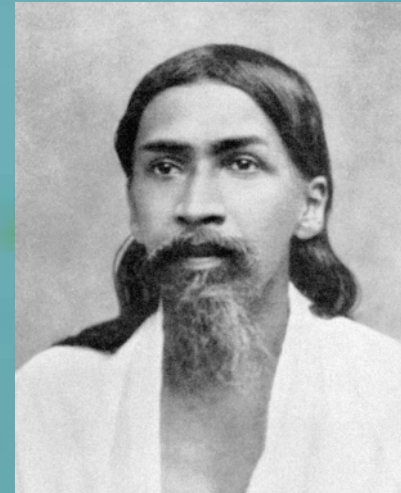
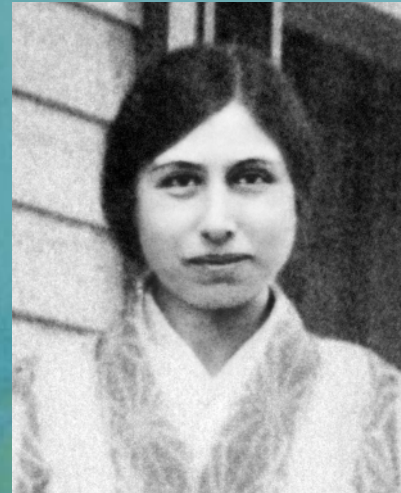


SRI AUROBINDO & THE MOTHER



The Advent of a New World

EXHIBITION



SRI AUROBINDO
&
THE MOTHER



THE ADVENT
OF A NEW WORLD



EVOLUTION

MAN IS A TRANSITIONAL BEING

Man is a transitional being, he is not final;
for in him and high beyond him
ascend the radiant degrees which climb
to a divine supermanhood.



Evolution is not finished; reason is not
the last word nor the reasoning animal
the supreme figure of Nature.

As man emerged out of the animal,
so out of man the superman emerges.

Sri Aurobindo



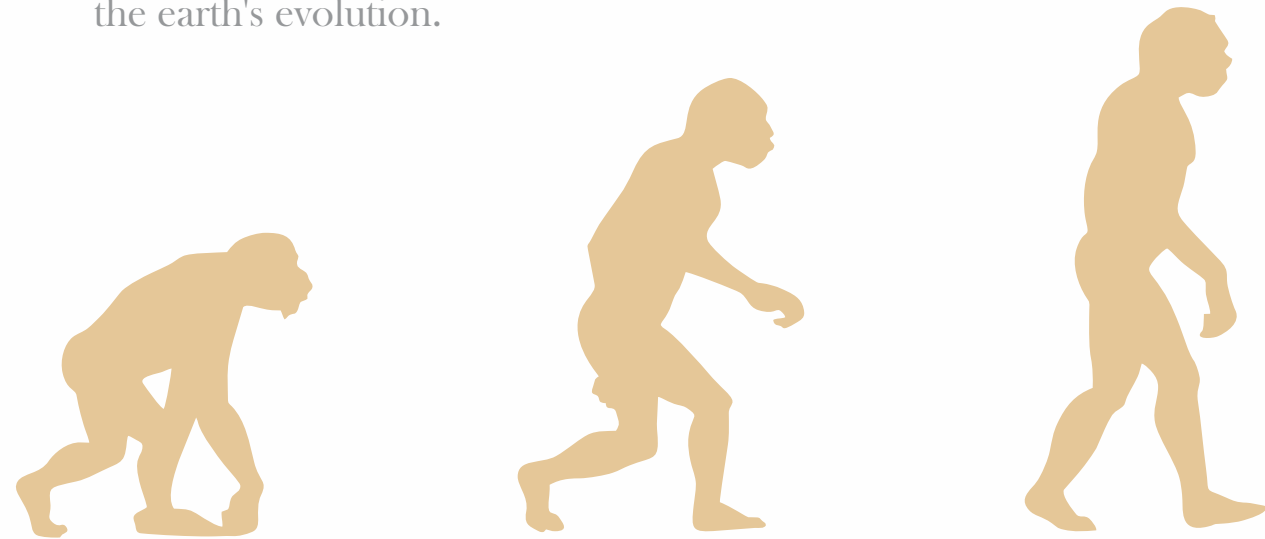
THE LIFE DIVINE

The earliest preoccupation of man in his awakened thoughts and, as it seems, his inevitable and ultimate preoccupation, — for it survives the longest periods of scepticism and returns after every banishment, — is also the highest which his thought can envisage. It manifests itself in the divination of Godhead, the impulse towards perfection, the search after pure Truth and unmixed Bliss, the sense of a secret immortality. The ancient dawns of human knowledge have left us their witness to this constant aspiration; today we see a humanity satiated but not satisfied by victorious analysis of the externalities of Nature preparing to return to its primeval longings. The earliest formula of Wisdom promises to be its last, — God, Light, Freedom, Immortality. *Sri Aurobindo*

FROM MAN

The animal is a living laboratory in which Nature has, it is said, worked out man. Man himself may well be a thinking and living laboratory in whom and with whose conscious co-operation she wills to work out the superman, the god.

