SURREXI

"I have Risen"



This Entire Crest represents the Great Work of the human being undergoing the Transformation of ordinary Consciousness into Illuminated or Divine Consciousness. Multiplicity is being reconciled into Unity.

The composition is strongly Polarized: Gold and Silver Dragons, Sun and Moon, Masculine and Feminine Principles, Terrestrial Castle and Celestial Emblems. And everything converges upon the Central Shield.

The Hermetic principle: **"As Above, So Below; As Within, So Without."**

The upper portion is Celestial and Spiritual; the lower portion is terrestrial and embodied. The Shield occupies the middle world—the Human Consciousness in which the two are reconciled.

The Sun — Divine Intelligence and the Higher Self

In Hermetic and Alchemical Symbolism, the Golden Sun on the upper left is much more than the physical Sun. **Sol** represents Illumination, Spiritual Consciousness, Divine Intelligence, Gold, the Active Principle, and Ultimately the Perfected State sought through the Great Work (*Magnum Opus*), the ancient Alchemical process of creating the Philosopher's Stone to achieve Spiritual and Material Perfection.. Its human face is significant; it suggests **Consciousness Within nature**, the Divine Presence—the Spiritual Center within the Individual.

Sun → Gold → Illumination → Spiritual Perfection → Divine Self

The Moon with the Feminine Face — the receptive Divine Principle

The Moon—**Luna**—traditionally complements Sol. Luna represents the Receptive Principle: Intuition, Imagination, Subconscious Awareness, Reflection, Psychic Perception, and the Feminine Dimension of Consciousness. She **receives and reflects** Sunlight**;** she does not generate it. The purified human Mind becomes like Luna: sufficiently still and receptive that it can Reflect the Light of the Higher Consciousness. Sol and Luna together therefore symbolize a Sacred Polarity:

Will and Wisdom

Reason and Intuition

Spirit and Soul

Active and Receptive

Masculine and Feminine

Their Union produces the Alchemical *coniunctio* — the Sacred Marriage of opposites.

The Six-Pointed Star — Union of Above and Below

Beside Luna is the Hexagram, it represents the interpenetration of two triangles. One points upward: **Humanity aspiring toward Divinity.** The other points downward: **Divinity descending into manifestation.** Together they produce Equilibrium. A geometric rendering of: ***"As Above, So Below."*** The upward triangle can symbolize Fire and the downward triangle Water. Their interpenetration represents the reconciliation of opposing elements.

The Two Dragons — Primordial Forces brought into Equilibrium

The most powerful **Polarized Forces of Nature.** They represent something dangerous when unconscious — but extraordinarily Powerful when Mastered. A Master Consciously learns to Purify and Correctly Direct them. The Golden Dragon belongs naturally to the Solar Principle: Fire, Activity, Expansion, Vitality, Will and Spiritual Force. The Silver Dragon belongs naturally to the Lunar Principle: Receptivity, Contraction, Intuition, Hidden Knowledge and the Mysterious depths of Consciousness. The Dragons are standing **Guardians** of the **Mind**.

Passion becomes Aspiration

Desire becomes Will

Instinct becomes Intuition

Raw Psychic Energy becomes Spiritual Power

The Helmet — the Disciplined Mind

At the Center, immediately above the shield, is the Armored Helmet. Armor represents **Protection and Disciplined Consciousness**. An Individual entering the Mysteries cannot remain Mentally passive. Discernment becomes armor. This is significant because the helmet stands between the earthly castle below and the Celestial Lion above. Symbolically, the **Mind is the intermediary**. An undisciplined Mind becomes a servant of appearances. A Disciplined Mind becomes an Instrument of Spirit.

The Crowned Golden Lion — Spiritual Sovereignty

Standing in the center above everything, the Lion has enormous significance in both Alchemy and Esoteric Symbolism. It represents the Vital Solar Life Force, Courage, Sovereignty, Strength and Awakened Spiritual Will. Because this Lion occupies the Summit of the Central Axis, it represents the Consciousness that has attained **Self-Mastery**. Not Mastery over other people, but Mastery over oneself. The True King is the Individual who has established Sovereignty over his Own Mental, Emotional and Instinctive Nature. The Lion Crowns the Completed Hierarchy:

