

Introduction to the Book Series:

*“A Greater Reality:
The New Paradigm of
Nonlocal Consciousness,
the Paranormal, &
the Contact Modalities”*

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Our 6-Volume book, titled *A GREATER REALITY: The New Paradigm of Nonlocal Consciousness, the Paranormal & the Contact Modalities*, is comprised of 6 volumes. Each volume is approximately 800 pages each. The introduction to this 6 volume book series is titled *The Mind of GOD: A Spiritual-Virtual Reality Model of Consciousness & The Contact Modalities* and is published as a separate book. The 5 co-editors of this 6 volume book series are myself, retired Harvard Professor of Astrophysics, Dr. Rudy Schild, retired Professor of Philosophy, Dr. Michael Grosso, retired Emergency Room Physician, Dr. Joseph Burkes, retired Professor of Psychology, Dr. Jon Klimo, and Medical Doctor, and noted Near Death Experience Research, Dr. Jeffrey Long.

Volumes 1 & 2 are our theoretical volumes and feature articles by more than 45 Ph.D. academics, medical doctors, and researchers who focus on researching the connection between Consciousness and the Contact Modalities. The authors are a who's who of academic researchers on "Consciousness" and the Paranormal Contact Modalities.

Volumes 3, 4, 5 & 6 features articles written by more than 75 major Experiencers of the Contact Modalities who each have had many diverse contact experiences with perceived Higher Forms of Intelligence via the Contact Modalities. These individuals have written a summary of their diverse paranormal experiences with many different Contact Modalities.

A GREATER REALITY book series aims to articulate a new paradigm that seeks to integrate the findings of consciousness research and the phenomenology of extraordinary experiences, what we at the **Consciousness and Contact Research Institute (CCRI)** call the

Contact Modalities (Near Death Experiences, UFO Contact Experiences, Out of Body experiences, Astral Travel Experiences, Remote Viewing, Communication with the Deceased Spirits, Hallucinogenic “Psychedelic” Journeys, the PSI phenomenon, and other forms of contact experiences with Non-Human Intelligence). **CCRI** is an academic research institute, comprised of 25 Ph.D. academics, medical doctors, and researchers, committed to an integrative approach to the entire spectrum of psychophysical anomalies. The researchers, Ph.D. academics, and Medical Doctors of the CCRI organization proposed two major hypotheses:

- 1) That Consciousness, our Greater Reality, is Fundamental and not our perceived physical reality:
- 2) We argue that all of the paranormal Contact Modalities, need to be perceived as ONE integrated phenomenon under Consciousness, and should not be perceived as separate and distinct phenomena.

In the future, the CCRI organization hopes to undertake a comprehensive academic statistical research study, in multiple languages, administered on a worldwide scale, to Experiencers of the Contact Modalities. We hold that it is the Experiencers of the Contact Modalities that may provide humanity with clues as to the question of **"What is Consciousness-- What is the nature of our reality"**-- a question that has been addressed by the academic fields of Philosophy, Neuroscience, Psychiatry, Psychology, Theoretical Physics, Theology, and by humanity at large since the dawn of human existence.

In their contact experiences via the Contact Modalities, these individuals have had experiences that can be considered

multidimensional where they experienced a manipulation of space-time and where they have had a diverse array of contact experiences with Higher Forms of Intelligence. Another term I use interchangeably with Higher Forms of Intelligence is the term Non-Human Intelligence-- which can be defined as all higher forms of intelligence that are not physical human beings living in our physical Earthly reality. Examples of Non-Human Intelligence can be as follows: perceived deceased human beings, spiritual beings and guides, demons, extraterrestrials, arch angels, fairies, and thousands of different physical and non-physical forms of Higher Forms of Intelligence seen by humanity over the ages. These experiences involve contact with a cornucopia of an almost infinite community of conscious sentient beings. For example, the FREE academic research study, the world's first and only comprehensive, statistical, worldwide, academic research study on UFO Contact Experiencers, demonstrated that the 4,350 individuals from over 125 countries who took our 3 surveys, saw thousands of **different** types of physical beings.

