

# Now West, Kaspar Hauser

A touchstone for Humanity

**Dr. Eckart Böhmer**

Director of the Kaspar Hauser Festival, Ansbach

**Glen Williamson**

Actor and Playwriter

**Richard Steel**

Director of the Karl König Archives

Paloma Hall  
Camphill Communities California  
4096 Fairway Drive, Soquel

Sponsored by  
**Camphill Communities California**  
and  
**Santa Cruz/Monterey Bay Branch of the**  
**Anthroposophical Society in America**  
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**\$40 for the weekend**  
**\$15 per lecture or performance**  
**Meals: \$15**  
**Scholarships are available for those with need**



*Artist Else Wolf*

**September 30 to October 2, 2016**

Kaspar Hauser's story of childhood incarceration and recovery has inspired many thousands in the attempt to unravel the mystery of his life and his death. Why is Kaspar Hauser's story so compelling? Why does he continually prod at our conscience?

Here in America it appears that we have lost the middle; we cannot so easily count on a basic common ground of human understanding from one to another. What has happened to the humanist founding ideals of this country?

Kaspar Hauser's childhood was cut short very early in his life by imprisonment in a darkened cell. When he was released about twelve years later his childlike soul had become amplified. It radiated perfect trust and innocence. In a very short time he became a touchstone for the best of humanity, a living example of purity, sensitivity and gentleness. As such he became a wonder and was named the Child of Europe.

So many themes come up: How are we educating our young? What is the result of over institutionalization? What is a healthy government? What has happened to the social ideals of liberty, equality and brotherhood, the rallying cries of the French Revolution, which had its roots in the founding of America? Kaspar Hauser's mission was to have been to carry forward this humanism in the southern German state of Baden-Wurtemberg, balancing the militaristic tendencies of Prussia in the north and opening the way to a peaceful Europe that would have upheld the humanity of all.

Europe and America are bound to one another like twins, both dark and light. We hope to offer a soul/spiritual counter balance to these troubling times with a Michaelmas festival of insight and exploration of these themes.

### **Friday, September 30, 2016**

4:00: *Opening with introduction.  
Forming a community of participants  
Followed by soup and bread*

7:00: **"The Foundling Prince"** a play written and performed  
by Glen Williamson

### **Saturday, October 1, 2016**

9:00: *Singing*

9:15: **"The Child of Europe"**  
Eckart Böhmer

10:30: *Break*

11:00: *Small group conversation and artistic work*

12:30: *Lunch*

2:00: *Dramatic Soul Gestures – activity with Glen Williamson*

3:00: *Short break*

3:15: *Singing*

3:30: **"Where did he come from?"**  
Eckart Böhmer

5:00: *Small group conversations to take in the lecture*

5:45: *Supper*

7:00: **".....and from the night Kaspar"** a dramatic reading of a play written by Carlo Pietzner

### **Sunday, October 2**

9:30: *Singing*

9:45: **"The Protection of the Future Human Being"**  
Eckart Böhmer

11:00: *Short break*

11:15: *Looking to the Future together*