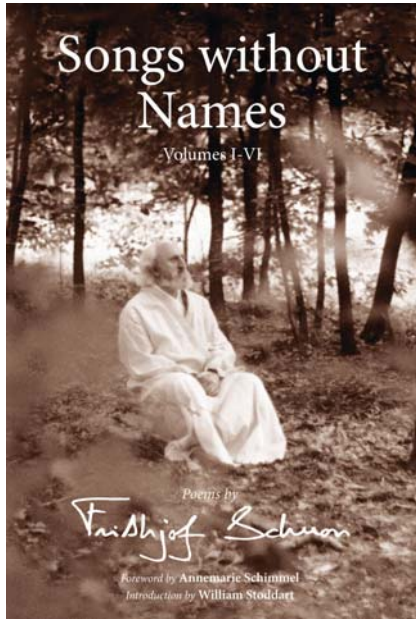
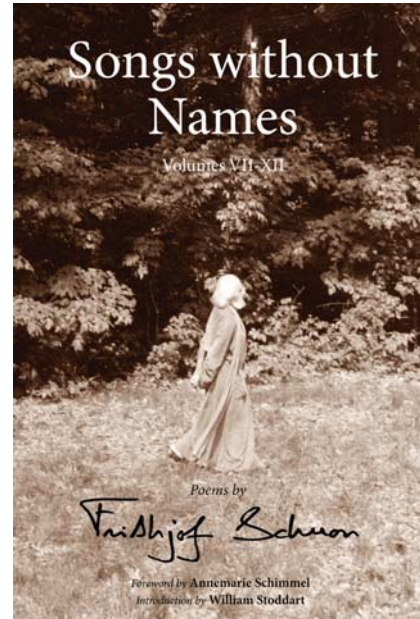


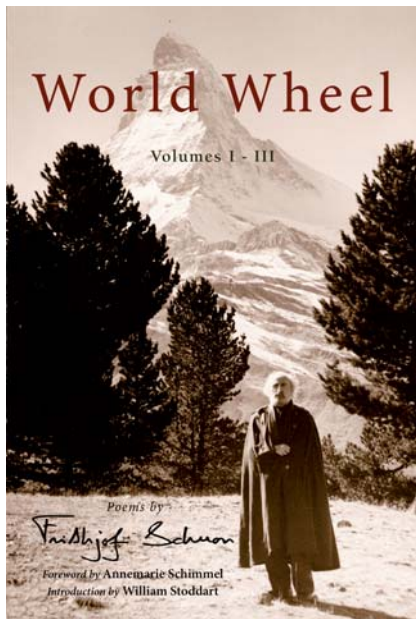
Poetry Books by Frithjof Schuon



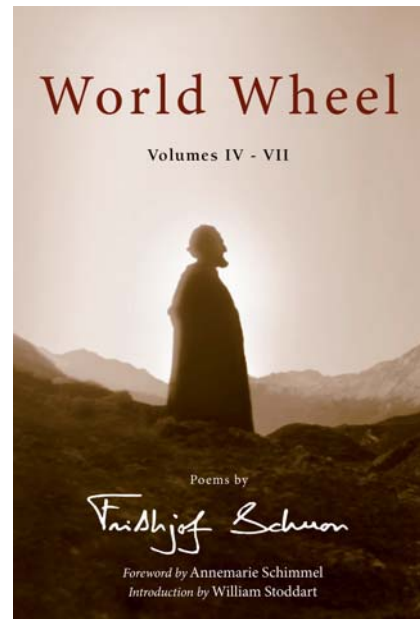
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About these books

During the last three years of his life Frithjof Schuon wrote approximately 3,500 poems in his mother-tongue German. These poems, which have been called “metaphysical music,” express every conceivable subtlety of spiritual and moral counsel, and the same unerring sharpness of intellect, profundity, comprehensiveness, and compassion which one finds in Schuon’s better-known dialectical writings. These four volumes, available for the first time in English, represent the bulk of Schuon’s poetical work, and will prove irresistible to anyone interested in this great man’s work.