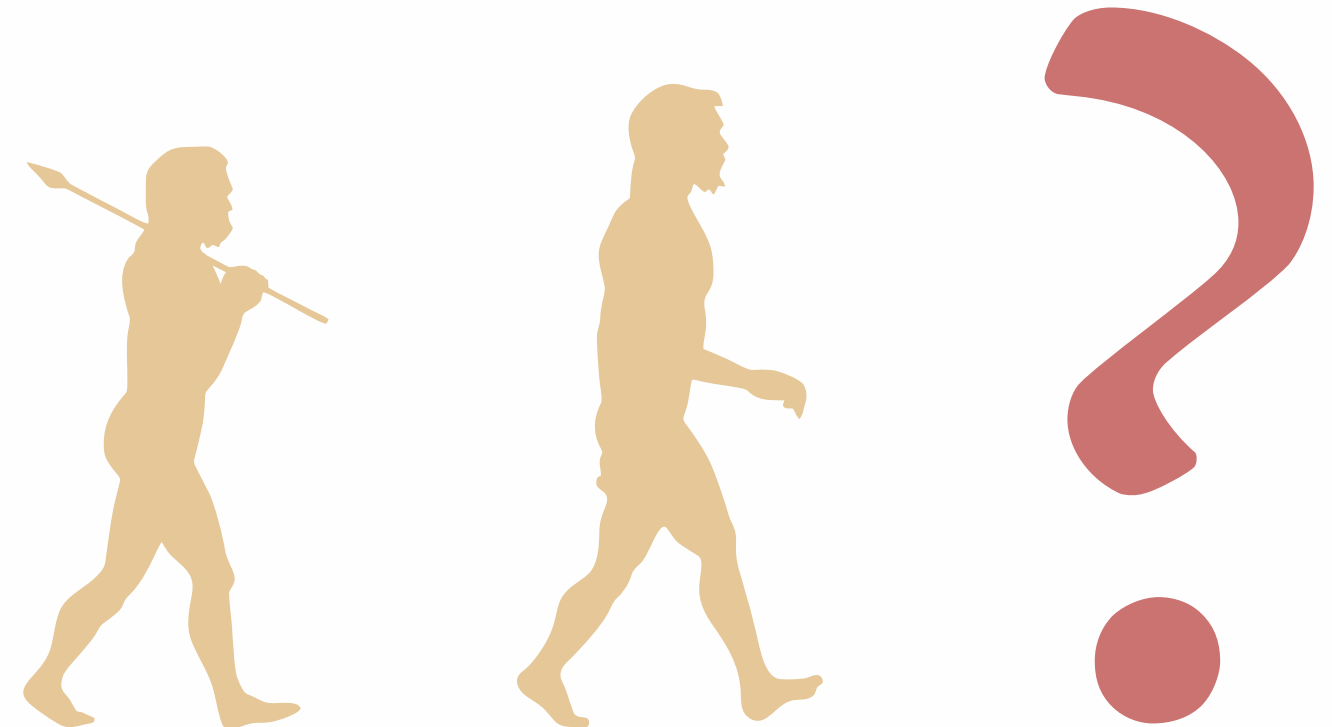
The step from man towards superman is the next approaching achievement in the earth's evolution.

