

# Skullstories

7 years

of

# Manus Skulls

volume I



## **About Ivo Manus and this book**

Ivo Manus lives and works in The Netherlands. After an education as an art teacher, he among others gained life experience as a teacher in special education, merchant in antiques, spiritual medium and director of a spiritual education center.

All this life experience has converged in the skull carver that Ivo is since 7 years. In those years he has carved more than 1500 (!) skulls, each of them totally unique. The great majority of these skulls have in the meantime found a guardian, which has led to an enthusiastic skull community around Ivo.

Ivo has asked this skull community to share their experiences with the Manus Skulls. What do all these people see in their Manus Skull, what does the relationship with their skull offer them? And what is this phenomenon called Skull Consciousness, how does it reveal itself? For the first time, the guardians speak out. The result is a kaleidoscope of experiences, with one common denominator: an intense love for the Skull and a deep gratitude for the path of growth that the guardian may walk together with the Skull.

If anything comes forward from the book, it is that each Manus Skull is a unique power house which exactly offers what each guardian needs - which is not necessarily the same as he asked for...

Robbert Bloemendaal

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*'Skullstories'*

*7 years of Manus Skulls*

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“ Finally I found my goal .....”

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## **Better than I know it myself** by Robbert Bloemendaal.

*An interview with Ivo Manus, skull carver – on his life, his skulls and this book.*

*What kind of book is this and why has it been written? What does this book mark?*

October 2010 I made my first skull, which is now exactly 7 years ago. Up till now my working life has seen a sequence of 7 year periods. I have been a teacher, merchant in antiques, spiritual medium, director of a spiritual education center... every time for 7 years, after which I started to pursue other activities. 'Up till now', because this time after 7 years as a skull carver, I am not nearly finished. This book marks the end... of the beginning! Because what I do now, making skulls, is infinite. And as it seems, also its effect is infinite, which you may discover in the experiences in this book.

*So many beautiful stories in which skull keepers share the experiences they have with your skulls, what do these stories mean to you?*

As a medium, I have tried for 7 years to help other people, until my physical health prevented me from continuing. When I read these stories, I notice that I still do exactly the same work, be it now through the skulls. To me this is the best way of being of help, which I think is wonderful. To me this is fitting, because by working through the skulls the responsibility for the growth of these people is not mine anymore. The people themselves feel attracted to a skull and subsequently start to work with it. This is much more valuable to them: their own contribution is pivotal in the success of the insight, the lesson it gives, the support it provides. I don't believe anymore in a teacher-student relationship. It is not needed: apparently my skulls are very capable to go their own way and connect with the right person.

*You have carved more than 1500 skulls in the last 7 years, an impressive amount! The great majority of them has found a keeper, but some skulls you keep for yourself. Which one of those personal skulls is most special to you? Can you tell me what part this skull plays in your life?*

The skull that will accompany me the rest of my life and ultimately will be cremated together with me, is 'Buktun The First'. This is my skull no. 19, made from White Selenite. When it was conceived, the first 18 skulls were still with me and since then he has seen all new skulls pass by. During the years Buktun has become ever more translucent, he crystallizes. He will always be present in my room filled with skulls, he is my source. Among all my sculptures Buktun is 'My Work', I would not part from him for a million dollars. This makes me not only the carver, but also a member of this skull community.

*How do you hope the stories in this book will be of value to the readers? What message do you want to convey?*

I hope that for every reader there is at least one story that touches, inspires him or her. I hope that people will better understand the essence of crystal skull

consciousness. I cannot explain what this consciousness IS. But together we can testify of what the crystal skull consciousness DOES in our lives. And by doing so, we can contribute to the unraveling of this mystery.

*Can you tell me what crystal skull consciousness does in relation to your skull Buktun?*

Buktun connects in love. He connects in love with that which we have been studying and hopefully approaching throughout our whole life: the source of love, of being in love, of inner wealth. This immense sphere of love you will not find outside of you, but within you. You find the truth in yourself, by gaining insight in what you are. Every day, Buktun helps me to look into myself this way. The book is filled to the rim with first hand examples like this. With very intimate experiences from people who wonder about how this consciousness works for them. This way, the book clarifies matters for me too: 'gosh, so this is how skull consciousness reveals itself'. The book explains this better than I can do that, even better than I know it myself! Which makes it a great gift from the cosmos and for me a splendid stimulus for the 7 years to come.