Body → Soul → Mind → Spirit → Divine Sovereignty

The White Cross and Red Rose — Transformation through Incarnation

The most explicitly Esoteric Symbol in the Entire Composition. The **Cross and Rose** naturally evokes Rosicrucian symbolism. The Cross represents the Four Elements, the Material world, Incarnation, Limitation, the Four Directions and the Intersection of Spirit with Matter. The Rose at its Center introduces something extraordinary **— Spiritual Consciousness flowering within material existence.** One must not escape physical existence, rather, **The Rose must bloom upon the Cross.** Spirit Awakens within incarnation. The Red Rose adds further associations: Life, Divine Love, Awakened Consciousness, Sacrifice and the Unfolding Spiritual Center. Placed at the intersection of the Cross, it is interpreted as the **Heart Center** — the place where Vertical Spirit and Horizontal Manifestation meet.

The White Cross — Purified Consciousness

The Cross represents Consciousness entering and expressing itself through the manifested world. Its Four arms extend in the Four directions, suggesting the Four elements, the Four quarters of Creation, and the complete field of earthly existence. The vertical axis reaches **Above and Below**, while the horizontal axis extends **within the world of manifestation**, understood as the meeting place of **Spirit and Matter**.

The **Color White** traditionally signifies **Purity, Illumination, Innocence, Truth, and the Absence of Corruption**. Esoterically, however, this purity need not mean moral perfection in the ordinary sense. It signifies that Consciousness has been **Cleansed of the distortions produced by Ignorance, Attachment, Fear, and Identification with the lower nature**, a process of **Transmutation**.

What was once Unconscious becomes Conscious

What was Divided becomes Unified

What was Turbulent becomes Still

What was identified with the Personality becomes identified with the Higher Self

The Cross remains because the Individual is still incarnate — but it has become **White** because Consciousness has passed through the process of Purification, until it is capable of reflecting the **Divine Light**.

The Rose upon the White Cross is especially important. The White Cross represents **Purified Consciousness**. The Red Rose represents **Consciousness Awakened through Divine Love**. The Rose does not replace the Cross. It **Blooms upon it**. That creates a beautiful Esoteric progression — **The Cross is the field of experience**

Purification is the Transformation of Experience

The Rose is the Awakened Consciousness that emerges from that Transformation — the completion of the ***Magnum Opus***: the raw material has undergone Transformation until something of a **Higher Order** emerges.

The Castle — the Temple of the Self

The Castle dominates the Central Shield. This is an interpretation of the **Inner Temple**, the Perfected personality, or the fortified Sanctuary of Consciousness. Being behind a bridge protects it so that not everyone simply wanders inside. Mystery traditions repeatedly use Temples, Sanctuaries, Mountains, Chambers and Enclosed Gardens as symbols of **Degrees of Consciousness inaccessible to the unprepared Mind**. The Castle is representative of the Inner Sanctuary. The road or bridge leading toward its entrance becomes **the Path of Initiation**. The Seeker begins outside. The destination lies Within.

The Open Gateway — Initiation

The dark gateway in the Castle is especially interesting. The Individual must enter darkness before reaching Greater Light. This appears repeatedly in Initiatory Traditions and Alchemy. Alchemy describes the early transformative stage as **Nigredo**, the blackening — the dissolution of previous structures. Symbolically, one enters the unknown. Thus, the doorway represents the threshold between ordinary Consciousness and the Mysteries. The Individual standing metaphorically before it has a choice: Remain outside in familiar appearances — or Enter.

The Central Point and its Circle — the One within the Many

At the bottom Center is perhaps the most Philosophically Hermetic symbol: the Golden Circle containing a Central Point, the ancient **Circumpunct**: ⊙ It is simultaneously the Astronomical/Alchemical sign of the Sun and a profound metaphysical diagram. The Point represents the **ONE**. The Circumference represents manifestation proceeding from that ONE.

Everything on the Circumference appears separate, yet every Point exists in relation to the same Center. Esoterically: **God is the Center everywhere and the Circumference nowhere.** The symbol represents the Divine Presence within the Individual — the Spiritual Center from which Consciousness radiates.

The Seven Stars — the Sevenfold Path

Surrounding the Central Solar symbol are **Seven Stars**. Seven is one of the great numbers of Western Esotericism. It immediately evokes the Seven classical planetary powers: **Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.** These correspond in various Occult systems to levels or functions of Consciousness, Metals, Virtues, Transformational Stages and Cosmic Principles. Seven also appears repeatedly in sacred traditions: Seven days, Seven planetary spheres, Seven notes, Seven traditional metals, and numerous Sevenfold Initiatory systems. Placed around the Central Sun, the Stars suggest that **the many planetary Powers revolve around One Spiritual Center**. The One expresses Itself through the Seven. And the Seven Ultimately Return to the One.