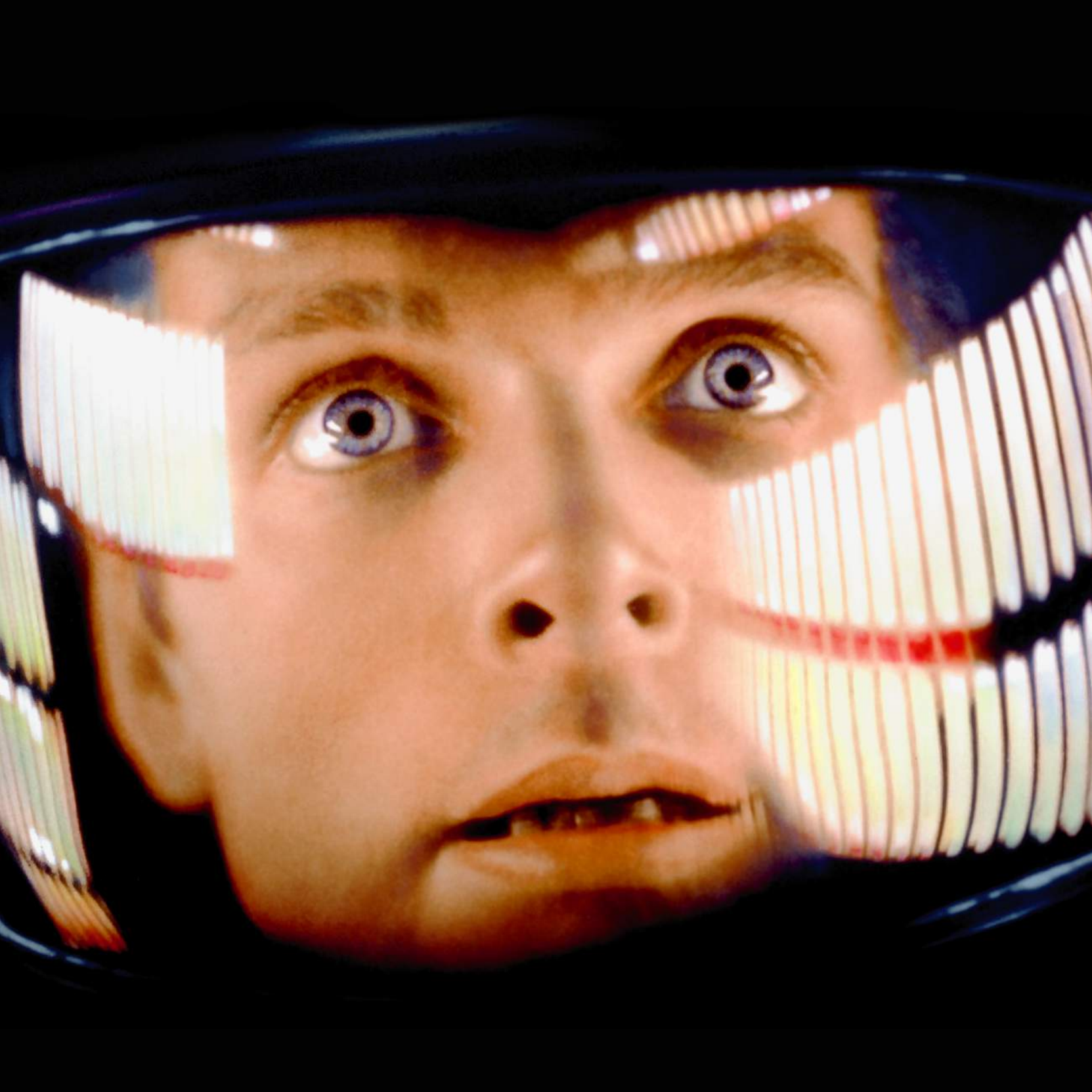


TO SUPERMAN

There lies our destiny and the liberating key to our aspiring, but troubled and limited human existence — inevitable because it is at once the intention of the inner Spirit and the logic of Nature's process.

Sri Aurobindo





CONTEMPORARY CRISIS

At present mankind is undergoing an evolutionary crisis in which is concealed a choice of its destiny; for a stage has been reached in which the human mind has achieved in certain directions an enormous development while in others it stands arrested and bewildered and can no longer find its way...



A life of unity, mutuality and harmony born of a deeper and wider truth of our being is the only truth of life that can successfully replace the imperfect mental constructions of the past... It is such a change and such a reshaping of life for which humanity is blindly beginning to seek, now more and more with a sense that its very existence depends upon finding the way.

At first sight this insistence on a radical change of nature might seem to put off all the hope of humanity to a distant evolutionary future... But what is demanded by this change is not something altogether distant, alien to our existence and radically impossible; for what has to be developed is there in our being and not something outside it... *Sri Aurobindo*





TOWARDS HUMAN UNITY

A spiritual religion of humanity is the hope of the future. By this is not meant what is ordinarily called a universal religion, a system, a thing of creed and intellectual belief and dogma and outward rite... A religion of humanity means the growing realisation that there is a secret Spirit, a divine Reality, in which we are all one, that humanity is its highest present vehicle on earth, that the human race and the human being are the means by which it will progressively reveal itself here. It implies a growing attempt to live out this knowledge and bring about a kingdom of this divine Spirit upon earth.

Sri Anuband

THE HEAVENS WITHIN

The heavens beyond are great and wonderful, but greater and more wonderful are the heavens within you. It is these Edens that await the divine worker.



I become what I see in myself.
All that thought suggests to me, I can do;
all that thought reveals in me, I can become.
This should be man's unshakable faith in himself,
because God dwells in him.

Sri Anuband





THE KEY OF PERFECT CHANGE

Or we may find when all the rest has failed
Hid in ourselves the key of perfect change.



In the depths, at the centre, at the summit of the being,
there is a Supreme Truth of being, an Eternal Light, independent
of all the circumstances of birth, country, environment, education;
That is the origin, cause and master of our spiritual development;
it is That which gives a permanent direction to our lives;
it is That which determines our destinies...



ONENESS

The bliss of a myriad myriads who are one.



*All this is Brahman immortal, naught else;
Brahman is in front of us, Brahman behind us,
to the south of us and to the north of us
and below us and above us; it stretches everywhere.
All this is Brahman alone, all this magnificent universe.*

Upanishad





REVOLUTION OF THE ATOMS

I was very little when I was told that everything was “atoms”. They said, “You see this table? You think it’s a table — it’s solid and it’s wood — but it’s only atoms moving around.” I remember the first time I heard that, it caused a kind of revolution in my head, coupled with a feeling of the complete unreality of all appearances. All at once, I said, “But if it’s like that, then nothing is true!”



SPIRIT & MATTER

Sri Aurobindo and The Mother are the story of a new relationship between Spirit and Matter, the discovery of a third fact that modifies both Spirit and Matter, and opens the door to a new species on earth. (Satprem)



One can say that it is when the circle is truly completed and the two opposites are joined, when the highest manifests in the most physical, the supreme Reality in the heart of the atom, that the experience will reach its true conclusion. It seems that one never really understands unless one understands with one's body.





THE SECRET LIES IN MATTER

The supreme height touches the most material matter.



All the splendours one can experience by going up,
by getting out, by leaving are nothing!

They're nothing; they don't have that concrete reality; they
seem vague compared to **HERE**.

That is truly why the world has been created.

It's in terrestrial matter, on earth,
that the Supreme becomes perfect.

THE ABSOLUTE IS EVERYWHERE

The Absolute is everywhere...

Every finite is an infinite...



In every particle, atom, molecule, cell of Matter,
there lives hidden and works unknown
all the omniscience of the Eternal
and all the omnipotence of the Infinite.