In my book, *The Mind of GOD: A Spiritual-Virtual Model of Consciousness & the Contact Modalities*, I argue that these contact experiences can be seen as extensions of the Universal Mind of GOD, as an extension of "Consciousness" itself, our multi-dimensional reality, instead of the hypothesis that these are "physical beings who are visiting us from thousands of different physical planets". The overwhelming number of these physical contact experiences on our Earthly plane, with thousands of different types of physical "beings", interact with humans for at most a few seconds to less than one minute. Yet, the majority of Experiencers and researchers of the paranormal Contact Modalities, perceive these experiences as physical experiences instead of conscious-based experiences. The issue of whether these experiences are either

physical, or consciousness-based experiences, or both, was detailed in my book *The Mind of GOD*, which serves as the formal introduction to the *A GREATER REALITY* six volume book series.¹

The majority of academic authors and researchers in Volume One and Volume Two of our book, *A Greater Reality*, view these contact experiences with Higher Forms of Intelligence via the Contact Modalities as ONE consciousness-based phenomenon and not necessarily as many diverse physical-based phenomena. While we, as humans living in our Earthly physical reality, perceive these experiences as merely physical, in fact these experiences involve a symbiosis between our 5 physical senses within our 4-dimensional space and our multidimensional consciousness-based reality.² Unfortunately, given the physical limitations of the human body, we are not able to perceive our Greater Reality, a reality involving a hierarchy of multiple dimensions under the One Mind of GOD, Consciousness itself. In Volume One of *A Greater Reality* and in *The Mind of GOD*, I argue that we are living in a multi-dimensional spiritual and virtual reality, a reality that Dr. Edgar Mitchell termed the “*Quantum Hologram*”, and that our individuated units of consciousness (our spirit/soul) can travel within these many dimensions, or astral planes, within this “Greater Reality”. Examples of this thesis are Near Death Experiences, Out of Body Experiences, Astral Travel Experiences, Remote Viewing and all forms of Clairvoyance, and

¹ Reinerio Hernandez. (2022) *The Mind of GOD: A Spiritual-Virtual Reality Model of Consciousness & The Contact Modalities*. Amazon Press

²4-dimensional space can be briefly defined as the 3 dimensions of Euclidean Space plus the additional dimension of spacetime, as defined by Albert Einstein. We now commonly coin the concept of 4-dimensional space as “Space-Time”, also written as spacetime.)

many other paranormal” contact experiences, including CAP-UFO Contact Experiences.³

All of the **Contact Modalities** experiences involve a manipulation of space-time. Not only can human consciousness travel within this “Greater Reality” to other dimensions of existence, but the consciousness of a vast array of Non-Human Intelligence can also travel within this Greater Reality into our physical reality. A example of this is the CAP-UFO contact phenomenon and the physical sighting of deceased humans, commonly called ghosts or spirits. In fact, tens of thousands of **DIFFERENT FORMS** of “physical beings” have been described in the hundreds of books in the field of Ufology, in the literature on ghosts/spirits, in the NDE and OBE literature and in the “paranormal” literature.

The human consciousness of Experiencers of the Contact Modalities has also been brought by Higher Forms of Intelligence to other astral realms, also called multidimensional realities, where they have received consistent and similar messages of Unity, Oneness, Spirituality, and the need for humanity to become a more loving species and to promote love for each other and for our mother Earth. I am a witness to this type of personal human consciousness Astral Travel Experience. This experience seems incredulous to almost all of humanity but once you have had a similar experience you are no longer a skeptic.

³I argue throughout this book, and all of my other books, that the UAP/UFO phenomenon is a consciousness-based phenomenon. Thus, instead of the term UAP or UFO, terms that do not define nor explain the phenomenon as one that is consciousness-based, my preferred term is **CAP or Consciousness Aerial Phenomenon**. This term is much more explanatory of the true nature of the phenomenon. Therefore, throughout all of my books, I use the term **CAP-UFO (Consciousness Aerial Phenomenon)** to signify what is commonly called the UFO Phenomenon. I will articulate on this new term later in this chapter.

