



**Tiokasin Ghosthorse and Ilarion Mercurieff: Indigenous Consciousness:  
Divergent Cosmology and De-Mythologizing**



**Tiokasin Ghosthorse** is a member of the Cheyenne River Lakota Nation of South Dakota and has a long history with indigenous activism and advocacy. **Ilarion** (Larry Mercurieff) was raised in a traditional Unangan (Aleut) way and is living the legacy of his Unangan name Kuuyux, which means an arm extending out from the body, a carrier of ancient knowledge into modern times, a messenger. Find out about divergent cosmologies of indigenous people, and how differences in languages are about relationships and the stages of human beings, and the encoding of experience in stories.

**TOP EMBODIMENT TIP:** Words do not suffice to carry the meaning of culture and tradition

**Divergent Cosmology: Each Indigenous People has Creation Stories.**

- There are different ways of growing up with the land, and languages that define who they are as a culture.
- In different locations, it is understood that there are different ways to see the stars.
- There are different ways to understand the weather and how animals moved in it.
- The differences in our languages include everything and are about relationships.
- Our creation stories are about the stages of a human being and are used as a relationship.
- We listen to the encoding of experience in the stories.

**Names:**

- **Certain names are not used because they were given by former oppressors.**
- For the 200 tribes in Alaska, their name for themselves means the real human being.
- His name, given once in a lifetime, means bridge between cultures and carrier of ancient wisdom to modern times.

**Mentors and Children: The Job of Children is to Watch and Learn.**

- Mentor; create space for the child to learn, not to tell him or her what or how to learn.
- Young children are easily injured or traumatized when they are criticized or scolded.
- Children are treated as the same spirit as adults and not less than them.

**Struggle to Retain the Culture:**

- The people made efforts to retain the culture **against the throes of western civilization**, boarding schools, intrusions into the land and hunting, and losing their language.

**Native People as Keystone Species: We have forgotten how the Earth is listening to us.**

- The Earth is sending us a message through the pandemic, slowing us down and helping us heal.

**Resources:**

- ❖ **Websites:** [Wisdom Weavers of the World](#); [First Voices Indigenous Radio](#); [Global Centre for Indigenous Leadership and Lifeways](#)



## **Tiokasin Ghosthorse**





## Ilarion Merculieff





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The initiative was founded by Nicoleta Carpineanu (aka Nico de Transilvania), a Romanian, UK-based DJ/Producer who grew up in the forests of Transylvania. We began our first key project in Romania in April 2019 and in our first year planted over 25,000 trees. We reforest land that has been clear-cut, where natural reforestation would not occur. We only plant native, biodiverse species, grown locally and cared for until maturity in legally protected areas, adjacent to existing natural forests. Our aim is to plant one million trees in the Carpathians and beyond by 2025.

**OUR MISSION** is to preserve our forests and the people and wildlife they nurture, and to promote connection with nature through music, art, and culture.