## My Manus Skulls.

As a child, I used to walk the river bank near my home each day, looking for “magical stones” that I was absolutely sure existed. I started collecting crystals for personal healing, and that moved on to collecting and working with carved skulls. However it was after moving to the country a few years ago that the “stone consciousness” starting shouting at me to take notice, and that this differed somehow from the Crystal Skull Consciousness and the Crystal Skull Conclave workings. Then somehow I met my first carvings from Laurens Ivo Manus, online from his shop in The Netherlands. I had seen nothing to compare to his work in all my years of working with the crystal skulls up to that time. The stones were alive! Somehow Ivo was able to tap into the elemental energy of the stone and bring that magic out in the carving, releasing it into the world as a consciousness in skull form. I had the honour of being the first person in the UK (\*) to care-take a Manus skull, I am told. Now of course I have a large Manus skull family collected over the years. This has enabled me to see family lines, tribes, in the carving styles, and I love to see this and sometimes even “recognise” the origins of a new skull carving. It has also resulted in some of my earlier Manus skulls being reunited with special carvings, either from the same time zone and style, or as their “kids” in lineage.

Another aspect of Ivo’s work I find unique, is to see a “full being” in a skull shape. These are the ones carved that you can see full animal totem form in the shape of a skull, and can see the haunches, spine etc. These are most magical ones to work with indeed. Over the years I have been amazed to see the new carvings evolve. The “Ivolians”, who are reminiscent of the Ancient Mongolian Skulls, but totally in Ivo’s unique style. Then one Christmas I decided to gift Ivo with a small Preseli Bluestone skull and a lump of rough rock. Well, Ivo carved the Preseli Bluestone into an amazing skull form, a great feat in itself as this a very hard stone to carve indeed. However, “the rest is history” as they say, and now I have my very own clan of special Preseli Bluestone skulls carved by Ivo, as do many others! Ivo has somehow tapped into the very essence and history of the Preseli Bluestones and this is manifest in the quality of his carvings, which are unsurpassed anywhere.



One of the most amazing things I have seen is when Ivo carves symbols on his stones. This is a most powerful thing to do indeed. I have many skull themed dreams with messages in, and in fact this is how I have “first met” some of the new skulls... I have since had several dreams from my Preseli Bluestone skull carved with a Labyrinth on the crown, and a spiral carved on each side, that these skulls carved with the symbols will endure just as the petroglyphs endure in our landscape throughout history... and in this respect these skulls will endure and are very important in the earth healing work they do. The symbol carved into the stone seems to empower the skull, and I have found there is nothing compares to this in energy work. The spiral eyes for instance carry timeless energies and are just incredible.

Ivo also carves DRAGONS!!! His dragons are the most amazing forms I have ever seen, and in truth it took me a while to work out how the energy stream flows in these as many are really complicated in form. I had been wishing a long time for a Preseli Bluestone dragon carving. I kept missing them, so popular were they. Anyway I was told the time was right... and even had a visit from one of the dragon skull beings at that time to show me the form it would take. (I am blessed to sometimes meet Ivo’s skull muses in dreams). So then the dragon appeared for sale, and with the Tree of Life carved underneath and the features I had been shown. This was massive for me in my skull family at that time. Not in size, the dragon was very portable although Ivo does carve some HUGE beauties too. Anyway, the first day this dragon was here, all I kept being told was to ask Ivo to carve me a Bluestone Labyrinth!! (Ivo carves these as pendants and rounds as well as skulls). So ok, I did decide to ask him about this, and of course there would be no hurry... Well it turned out that the stone the dragon was carved from, was split into two... and a twin had been carved already... with a Labyrinth on top and two spirals... and yes, of course, they had to be reunited! And so it was.



My other notable Preseli Bluestones have a lemniscate, infinity symbol carved underneath, and my largest Preseli has a stunning large Celtic Knot form carved around the back of the skull.



The eye carvings are totally unique too, being very varied in the carving styles. The teeth are incredible and no one else can carve teeth like he does. Another of the Manus skulls that came to me via a dream was a Star Light carving. The Star Lights and the Friendly Aliens are important skull lineages in the years of carving. The stone is Red Jasper with unknown veins of green... and these can come alive seeming to pulse with life and energy. The notable thing for me is that Manus skulls always seem to offer what one needs. They are most helpful and supportive when one is going through difficult situations, and they stand with us when needed and make sure we get through those trying times in our lives. Others work on earth healing and this is incredible to see. I take my skulls to the local Peace Labyrinth and out into the countryside when I can and they love that, to go out. Really they are part of the family and just like to be, family.