THE PATH OF YOGA

*The Mother made this drawing to explain
to a child the meaning of Yoga.*

*Man is at the bottom, the Divine at the top.
The wavy line is the path of the ordinary life,
the straight line the path of Yoga.*





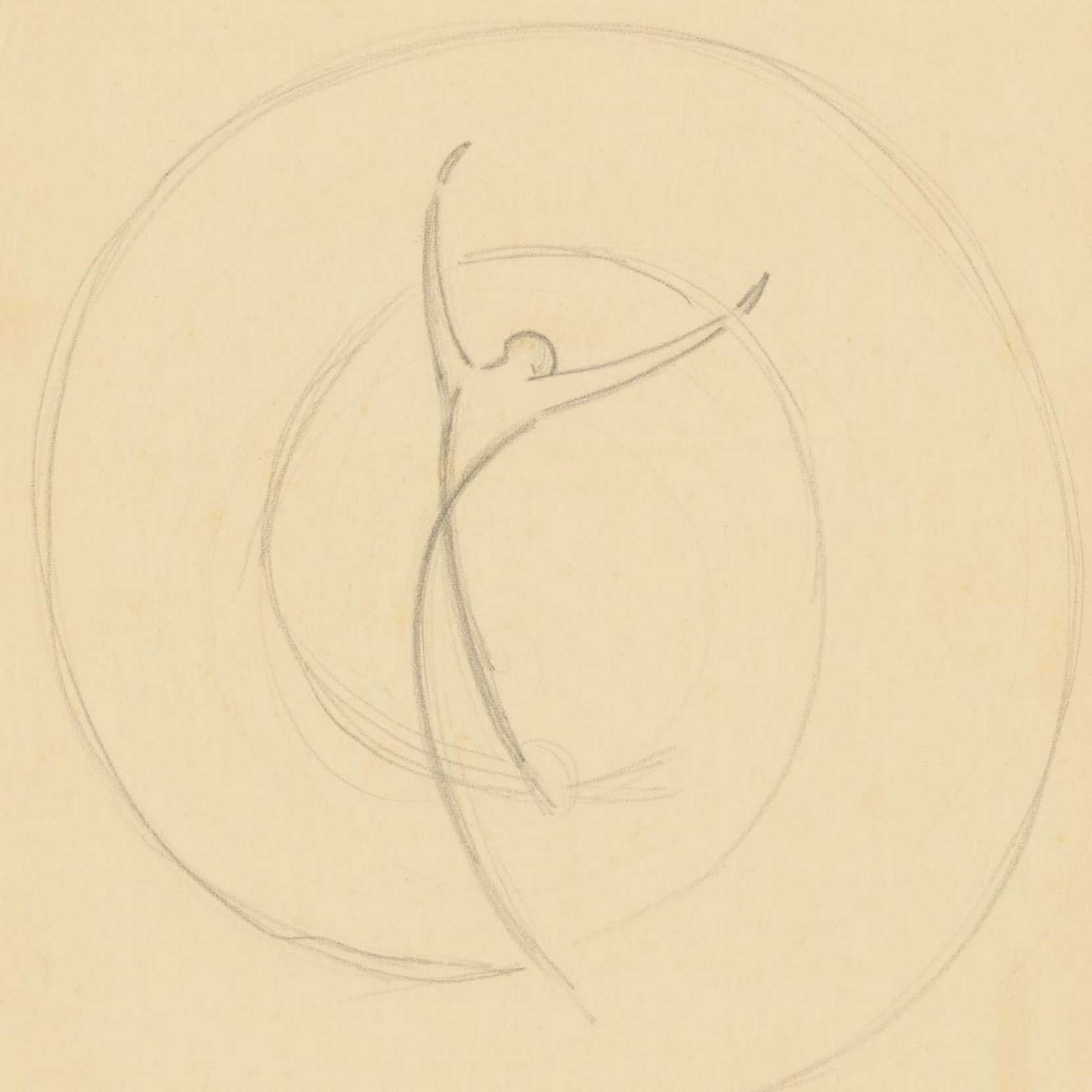
SUPRAMENTAL

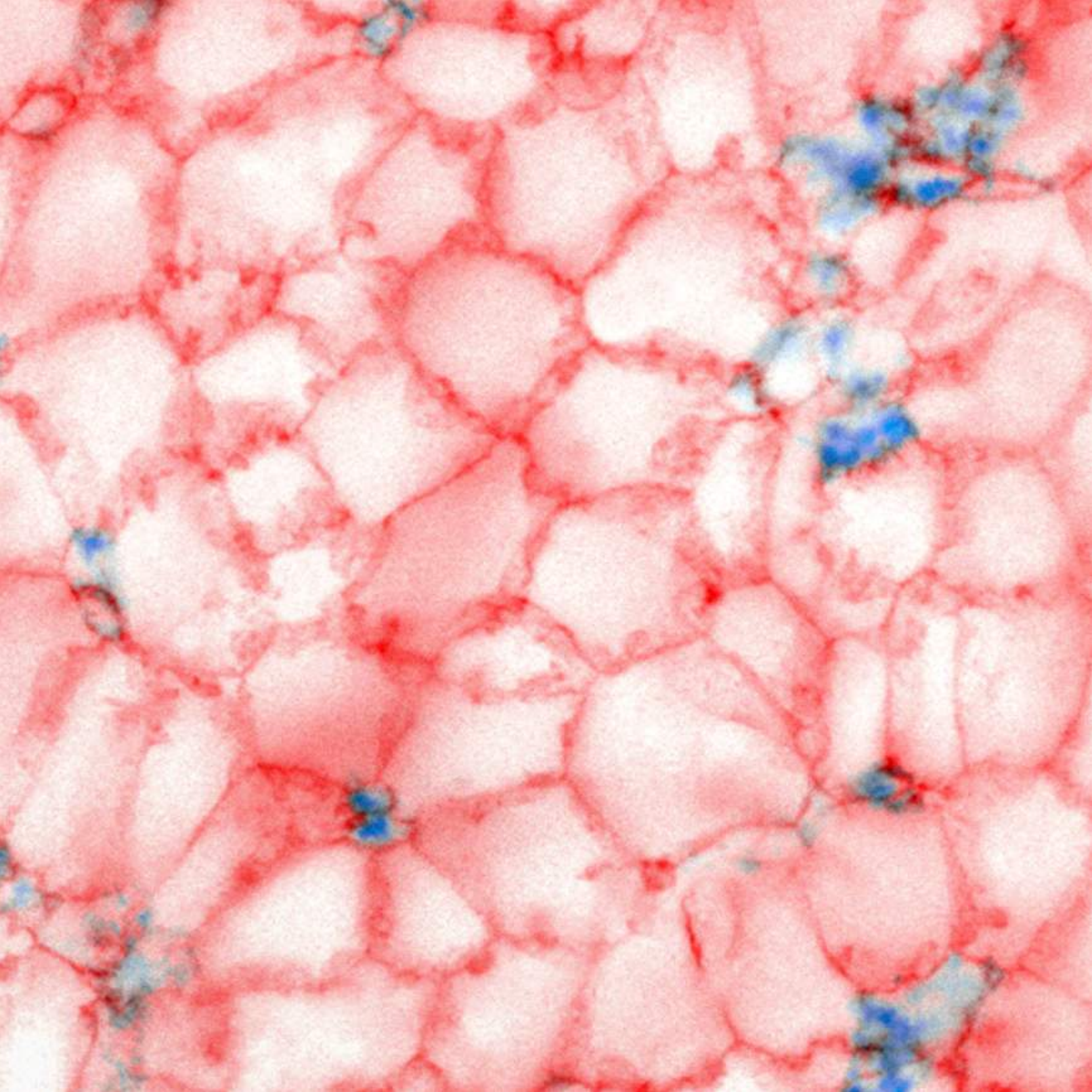
Sri Aurobindo and the Mother are not only the explorers of consciousness, They are the builders of a new world. After exploring the outermost frontiers of worlds not unknown to ancient wisdom, they discovered another world, as yet unmapped, which they called Supramental, and which they sought to pull down upon earth. For the Supramental brings a decisive change in the evolution of the earth-consciousness — in fact, it is the change of consciousness that will have the power to transform our material world, and to do so as thoroughly and lastingly as, and hopefully better than, the Mind did when it first appeared in Matter. Their Yoga, the Integral yoga, leads to a supramental yoga, or yoga of terrestrial transformation.

ALL LIFE IS YOGA

In the spiritual tradition
the body has been regarded as an obstacle,
incapable of spiritualisation or transmutation
and a heavy weight holding the soul
to earthly nature and preventing its ascent
either to spiritual fulfilment in the Supreme
or to the dissolution
of its individual being in the Supreme. But...
If a total transformation of the being is our aim,
a transformation of the body must be
an indispensable part of it;
without that no full divine life on earth is possible.

Sri Anuband

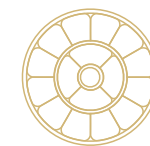




MOTHER'S WORK ON HER BODY

The work consists, I could say, in either removing
or transforming all the body's cells
that are or have been under the influence of Falsehood,
of the state contrary to the Divine.