The academic researchers of CCRI have hypothesized that only by understanding the Experiencers of the Contact Modalities can one begin to fully understand the nature of our Greater Reality. In my opinion, Scientists, Ph.D. Physicists, Ph.D. Neuroscientists, and Ph.D. Philosophers have not adequately addressed the riddle of “*What is Consciousness*” because they have not embraced the information from Experiencers of the Contact Modalities. We argue that only the “Experiencers” of the Contact Modalities can lead us in the proper direction of addressing these questions: “**What is Consciousness?**”, “**What is the Nature of our Reality?**” and “**How can humanity begin the process of preventing its self-destructive behavior?**”

In the Fall of 2013, I introduced the term the “**Contact Modalities**”.⁴ This term is now used by many researchers instead of the term "paranormal" because many major academic researchers, including most of the Ph.D. academics, medical doctors and researchers within CCRI, have long suspected that all of what we call the “paranormal” is actually ONE integrated phenomenon under Consciousness involving a manipulation of space-time. The term “paranormal” does not provide a consciousness-based explanation of the phenomenon while the term Contact Modalities suggests that all of these contact experiences should

⁴In the Fall of 2013, I introduced the term “**The Contact Modalities**” when I published an article in the Dr. Edgar Mitchell FREE Foundation website, *Experiencer.Org*, titled “*The Quantum Hologram Theory of Consciousness and the Contact Modalities*.” I wrote this paper shortly after I had an Astral Travel Experience (ATE), while I was driving my car in a traffic jam and where I was shown the relationship between Consciousness and the Contact Modalities. Please note that the FREE Foundation website no longer exists and is replaced by the CCRI website, <https://agreaterreality.com/>. I continued to use this term in two peer-reviewed academic articles published in the *Journal of Conscientiology* and in the *Journal of Scientific Exploration* and in my co-edited book, published in May of 2018, titled *Beyond UFOs: The Science of Consciousness and Contact with Non-Human Intelligence*. I continue using this term in my new book, “*A Greater Reality*”. Since 2013, my understanding of the term the Contact Modalities and my hypothesis on the question, “What is Consciousness”, has undergone a profound evolution which is now being presented in my new books, *The Mind of GOD* and *A Greater Reality*.

be viewed and researched as one integrated phenomenon under the rubric of consciousness.

The term “**Contact Modalities**” is defined as “*all of the diverse ways that humans are ‘piercing the veil’ of our physical reality and having perceived contact with consciousness-based Higher Forms of Intelligence*”. Examples of the Contact Modalities are as follows: Near-Death Experiences (NDEs), Out of Body Experiences (OBEs), Astral Travel Experiences (ATE), which are very different from OBEs, Conscious Aerial Phenomena (CAP-UFOs), (commonly called UFOs), contact experiences with perceived deceased humans (commonly called Ghosts or Spirits), contact experiences via Hallucinogenic Journeys (via entheogens such as DMT, Psilocybin, LSD, etc.), contact experiences via Remote Viewing or other forms of clairvoyance, contact experiences via Channeling or Mediumship, contact via the many forms of Post Death Communications, contact experiences via Lucid Dreams, contact via perceived Poltergeists experiences or spiritual attachments, and many other types of “paranormal” contact experiences with tens of thousands of diverse forms of Non-Human Intelligence.

The CCRI Ph.D. academics, researchers and medical doctors also hold the view that “**Consciousness is Primary and that our physical world is a manifestation of Consciousness and not our physical reality**”. This hypothesis was articulated and defined in Volumes One and Two of the *A Greater Reality* book series and in my book *The Mind of GOD*.