Sandra Manus makes Orgonite skulls from Ivo's carvings and these too are most wonderful. Having names of Gods and Goddesses, mine is named for the local water goddess Coventina, and it was a personal triumph for me to be able to take this skull to the original site of Coventina's Well, which is near here. A day to remember.

So, these days, I go out to the country parks and the river, and I meet stones that look like Manus Skulls, complete with faces on. These, like to meet with my skulls and we take them around the sites with us, then always put them back to continue their stone workings in the landscape, after all the stones are all guardians, no matter their size. I am proud to be one of many who care-take and love the Manus Skulls.

Judith Coulson. (United Kingdom)

(\*) Note from Ivo: Outside the Netherlands!



Just a very small part of the Manus Skulls family that live here and have lived here.

## Loua and my father

October 2015, I attended the workshop by Ivo Manus. It was interesting to feel the energy and get into contact with all skulls that were present. I chose 'Loua'. Talked with Ivo... what does he symbolize? "When I look at him, I see an Indonesian father" - I immediately also was reminded of my father. "He makes a connection with your ancestors" ... and so on... His words touched me and during the hug with Ivo I felt an overwhelming energy coming over me. It was an energy, a feeling that I had lacked for so long. It moved me, and Ivo represented this energy at that moment.

The feeling stayed with me the next day... until all of a sudden I felt a cold wind gush over me. 'Wow, what is this...?' I thought about my father... I decided that I would make a phone call to Indonesia the next day. But that night I received a message from my brother: "daddy has passed away." No!! It is more than 24 hours of travel to get over there, he would have been buried by then (this has to happen as soon as possible, due to the climate). All kinds of thoughts went through my head and I regretted to live so far away. I did not leave, had a very hard time about that.

I held Loua, and only then I understood the meaning of the events of the past days. It was an omen, a prior notice... my father had been with me energetically to say goodbye. The energy I felt during the embrace with Ivo was the love energy of a father for his daughter...

Physically I could not be present at his funeral, but indeed I was there, through Loua. I became aware of death, the transition to another dimension, of the transience of the physical body. Everything, no matter what had happened between us on the level of personality, fell away! I also became aware that we had played roles in order to find an answer to many life questions. I thanked him for having been willing to receive me as his daughter and, together with mother, for being a channel to be born in this world. I thanked him for everything that he has meant to me. I recognized him for what he is in his divinity. I felt a bond of Love and Unity between us and this will always be there.

We both are Love and One.

I felt a deep respect for the energy and for everything in life.

Loua takes me back to my origin, reminds me of who I am, helps me to dive into myself, helps me to come home to myself. Loua is exceptionally soft, an inner communication takes place between us, without words, a connection of feeling to feeling.

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The encounter with Loua was very special to me. Through him I now feel that I have close contact with my diseased father and I can easier get access to my information.

At the same time he confronts me with old grief. The contact with my father was never good. I missed him in my life. Contact often was laborious and a gap existed between us... this gap only became wider as I grew older and lived abroad (in The Netherlands). I would very much want to have a good bond with my father as lots of

people have. But the search for that was hard... I often wondered what he has been through in his life that has made him build an armour around himself. I had a hard time when he passed away... we have never expressed our love for each other. This relationship needed healing, that is what I felt and Loua has helped us with this. By embracing this grief, healing took place, both for him and for me. He showed me that he himself was trapped in a hidden internal pain that prevented him to give what I needed. And what he had been saying to me or did to me, in reality was not about me. It was his own hidden pain that was projected on me. I felt compassion for him and saw all events and situations beyond their appearance. This freed me, while subconsciously healing the other. There was nothing left to forgive, everything was just right as it had happened. The special feeling of compassion had opened my heart. I am grateful for this experience and wisdom... and I now very clearly feel his presence. It is heart warming to know that he is here and that he is a part of the changes in my life.

Ana Udiyanti (Netherlands)

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## Dragon Wolff Hadron

When Ivo posted this skull on Facebook I was touched immediately. You could call it love at first sight, and I immediately knew that I wanted to care take this skull.

Ivo was supposed to organize a skull workshop at our place within a fortnight, and I knew this skull would come along. That gave me the opportunity to gently prepare my wife Nicole, that I 'had to have' this skulls.

But we did not had to wait long before we could feel Hadron (so he would like to be called) physically, he already was to be felt energetically in the house already. It was just like he was preparing his new housing to his wish.