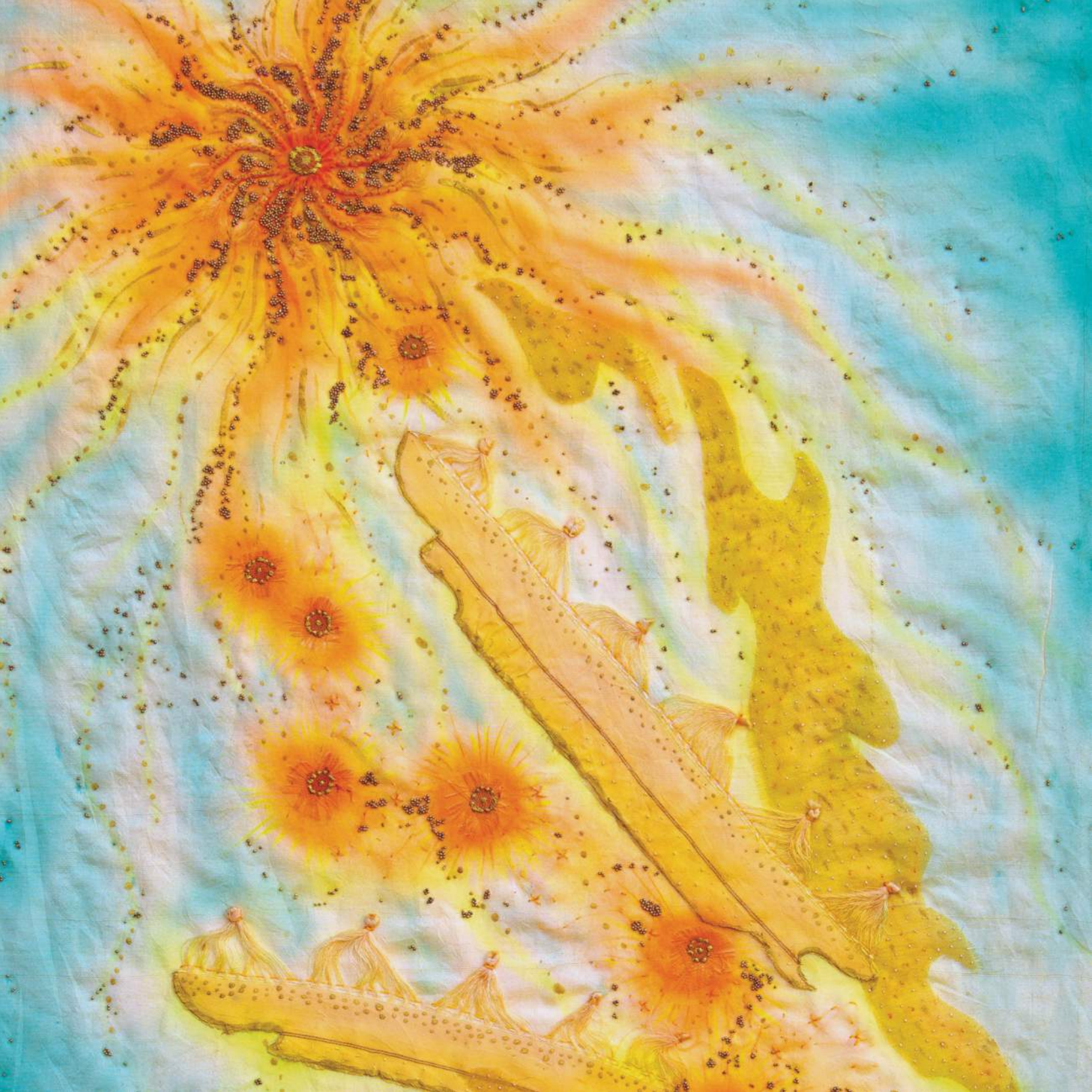
But since probably a radical purge or transformation
would have resulted in nothing but the body's dissolution,
the work goes on in stages, progressively.



FIRST SUPRAMENTAL MANIFESTATION

This evening the Divine Presence, concrete and material, was there present amongst you. I had a form of living gold, bigger than the universe, and I was facing a huge and massive golden door which separated the world from the Divine. As I looked at the door, I knew and willed, in a single movement of consciousness, that **THE TIME HAS COME**, and lifting with both hands a mighty golden hammer I struck one blow, one single blow on the door and the door was shattered to pieces. Then the supramental Light and Force and Consciousness rushed down upon earth in an uninterrupted flow. 29 February 1956



