

# Vernal Equinox

## Koan Retreat

with Joan Sutherland, Roshi

March 9 – 11, 2012

Mountain Cloud Zen Center  
Santa Fe, New Mexico



almost nothing you think about koans. This retreat includes meditation, dharma talks, and conversations in which we explore koans together. The days also include dream work, outdoor walking meditation, and free time for writing, drawing, and other creative activity.

Friday, March 9: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Saturday, March 10 : 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sunday, March 11 : 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Full-time participation is strongly encouraged**

**Registration form attached.**

### *Location & Accommodations:*

Mountain Cloud Zen Center is a beautiful, rustic retreat center on the outskirts of Santa Fe. Participants may commute to the retreat or register to stay in the small cabins on the property, each of which accommodates several people; spaces for tent camping are also available. There's lots of open land to walk around in. Simple breakfast will be available in the kitchen, and a vegetarian lunch is provided on Saturday and Sunday; we'll do our best to accommodate special diets if you let us know in advance.

7241 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87505

[www.mountaincloud.org](http://www.mountaincloud.org)

### PROGRAM

Join us for an intensive and lively exploration of the koan way. Koans are field notes in a thousand-year long experiment in the transformation of consciousness that began in the Zen traditions of East Asia and continues here today. They are sayings, questions, and stories that help open us to genuine intimacy with life.

Something startling and beautiful happens when people work with koans as a group; the juxtaposition of different questions and insights begins to create a field richer than any individual heart-mind could make. Some experience with meditation will be helpful, but

Joan Sutherland's work centers on the Zen koan tradition as a source of creativity and awakening in peoples' lives today. She is a widely-published author and translator, working on new translations of the major Chinese koan collections. She teaches through Awakened Life, the center of the Open Source network of communities.



  
**awakenedlife**  
*Joan Sutherland*

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Retreat registration March 9 - 11, 2012

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Lodging arrangements for out-of-towners

Making my own  Camping at Mountain Cloud (no fee)  
 Mountain Cloud cabin (shared, \$20/night)

## Emergency Contact during the retreat

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Special Needs

I have food or other allergies: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I have physical limitations that will affect my participation: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment

\$240 ~ Pay online **here** or make checks out to Awakened Life, paying in full in advance or making a non-refundable deposit of \$50. If you need financial assistance, please **let us know**.

Full payment: \$240 \_\_\_\_\_  
Deposit: \$85 \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodging @ \$20/night \_\_\_\_\_  
Scholarship fund donation\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\*Your optional tax-deductible contribution enables us to welcome all participants who want to attend

Awakened Life P.O. Box 2368 Santa Fe, NM 87504 505 983 4505 mail@awakenedlife.org  
[www.awakenedlife.org](http://www.awakenedlife.org)

## RETREAT INFORMATION

Bring simple, comfortable clothing comfortable for sitting on meditation cushions. You're welcome to take notes during the sessions and to write or draw during the breaks. Meditation cushions are provided, but bring any special ones you need; chairs are also available. A retreat can be a demanding experience. If you have physical limitations or psychological concerns, please let us know.

The weather is likely to be variable, with wind and rain possible. If you're staying at the center, bring a sleeping bag or single bedding, towel, flashlight, alarm clock, and seasonal outerwear; consider slip-on shoes and earplugs.

Please leave strong scents and noisy electronics at home.