So when I met Hadron for the first time it really was overwhelming. A deep feeling of recognition, a strange way of coming home: to myself? For a moment I doubted myself. But soon Hadron made it very clear not to appreciate 'doubt'. He showed me where this 'doubt' was originated in me, than he immediately rebuked it.

It was clear that Hadron would assist me in my teaching groups of Healing Arts therapies. Every time it surprised me how intrusive, clear, gently, refined and powerful he could persuade people to be himself. Occasionally he scared people, in a sense that they experienced their own shadow or fear. Just by focussing on this fear one could really make some steps forward. Often people did not want to leave him, because they were touched by him in their heart. Feeling at home, feeling safe.....

On the other hand Hadron demands respect as well. For instance there was this group of 4 people who invited him in their midst. I had my doubts, but I just let them do whatever they thought was best. And indeed, within a few minutes someone came to me and asked: "Could it be that he does not want to stand on the ground?" Ha .... Indeed they placed him on a pedestal and all went well in the group! Hadron demands equality, no way you can deny that!

Hadron appreciate it when he is seen, his colours increase (he is carved from Labradorite) and it looks like he shows off his 'feathers'.

When Hadron calls me to work with him, I meditate, with him sitting on my belly, time for a cosmic travel. Flying along on his back, we discover new areas, explaining all I see and feel ....

Physically I can feel it in my back, my Kundalini energy is getting a boost and the information got reactivated.

Hadron works like a mirror, he reminds me of my potentials and multi-dimensionality. His field of Love is carrying, all world problems become futilities. For someone who used to make things in life worse, this was a beautiful and confronting learning process.

He is now in our living room standing on a pedestal, with a view over us.

Once I dared bring him into our sleeping room, being reset, being boost, heavily dreams and travels were the result. On one hand pretty nice, but on the other hand you do not get any rest. My wife kindly asked me to put him back on the pedestal in the living room. And so I did.

Greetings from the Heart,

André (Italy)





## Ying.

When I was thinking about writing my story, I suddenly realized that it is not an coincidence that my first Manus skull is a bird skull...

For years I worked as a volunteer in a bird centre and had the opportunity to observe all kind of birds.

For many years I love to watch birds, communicate with them and taking care of them when needed. For me personally, birds are one of the most beautiful and mysterious creatures on earth.

In 2014, when I saw a picture of a white steatite bird skull on the internet, I immediately was attracted by it. And for the next days I constantly was thinking so strong about the bird skull... I even had her picture saved on my phone to watch it frequently.

Later that week I had a skull-meeting in Rotterdam and Ivo was there too, so I promised myself when he would bring the bird skull with him, I would take the skull home with me. If not...then this skull was not meant for me.

At the meeting the next week, I entered the room and my eyes immediately caught the beautiful white steatite bird...I felt emotional and kind of relieved but very happy with the thought that this bird skull would come home with me for sure. ☺

And so it happened and as of today I am still a keeper (guardian ) of Ying.

Ying is a very determined bird skull but she has a very strong yet serene energy.

When I bring her with me outdoors I feel extra comfortable, knowing she is a guardian of my personal space.

Besides that she helps me a lot when I have to deal with issues like letting go and moving on. I take her with me, tune in with her and ask for her guidance.

Ying gives me that "little" push in the right direction when needed!

Angela (Netherlands)



## My Manus Dragon

My peridot Manus dragon is a constant companion of mine on adventures, not only because of his energy but his size, he can slip into a pocket or a bag and off we go!

I love visiting the Cliffs of Moher here in Ireland. I find it a very clearing space, where all the stuff we carry in our beings can just be blown away very easily. I went with my family to the Cliffs last October, and we walked all the way out to the end, to a place called Hag's Head. We sat there for a while and had a picnic lunch, and I took my dragon out of my pocket and set him down on the land a little way away from us. Then I began to co-create a vibrational essence with the Elementals of the Cliffs, and that was a beautiful experience. When we had finished, I packed up all my essence bottles etc., and headed over to where the dragon was sitting in the sun. As I bent down to pick him up, I received a very clear instruction to sit down with him for a few minutes. So I sat beside him and placed my hand gently on him. And I was instantly connected with a different dimensional space. There is a place called Poul nabroune, a dolman, not so very far from the Cliffs, and this Manus dragon has a strong connection with the earth dragon that lives there (discovered on an earlier trip). This other earth dragon was now also present with us in the etherics, and both dragons supported me as I watched old structures in my body dissolve, melt away as though they had never been there. I felt incredibly grounded and connected with the stellar heart of Gaia, and it was as though my body was breathing in light and air for the first time. After a minute or two of our Earth time, this stopped, but it had gone on a long time in the other space. I sat for a few more minutes to integrate before we began our walk back.