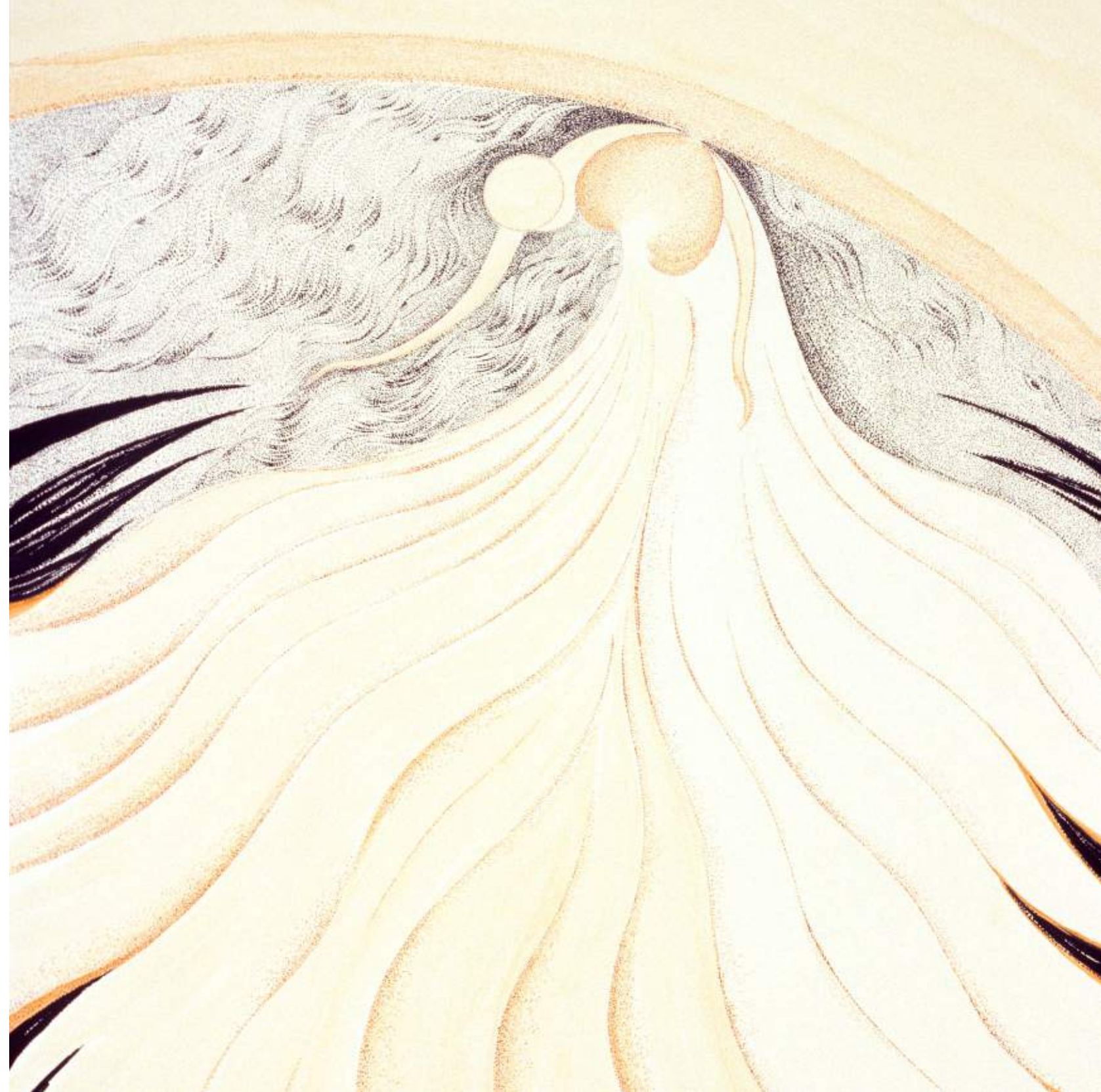


SUPRAMENTAL LIFE

I was on a huge boat which was a symbolic representation of the place where people who are destined for the supramental life are trained. The boat itself was made of a supramental substance. The light was a mixture of gold and red, forming a uniform substance of a luminous orange. The atmosphere was full of joy, calm, order; everything went on regularly and in silence. On the boat the nature of objects was not the one we know on earth; for instance, clothes were not made of cloth and what looked like cloth was not manufactured: it formed a part of the body, it was made of the same substance which took different forms. Life created its own forms.



At the very bottom of the hardest,
most rigid, narrowest
and most asphyxiating unconsciousness,
I struck upon an Almighty Spring
that cast me up forthwith
into a formless, limitless Vast
vibrating with the seeds of a New World.





A NEW WORLD IS BORN

This could be a continuation with an improvement, a widening of the old world as it was but what has happened, the really new thing, is that a new world is born, born, born. It is not the old one transforming itself, it is a new world which is born. And we are right in the midst of this period of transition where the two are entangled — where the other still persists all-powerful and entirely dominating the ordinary consciousness, but where the new one is quietly slipping in, still very modest, unnoticed — unnoticed to the extent that outwardly it doesn't disturb anything very much, for the time being, and that in the consciousness of most people it is even altogether imperceptible. And yet it is working, growing — until it is strong enough to assert itself visibly.





A DIVINE FORCE

A divine force shall flow through tissue and cell
And take the charge of breath and speech and act

And all the thoughts shall be a glow of suns

And every feeling a celestial thrill...

A sudden bliss shall run through every limb

And Nature with a mightier Presence fill.

Thus shall the earth open to divinity

And common natures feel the wide uplift,

Illumine common acts with the Spirit's ray

And meet the deity in common things.

Nature shall live to manifest secret God,

The Spirit shall take up the human play,

This earthly life become the life divine.

Sri Aurobindo

THE WORK IS DONE

It was the formidable pulsations of the eternal,
stupendous Love, only Love.

Each pulsation of the Love
was carrying the universe further in its manifestation.

This was going on and on and on and on...

The heavens are ringing with chants of Victory.

And the certitude that what is to be done is **DONE**
and the supramental Manifestation **IS REALIZED...**



You see, it's not as if this world of Truth

had to be created from scratch!

It is all ready, it is here, like a lining of our own.

Everything is here, **EVERYTHING** is here...

Just a little click would be enough...





THE SUN-EYED CHILDREN

I saw them cross the twilight of an age,
The sun-eyed children of a marvellous dawn...
The massive barrier-breakers of the world...
The architects of immortality.
Into the fallen human sphere they came,
Faces that wore the Immortal's glory still,
Voices that communed still with the thoughts of God,
Bodies made beautiful by the Spirit's light,
Carrying the magic word, the mystic fire,
Carrying the Dionysian cup of joy

Sri Aurobindo

THE WORK IS DONE



It was the formidable pulsation of the universe, only Love
Each pulsation of the love that expands the universe further
in its manifestation. This is the eternal and on and on...
The heavens are filled with the triumph of Victory
And the certitude that the work done is DONE
and the supramental truth that IS REALIZED...

You see, it's not as if this world had to be created from scratch!
It is all ready - it is here, like a gift that is your own. Everything is here.
EVERYTHING is here and a single tick would be enough.