I want to clarify my use of the term UFOs or Unidentified Flying Objects. This is not a very appropriate term for this phenomenon. First of all, these perceived physical objects do not “fly”. Secondly, even

though these objects are perceived as “physical”, the Dr. Edgar Mitchell FREE UFO Experiencer Research Study confirmed that these perceived “UFO crafts” might not necessarily be physical objects. This is also the hypothesis by the fathers of modern Ufology, Dr. J. Allen Hynek (in the later years of his life), Dr. Jacque Vallee, and numerous other Ufologists such as John Keel, Raymond Fowler, Dr. Leo Sprinkle, Dr. John Mack, Brad Steiger, and numerous Ph.D. academics such as Dr. Jon Klimo, Dr. Edgar Mitchell, Dr. Rudy Schild, Dr. Kenneth Ring, Dr. Jeffrey Mishlove, Dr. Jeffrey Kripal, Dr. Joseph Burkes, Dr. Michael Grosso, Dr. John Alexander, Dr. Edith Fiore, Dr. Peter Sturrock, Dr. Glen Rein, Dr. Raul Valverde, Dr. Massimo Teodorani, Coast to Coast radio show host George Knapp, and many others.

Instead, all of viewing a UFO as a physical flying craft with a separate physical planet, operated by physical “beings” or “ETs”, the majority of these scientists, Ph.D. academics, medical doctors, researchers and I hypothesize that UFOs and UFO intelligence, might not be a physical “craft” operated by an “alien being” from a physical planet. Instead, the hypothesis held by the majority of the authors in *A Greater Reality*, and all of the previously mentioned individuals, is that ALL of the Contact Modalities might be ONE integrated phenomenon under Consciousness and that the perceived CAP-UFO might be a consciousness-based phenomenon involving both a perceived physical and a psychic (consciousness-based) component. This hypothesis is articulated further in Volumes 1 and 2 of the *A Greater Reality* book series and in my book *The Mind of GOD*.

The findings of the “**Dr. Edgar Mitchell FREE Foundation UFO Contact Experiencer Research Study**” were published in 2018 in our historic 820-page academic book titled *Beyond UFOs: The Science of Consciousness and Contact with Non-Human Intelligence*. This book demonstrated that a small percentage of the 4,350 participants from more than 125 countries, who participated in our 3 surveys, saw a physical “flying saucer”.⁵ The overwhelming majority saw thousands of different “light or energy configurations” which were not perceived as a physical flying craft.

More recently, US military intelligence has used the term UAP, or Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon, instead of the term UFO. While UAP is a better term, this term also ignores the consciousness-based aspects of the phenomenon. I argue throughout this 4 volume book series, similar to the numerous UFO researchers and Ph.D. academics previously cited, that the UAP/UFO phenomenon is a consciousness-based phenomenon. Thus, instead of the term UAP or UFO, terms that do not define nor explain the phenomenon as one that is consciousness-based, my preferred term is **CAP or Consciousness Aerial Phenomenon**. This term is much more explanatory of the true nature of the phenomenon. Throughout my writings, I have used the term **CAP-UFO (Consciousness Aerial Phenomenon)** to signify what is commonly called the UFO Phenomenon. In my book, *The Mind of GOD*, I detailed my arguments for the use of this new term CAP-UFO instead of the term UFO or UAP.

⁵Hernandez, R., R. Schild & J. Klimo, eds. (2018). *Beyond UFOs: The Science of Consciousness and Contact with Non-Human Intelligence*. Create Space Independent Publishing (Amazon Press).

In 2019, the Dr. Edgar Mitchell FREE Foundation was replaced by the **Consciousness and Contact Research Institute**, or **CCRI**. The 25 members of CCRI include academics in the fields of Astrophysics, Philosophy, Psychiatry, Psychology, Neuroscience, Sociology, Quantum Biology, Information Sciences, Theology, and Parapsychology. The five co-authors of our 5-volume books of *A Greater Reality* are as follows: **Dr. Rudy Schild**, who is a retired Harvard University Astrophysicist, **Dr. Jeffrey Long**, a Medical Doctor and noted NDE researcher, **Dr. Michael Grosso**, a retired professor of Philosophy, who has authored many books on Consciousness and the “Paranormal”, **Dr. Jon Klimo**, a retired professor of Psychology for more than 45 years who has also authored countless books and articles on the topics of Consciousness and the “Paranormal”, **Dr. Joseph Burkes**, a retired Medical Doctor and longtime UFO Experiencer, researcher and author, and yours truly, **Reinerio (Rey) Hernandez**, a now retired US federal attorney, an ex-Ph.D. Candidate at the University of California at Berkeley and researcher on the relationship between Consciousness and the Contact Modalities.⁶