There have been several times in my life where I can say "that experience changed everything." This was one of those times. The being who walked back along the Cliffs was not the same one who had walked out there. Everything had changed. I was seeing more clearly, trusting more deeply. And that has continued in my relationship with my peridot dragon. Every time I see him he reminds me to be so very completely what I truly am. He is a rare and precious gift, and I am grateful for him every day.

Aodaoin Hathaway (Ireland)  
[www.danceswithdragons.com](http://www.danceswithdragons.com)





## Guus

So happy! Guus found me, my first Manus Skull was waiting for me last night. We have met during my earlier visit to Ivo & Sandra Manus. During that visit all his skulls observed me and after I was gone they must have discussed which mineral or skull must fit me best. Each and every one of them is fantastic, what a personalities! This first visit Ivo did not allow me to buy a skull, just wasn't the right time.

I wasn't attracted to any in particular anyway, just enjoyed the atmosphere in his skull room.

Yesterday my cousin Helma and I paid him another visit. I had to collect 'Donny', my Preseli Bluestone Wolfshead pendant, which I ordered.

Again when we entered his skull room, the atmosphere was serene and warm. There was silence, attention, eye contact, excitement .... we were observed. You can just sense it, you come into 'their' world, I wonder what they are discussing.

Now this will be the one, ... a skull .... with no teeth. Ha, who would ever have thought of that?! When I looked around I thought him looking so sad. Ivo told me to hold him, and so I did .... But I was actually looking for something else!

I did found 2 others who interests me, I both felt them and wow ..... one of them really took off! I felt my blood running through my veins!

I collected all the skulls that interests me on the table, so I could have a look at them one by one.

Only now I saw the beautiful colours of the 'sad' labradorite skull. Wow what a master piece, this wise spirit. He immediatelly gave me his name : "Guus". Can you imagine? What a name!

I would like to thank Ivo for creating this skull. Although I do feel a bit uncomfortable by taking him from his natural habitat ..... buying in a shop sure is different!

Conny de Mooij (Netherlands)



## My Manus Bird Wand "Dream" .....

I was lying in bed, closed my eyes and held my Manus Bird Wand called "Dream", made from Preseli Bluestone, in the Chakra above my Crown Chakra. Slowly his energy moved down my spine, woke up my Kundalini and travelled back to the top with it. Then the energy of Dream took my consciousness out of my body and we entered a tunnel full of light and colours. Moving on in this tunnel, I saw dimensions passing by, alternate realities, all things that have ever existed and everything that will ever exist. Suddenly I got spewed out of the tunnel and landed on a cliff of rough crystal. I looked around and saw fields of grass, where weird beings played invisible instruments. When I looked closer, I realized that I was really far back in time, when this world and the otherworlds were not cut off from each other, but still together.. I was looking at metaphysical beings, which nowadays are hard to find and if you do, you rarely mention it to anybody. But there, there they were! All those beings I saw in my shadows when I was a kid, that lived under my bed and in my hair and that gave me strength whenever I needed it ... they lived there. They didn't hide, and I understood that this was the time of Atlantis, before things got messed up. I heard the sound of wings kissing air, and suddenly, Dream landed next to me. He looked like an ancient kind of bird, having the skin of a reptile, huge feathered wings and big smiling eyes. He was around 4 meters tall and I was impressed by his beautiful appearance. Somehow he looked majestic and goofy at the same time. He asked me if I'd like to go for a ride, and of course I agreed.

Well, it's hard to describe what I saw on this journey - Terra Gaia looked a lot differently back then, and most things I've seen do not exist on earth as we perceive it anymore. But after travelling through this fantastic world for a while, Dream said " Hold on tight!", and we flew towards a mountain made of clearest crystal. I thought he'd stop somewhere, but instead he flew faster and faster towards the mountain, and when I just started to worry if we might get smashed at its' walls, we entered the aura of that mountain. Being this close now, I realized that this crystal mountain was not solid, but vibrating at super high speed. Entering its' dimension felt like flying through a curtain of pure light. Dream landed on a giant quartz crystal in the middle of a big cave. I climbed off his back and took a look around - within one second, I was on my knees, crying.