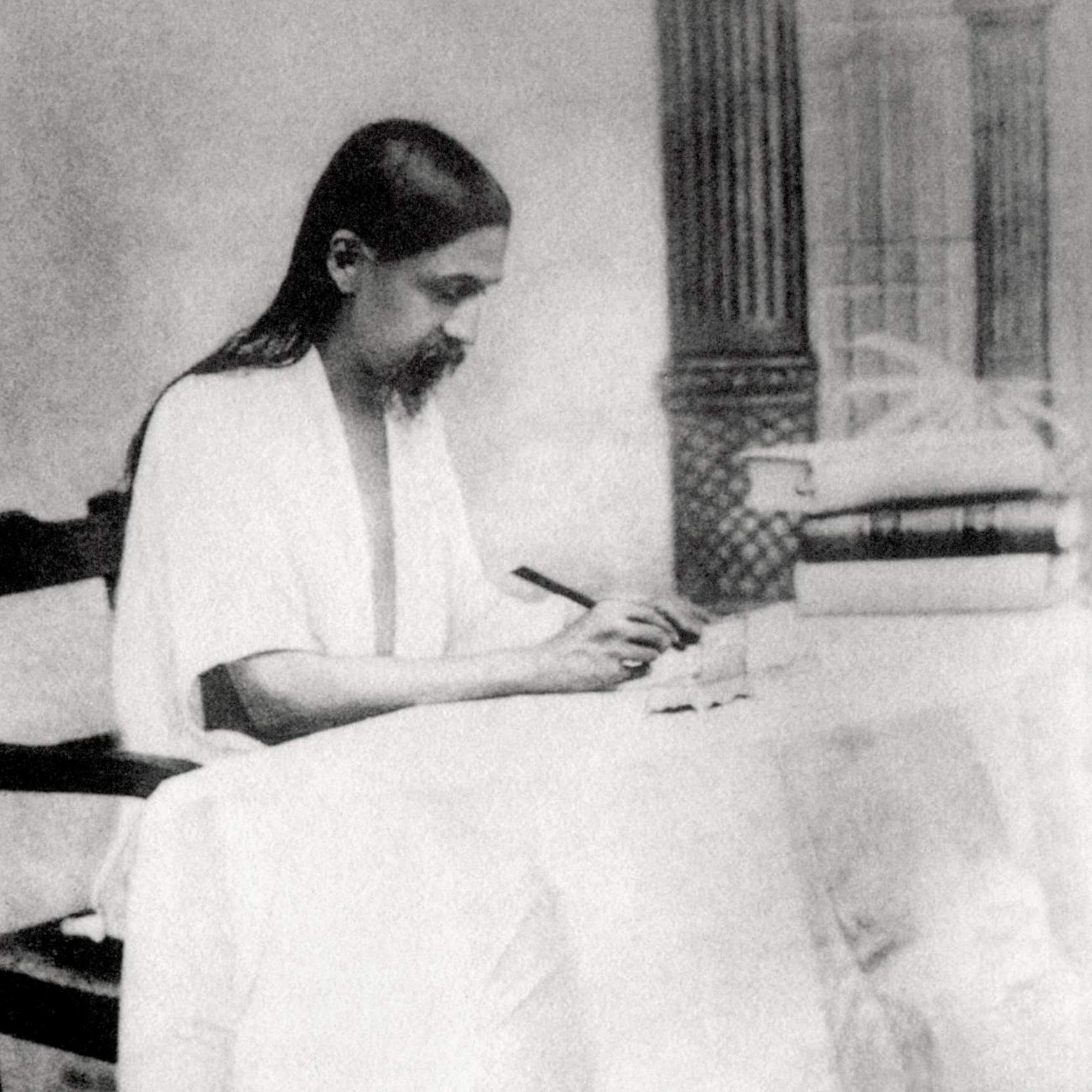


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What Sri Aurobindo
represents in the world's
history is not a teaching,
not even a revelation;
it is a decisive action
direct from the Supreme.



MOTHER AND I ARE ONE BUT IN TWO BODIES

Born in Calcutta in 1872, SRI AUROBINDO had a thorough Western education in England. At the age of 20 he came back to India and soon became the first Indian leader to publicly call for India's independence from the British Empire. In 1908 he was jailed on sedition charges and narrowly escaped the gallows. During his one year long imprisonment, Sri Aurobindo had major spiritual realizations. Later, following a divine order, he left Bengal and came to Pondicherry. He withdrew from active politics and for 40 years he devoted his energies to developing what came to be known as the “integral yoga” ; a yoga that aims at embodying the next principle of consciousness beyond mental man : the supramental. Sri Aurobindo left his body in 1950.

WITHOUT HIM, I EXIST NOT,
WITHOUT ME HE IS UNMANIFEST

THE MOTHER, Sri Aurobindo's companion, was born in Paris in 1878 in a very materialistic family. As a child, she had spontaneous experiences of the past and the future. In 1914, she visited Pondicherry for the first time, met Sri Aurobindo who had sought refuge there, and recognized in him the figure in her childhood visions. She returned permanently to India in 1920 and soon took charge of the ashram that was growing up around Sri Aurobindo. Eight years after his passing in 1950, she withdrew to her room to concentrate on the work he had given her: transforming the cells of the body by opening them to the Divine Force. In 1968 she founded Auroville and gave it its Charter. She left her body in 1973.





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Janina Stroka's Paintings courtesy of The Studio Art Gallerie, Pondicherry

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A divine force shall flow through tissue and cell
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A sudden bliss shall run through every limb
And Nature with a mightier Presence fill.
Thus shall the earth open to divinity
And common natures feel the wide uplift,
Illumine common acts with the Spirit's ray
And meet the deity in common things.
Nature shall live to manifest secret God,
The Spirit shall take up the human play,
This earthly life become the life divine.