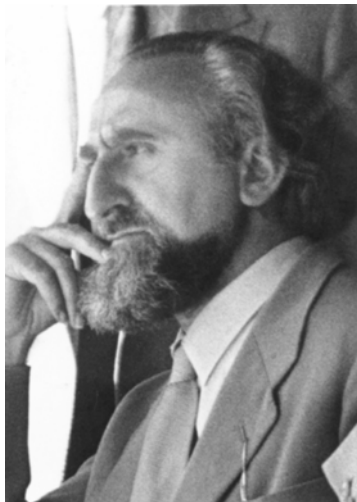
An excerpt

“Love is not mere sentimental play,
It is also the wish to benefit the other soul;
Whoever truly and selflessly loves someone,
Will protect that person’s God-consecrated heart.
Taking and giving: during life —
But with a view to immortality.”
(*Songs without Names I-VI, CVII*)

“Reality, Truth; Beauty and Love:
If nothing else remained to me,
I would still be happy, great or small,
To be safe in God’s Hands.”
(*Songs without Names IV-II, XXIX*)



About the author Frithjof Schuon



Frithjof Schuon was arguably the leading light of the Traditionalist/Perennialist school of thought during many of its formative years in the twentieth century. This school is marked by its dedication to the exploration of the single timeless Truth that finds its various expressions in the many spiritual traditions that have guided humankind over the millennia.

Over thirty titles of Schuon’s work have appeared in English, covering themes on metaphysics, philosophy, comparative religion, symbolism, esoterism, critiques of the modern world, aesthetics, and the nature of human existence. In addition, he wrote thousands of poems in his native German, and produced hundreds of paintings, often with images of the American Plains Indians or Mary, the mother of Jesus. These poems and paintings, just as much as his prose, always carried a profound spiritual message for seekers who could think beyond the bounds of modernist prejudices.

Schuon was born in Basle, Switzerland, but was moved at age 14 by his widowed mother to France, where he learned French, the language in which he later wrote his masterpieces of metaphysics. From a very young age he was attracted to sacred things of both East and West, to beauty of soul and beauty of artistic creation, and to scriptures such as the Bhagavad Gita,

the Vedas, the Koran, and, of course, to the Bible. Schuon was also attracted to Platonic thought and ideals. While still in his teens, he began to read the works of the pioneering Traditionalist René Guénon. Around 1930, Schuon began a correspondence with Guénon that lasted till the latter's death in 1951.

Schuon completed military service and moved to Paris, where he learned Arabic and Arabic calligraphy. In 1932 he left Europe to spend some months with the renowned Sufi master, Ahmad al-'Alawî, in Algeria. Following additional trips to the Orient, Schuon returned to France to again enter military service due to the Nazi threat. He was captured by the enemy but escaped to Switzerland, where he settled for the next forty years. Now focusing on his writing, Schuon became an important contributor to a number of journals on traditional spirituality and comparative religion and soon became known as the preeminent interpreter of the Perennial Philosophy. Frithjof Schuon moved to America in 1980, where he continued to write and paint. He died in 1998.

What others have said about Frithjof Schuon

"... in M. Schuon's writings we find no passion, but the serenity of the vision of 'that which eternally exists, really and unchangeably,' outside the temporal which can destroy only itself. His work is full of calm and profound illumination." — **Kathleen Raine**, author, editor, and poet

"In reading Schuon I have the impression that I am going along parallel to him, and once in a while I will get a glimpse of what he means in terms of my own tradition and experience.... I appreciate him more and more.... I am grateful for the chance to be in contact with people like him."

— **Thomas Merton**, from a letter published in his *The Hidden Ground of Love*

"M. Schuon's thought does not demand that we agree or disagree but that we understand or do not understand. Such writing is of rare and lasting value."

— **Times Literary Supplement**, on Schuon's *Stations of Wisdom*

"Readers ... will certainly find in the writings of Schuon ... completely new perspectives in every aspect of religious thought—on the meaning of symbolism, for example, or the idea of sin, or the warfare between scientism and religion, or the idea of esotericism, and much, much else. Very probably, it will seem to the reader that until now he has ignored an entire dimension in his thinking..."

— **Jacob Needleman**, San Francisco State University

"If I were asked who is the greatest writer of our time, I would say Frithjof Schuon without hesitation."

— **Martin Lings**, author of *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources*

"It is a very good thing to see a book with Mr. Schuon's writings about the American Indians. His words are important because he sees the Indian traditional religion with the eyes of a man who prays and who loves the Indians. He has studied all the religions in the world so he can compare our Indian ways to the ways of other religions."

— **Thomas Yellowtail**, Crow Sun Dance Chief, on Schuon's *The Feathered Sun*

World Wisdom