Dream had taken me to a place that I have dreamt about since I began this reincarnation, but never thought to reach it again one day; we were in the cave of the 13 Crystal Skulls. There they were, as it was told in so many legends, surrounding the big crystal we had landed upon. Everything in this cave felt holy, magical - and nothing was solid. When I concentrated on my feet, I could see and sense them, but when I didn't, they became one with the vibration of the floor. The 13 Skulls sat on crystalline pillars, at the height of my face. I felt various consciousnesses inhabiting

the Skulls, and I felt that they were talking to me.

What they have told me to pass on is: "Every caretaker of a crystal skull has visited this highly energetic cave in THIS lifetime. There are many dimensions in which you humans exist, although you might not be aware of them. Those of you that think they can't travel, come here with an astral part of their soul and maybe do not remember it. But it is not important to remember it - it's important to have been here. This is a holy place where information gets passed on, not through words but through direct download into the visitors' system. Once you have a crystal skull, you are directly connected to this cave."

After meditating for a long time on the giant crystal in the middle, which the Skulls lovingly called "The Mothership", I decided that it was time to travel back. I deeply thanked the holy Skulls, the magical Cave and the Mother Mountain for the honour of experiencing this miracle, and climbed on Dreams' back to take me home - for now.

Dia'dré Dada Chi Djeli (Switzerland)

[www.DadaChi.com](http://www.DadaChi.com)



## Amazonite Dragon

At my first encounter during a workshop with the Manus Skulls, I was deeply touched by the Amazonite dragon skull. It drew my attention to such an extent that I could not get away from it. My whole body experienced again the deep contact with a true encounter with a dragon, no words can express what I felt.

Everyone got to choose a skull and hold them and naturally I choose the Amazonite dragon skull. Deeply moved and in silence I sat with the Amazonite Dragon skull in my arms.

This dragon skull was so big and not ideal to take somewhere, so I asked Ivo if it would be possible to make a smaller dragon skull from the same stone. Ivo said: "I am willing to try, but I cannot promise anything."

So I went home with the Amazonite dragon skull in my thoughts. After some time Ivo mailed me a picture of the Amazonite dragon skull that he had made. When I saw the skull on the picture I could not feel if it belonged with me. After some mail discussion I decided to let it go and give Ivo leave to sell it if anyone else would be interested. One day I was home and all of a sudden I saw the Amazonite dragon skull before me, his presence was so strong. No doubt, this dragon skull belonged to me.

I mailed Ivo and asked whether the dragon skull still was available. "Yes", Ivo said, "Many have circled around it, but he has waited for you." Everything felt perfect and good. And this loved one came to me after all.

She has her own sacred place at home and often is in my office, when I look at her I am overwhelmed by a deep compassion. I am you, you are me, we are one.

Old memories that were deeply hidden have been awakened in me. Words fail to describe the immense warmth and affection that connects us. An immense space filled with happiness and freedom comes into existence, open and great. Greater than great. An immense space in which playfulness is present in all its facets.

I remember how I felt as a young girl, full of passion and 'joie de vivre'. Walking in a world filled with magic that I could feel, could smell and felt with all my senses. More and more I am able to feel how I have been inhibited in this and how I inhibit myself for fear of being who I am.

By consciously working with this, my fear disappears and my inhibitions dissolve. I become ever more joyful, greater and my heart sings: I AM PRESENT.

Dina Piras (Netherlands)

[www.praktijk-vitasana.nl](http://www.praktijk-vitasana.nl)



## Gate of light

I'm on a table, with a very nice view on a fjord. I really like it here. I am a skull, created by Ivo Manus. Created from white selenite. I am now with Edwin, my current guardian. A few days ago, Edwin went to Greenland. I wanted to go with him. And now I'm here. It is a country which consists of a large amount of ice. And has therefore a high white energy. This fits perfectly to me. Tomorrow we are going to make a boat trip to a glacier. There is work to do. The next morning I'm in the backpack, well packed. When we arrive at the



glacier, we see a small monument in Buddhist style. There is a photo of a Danish woman. It turns out that she is born in 1980 and died in 2015. We feel a lot of panic. In a vision we see a dog. Later we heard that she died during an avalanche in Switzerland. A dog was looking for her, when she was under the snow. But it didn't help. She liked to go to Greenland. Therefore a friend has made a small memorial monument in Greenland. She isn't in peace with the situation. She was totally unprepared to die. She still cannot except the situation and feels the panic. There is also guilt towards her parents. Edwin puts me in front of the picture of the woman. A connection is made. I let her feel a connection with the source. Her crown chakra opens. Slowly she can



