orientalists or occult fantasists had done, but strictly in their own terms. To the mathematical precision of Gunon's metaphysics, cosmology, and esoteric history, Frithjof Schuon (1907-1998) added a poetic or musical element, inspired by his close relationship to the Divine Feminine. He also presented the spiritual path as a concrete praxis, involving the spiritual virtues and stations of wisdom, that was not so prominent in Gunon's writings. On the other hand, Gunon's prophetic eschatology, especially in *The Reign of Quantity and the Signs of the Times*, as well as his analysis of the counter-tradition, gives him an unexpectedly contemporary edge that is perhaps less prominent in Schuon's more aesthetic approach. Ren Gunon and Frithjof Schuon illuminate each other, both through their unanimity and the specific points where they differ. Each is almost the only means of taking the other's measure. Questions of who was greater, who more traditional, are finally less interesting than the tremendous vision of human reality and spiritual truth that emerges from their shared role as renewers of traditional metaphysics and religious understanding. Schuon, as the younger man, was in a position to compose an evaluation of his early intellectual master, and in view of his long and illustrious career as an author after Gunon's death, Schuon's central essay *Ren Gunon: Some...*



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