The academics and medical doctors of CCRI argue that "Mind" and Consciousness are fundamental, non-local, and that matter, energy, and information are ultimately grounded in “One Mind” and Consciousness. For a materialist, these are not easy concepts to grasp but these concepts have been articulated by numerous Nobel Prize winners in Physics, Nobel Prize winners in Medicine and Physiology, and Ph.D. academics in the fields of physics, astrophysics, biochemistry, engineering, and Ph.D. academics in almost all of the social sciences.

⁶Please refer to the CCRI website where you can read more about the many authors in our book. Our website is: **AGreaterReality.Com**

These concepts are not “woo woo” science but concepts that have been articulated by various Nobel Prize winning Ph.D. physicists such as Max Plank (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1918); Erwin Schrödinger (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1933); Niels Bohr (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1922); Werner Heisenberg (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1932), Eugene Wigner (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1963); Charles H. Townes (Nobel Prize in physics, 1964), and other physics pioneers such as Sir James Jeans, Sir Arthur Eddington, and David Bohm. All of these geniuses spoke about the topic of Consciousness, our ONE Mind. The Consciousness writings of each of these noted pioneers of modern physics are discussed in my book, *The Mind of GOD: A Spiritual-Virtual Reality Model of Consciousness & the Contact Modalities*.

The *A Greater Reality* book series introduces the post-materialist hypothesis that “Consciousness is Primary” -- the philosophical position that the only thing that exists is consciousness and that our physical reality is derived from consciousness.⁷ This is the philosophical hypothesis held by almost all of the authors in our 2-volume theoretical books, Volumes 1 and 2, in our *A Greater Reality* book series. Volume One of our book series also includes numerous academic articles discussing the topic “**Is Consciousness Primary?**”

We also hypothesize that all of the Contact Modalities are interrelated via a manipulation of spacetime, involving a spiritual and virtual reality and by definition might be multidimensional in nature.⁸

⁷Schwartz, S., M. Woollacott & G. Schwartz, eds. (2020). *Is Consciousness Primary? Perspectives from Founding Members of the Academy for the Advancement of Postmaterialist Sciences*, Vol 1. AAPS Press.

⁸The terms multidimensional and interdimensional will be defined and discussed throughout our 6-volume book of *A Greater Reality*.

We argue that there is a range of states of consciousness, the Contact Modalities, where we, as individuated units of human consciousness, can access both non-physical and physical realms, where we interact with perceived Non-Human Intelligence via our ordinary senses within this "Greater Reality". Clear examples of this include the well documented Near-Death Experience and Out of Body phenomenon. Numerous theories might explain this greater reality but our book argues that we are living inside a "Spiritual-Virtual Reality" as detailed in the 6 volumes of our book.

I presented a model of our "Spiritual-Virtual Reality" in my book "*The Mind of GOD*". I argued that our perceived physical experiences, via our 5 senses, are actually "Maya", an illusion where things appear to be physical but are not what they seem to be. This concept of "Maya", an illusion, was defined and detailed in Volume One of our books, *A Greater Reality*, in the section titled "*Is Consciousness Primary-- A Brief History of Idealism*". Why is our material reality an illusion? The answer is that our true reality, and our personal individuated unit of consciousness, are part of a larger living system inside a "Greater Reality"-- part of a larger consciousness system which I have coined "*The Mind of GOD*". For all of these reasons, we assert that the Contact Modalities need to be studied as **ONE PHENOMENON**-- as manifestations of a single greater source of mind and consciousness. For further clarification on these complex topics, please refer to Volume One of the *A Greater Reality* book series and to my separate book titled *The Mind of GOD*.