connect to a wisdom. And an awareness of the situation. And she can also understand why it happened. She can see the bigger picture. A peace is starting to unfold. She is still concerned about her parents. Her mother is suffering from sadness. We make a connection with her mother as well. The same process occurs. It feels calm now. The woman can accept the sudden death now. Then I create a gate with a connection to the Light. The gate opens. She goes through the

gate, to the Light! The Danish woman is very grateful for what we have done.

With this wonderful sense of gratitude and an enhanced feeling of richness we get back on the boat!

*Edwin Ligt* (Netherlands)

[www.praktijkligt.com](http://www.praktijkligt.com)



## Dear Ivo and skull-keepers

How can you explain feelings that nobody recognize.

How can you explain thoughts that are not human like.

How can you explain what you see what is never been seen by others.

I often felt and still feel myself so alone. That's the difficulty of being a multi-dimensional human being. But I have accepted that I am who I am.

I have read a lot of books and have been visiting many spiritual courses and workshops, hoping to find some true answers. But no, instead of going up I felt I was declining. Every direction raised more questions and more thinking in my head.

Then I started to meditate more and focused within myself. It does take a lot of effort and determination to do that.

In that time I have seen different kind of energies and Light-beings. I found out that I was looking for answers outside of me. But the answers are within .....

The knowledge, the wisdom, the love and light is already there in your system. Your energy field, aura, chakra's, your blueprint of life, your DNA.

The path that I followed was a process of development and ascension, in a kind of way. I laughed and cried, and have been with interesting people.

One can only see the level of life they are in, living in a different level makes it impossible for the other one to help you.

And if the teacher tells you this way, I believe it. But my guts gave me other signals.

The only one who can really help you is your own inner strength, your inner voice.

Now I am ready to connect with my inner self and my higher consciousness.

The things I experience lately I would like to keep for myself .... For it is my destiny, my path. I do not want to influence yours. Feel for yourself what is best for you to do.

Each step you'll take will confront you with yourself, you realize you are at a starting point. You will have to create what is not there. You have to find a new way to unveil your abilities to inspire others.

Now the skull comes in.

I felt that I needed an anchor. A place, something or someone else who could assist me to make my start. My energy went everywhere and seems to grow, still expanding more and more.

I asked the Universe to help me.

One day when I was asleep, I was in contact with a 'Light-being'. I had an extensive conversation, but couldn't remember a thing when I woke up. But there seems to be an image programmed in my mind .....with the word "Skull" that popped up. I just knew where to look for now .....

The only person I know who have something to do with skulls is Ivo Manus. So I just sit down and looked at every amazing skull on his website. And after a while ..... there it was .... My Skull!

I really recognized the skull and got goose bumps. Very interesting. It felt as a part off me. My mirror off my soul/light-being. My anchor.

I am not the shopping type of guy, so I had to be sure it really was the skull to be for me!

So I asked Ivo if I could pay him a visit, to have a look at my skull, to touch and to feel it ....

Even prior to my visit I already felt like my child was born and that I could bring it home. So weird, felt happy and blessed at the same time.

When I entered Ivo's Crystal Skull domain, my child was already settled on the table in the middle of the room. It immediately felt like another part of me, with him I felt complete. This sure was my anchor!

Without speaking any word, I started off doing what I had to do .... My hands and arms were shaking and soon my total body was following the energy that came through ..... rough, intense, controlled .... making noises very loud. I was in trance ... and when I came to ease, I spoke. Finally my inner truth could speak.

The energy in the room changed. More skulls took the opportunity to speak through me. A very special moment!

Ivo asked me what name the skull has. I instantly knew it was Marnix.

When I googled his name I learned about the meaning of his name:

The small wise one or smart-ass. Ha ha how wonderful is that!

I find out that I can work with every skull and I am able to make the connection to open new portals and energy fields. My journey continues.

I am feeling blessed and thankfull.

I found my I M.

Take Care and enjoy your skull.

It is your reflection, it is your mirror, it is you.