The Laurel Branches — Victory over the Lower Nature

The branches surrounding the composition resemble laurel which signifies Victory. In an initiatory context the Victory is Internal. The Seekers's greatest adversary is Ultimately Ignorance — particularly Ignorance of One's Own Nature. The Laurel becomes the reward of **Self-Conquest**. This complements the Lion perfectly because the Lion represents Sovereignty and the Laurel represents Victory. Together: **He who Conquers Himself becomes King of Himself.**

The Antique Golden Frame — Sacred Enclosure

The Frame actually strengthens the symbolism. Gold is the Alchemical metal of **Sol** and represents Perfected Consciousness. The border functions like the boundary of a **Sacred Mandala**. Everything within it becomes an ordered symbolic Universe. Psychologically and Esoterically, a Mandala organizes apparent opposites around a Center. And that is precisely what this composition does. All arranged around the **Central Axis**.

Sun / Moon

Gold / Silver

Male / Female

Two Dragons

Heaven / Earth

Spirit / Matter

The Blue Banners — Esoterically, Blue traditionally lends itself to ideas of Heaven, Wisdom, Truth, Contemplation, Fidelity and Spiritual Depth. More importantly artistically, it

repeats the Blue Mantling surrounding the Helmet and the Blue of the Central Shield. The banners visually connect the **Latin Phrase SURREXI and the mottoes with the Central Spiritual Structure** rather than appearing as separate parchment ribbons.

***Fortiter et Fideliter* — "Bravely and Faithfully"** or **"With Courage and Fidelity."** Esoterically this describes two qualities required of the aspirant.

Fortiter — Strength Sufficient to continue the Work.

Fideliter — Fidelity to Truth once Perceived.

One is Will. The other is Faithfulness.

***Deus Omnipotens Est* — "God is Almighty."**
Placed beneath the imagery, this establishes the Metaphysical Hierarchy. Human Will Exists — but beneath Divine Will. Human Consciousness Exists — but Within Universal Consciousness. The Individual acquires Power not by making the personality Supreme, but by bringing personal Consciousness into Alignment with the Divine Principle.

The Hidden Vertical Axis

The most interesting thing becomes apparent when the center of the image is read **from bottom to top**.

SURREXI
↓
The Solar Point within the Seven Stars
↓
The Bridge/Path
↓
The Castle
↓
The Rose Cross
↓
The Helmet
↓
The Crowned Golden Lion

This creates what is called an **Initiatory Ladder**. The Incarnated Individual begins below. He discovers the Divine Center. He walks the Path. He approaches the Temple. The Rose blossoms upon the Cross of material existence. The Mind becomes Disciplined. Finally, the Lion — the Sovereign Spiritual Consciousness — is Enthroned Above. And surrounding that Entire Ascent are Sol and Luna, the two great polarities whose reconciliation is necessary for completion of the Work.

To reduce the Entire Crest to **one Hermetic statement**, it would be:

The Divine Spark enters the world of duality,
passes through the trials of material existence,
reconciles the Solar and Lunar Forces Within Itself,
Awakens the Rose upon the Cross,
Enters the Inner Temple, and through Knowledge,
Purification and Self-Mastery
Realizes its identity with the ONE from which it came.

It is a **symbolic map of the Great Work** — ***Magnum Opus*** — with the Individual standing between Heaven and Earth and the Divine Center Hidden Within.

The main objective of this symbolic map of the Great Work is to exalt the Latin word — **SURREXI —** it comes from *surgere* — the first-person singular perfect: **"I Arose / I have Risen."**

It signifies the Spiritual Attainment and Awakening of Consciousness from Spiritual Sleep, the Resurrection of the Higher Self from identification with the material personality, Emergence from darkness into Illumination, and the Completion of an Initiatory Transformation.

It also fits the vertical symbolism of the Crest beautifully: the path leads toward the Castle, the Rose blooms upon the Cross, and above it stands the Solar Lion. In that context, ***SURREXI*** becomes the declaration of the Individual who has Completed the Ascent:

I Entered in darkness

I Sought the Light

I Knew the Self

SURREXI — "*I have Risen*"



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"God Alone Exists

God Alone is Reality"