Edwin van Houte (Netherlands)

[www.open-je-ogen.nl](http://www.open-je-ogen.nl)



## Aristoteles

Where were you all that time? Where have you been? How did we lose each other? That night in Rotterdam you had made such an impression on me! In between all those skulls you stood there, gleaming and shining in Sepia. How tough and powerful and at the same time also delicate and benevolent you were. I could not let go of you and at the end of the evening I wanted to take you home immediately. But I left with the advice to first think it over.

That was a good approach, because shortly afterwards I left for walking the Camino to Santiago de Compostela, which gave me the time to tune into you. This is what I did, you traveled with me all that time. You often were in my thoughts and felt close.

Back home in the Netherland, I decided not to wait any longer and I made an appointment with the Carver who has created you so beautifully. In the night before I picked you up, you visited me in my dream: Aristoteles! So fitting, because you are wise and you have given me many insights. You are crowned with a symbol that looks like a labyrinth and a crop circle at the same time. And also like a lock that I can open when I am ready for it. I took you to Crop Circles and put you down between the bent grain where you felt so much at home. During the day you stood next to me on the table and at night I took you up and put you next to my bed.

Nevertheless, you gradually faded into the background, as if you had made yourself smaller and unobtrusive. Had it become time to work out all those insights and transform them into deeds? The past year much has changed within me, I have worked hard on myself. Took decisions, distanced myself, ended relationships. This year it feels like I have reached a higher vibration level and experience many things differently.

Yesterday came out of nothing this message with the request to write a story about my skull... and all of a sudden you were back in view! I felt guilty, I had neglected you! But was this not in fact your intention? I had to get to work, bring my insights into practice! That night we had a good conversation, we have laughed and cried. I took you with me again and put you beside my bed.

When I woke up this morning and opened my eyes, I looked you right in the face... you Aristoteles!

Floriske Gerritsma (Netherlands)



## **Hercules!**

Hello I am Helma van de Giessen and I live in the Dutch coastal town Katwijk. This is my story about my red calcite dragon skull carved by Ivo!

One day I was visiting Ivo to have a look at his crystal skulls. It is a very magical place, this skull room. So many skulls. I was not sure witch skull belong to me, but I adopted a Preseli bluestone skull. I did also see a big red calcite dragon skull, looking at me. I found him very sweet and said that I might come back for him later.

So after a couple of months Ivo invited me and my cousin to educate us to put up a proper grid of skulls and stones. First of all you need a goal or purpose, before you start off making a grid. Than you formulate yourself a question. With this question you start making a grid. To me there was a question concerning my business; what was stopping me in my process? I needed more clarity.

I put a small crystal skull in the centre and all the other skulls and stones where standing very close to me. I was fully surrounded by all the stones. Couldn't breathe at all. Some stones where literally standing against my centre stone. Ivo showed me that this was a major problem, something I recognize during my whole life. Everybody always wanted something from me, but I had no freedom at all. So Ivo showed me the way to place all the stones far away from my centre stone so that I could move. Then he went to the red calcite dragon skull I saw earlier and placed him as the centre stone. This one was big so all the people around me must see me now. It was a big and strong centre. Yes! That's me!!!!

He gave me his name. It was Hercules. A Greek Hero! And Ivo told me that he had found this red calcite stone in France and our family name from my mothers side is Teljeur and they came from France as well. I took him home to my house of course now I am his caretaker. He is in my special room where I give my healings. He has his own sacred place and looks at all the people who come in and go out. He helps me with my healings but he can also be very naughty and striking.

He help me to come in my power.

Helma van de Giessen



## **Thulite (Star-Light Being): “It is all about love”**

During my first visit to Ivo and Sandra, my Love for this skull originated.

Visiting all these skulls to me was an ‘energetic hurricane’. Guided by a lot of tears, lots of my inner pains were released and transformed.

This skull entered my heart, although she didn’t leave with me immediately. I happen to be new in this world of skulls, so we decided to start off with a beautiful soft fluorite skull.

Although I spent a lot of precious moments with this fluorite skull, the bond I felt with the Thulite Start-Light Being seems to grow stronger every day. From a distance I felt her energy, that could easily be activated when I was in need of some assistance. At those moments I felt peace and Love coming back within. I felt greatly supported by her.

To me it was obvious that I should become her keeper, no doubt about it.

So after a while I went back to collect my precious Star-Light Being. Only afterwards it turned out I was unconscious of the fact that I dressed up completely in the colours of the skull. I was flabbergasted when somebody noticed this fact! How wonderful!

In the meanwhile she has become my trustful anchor on path to complete self-love and ‘Love for all there is’. When I feel down and sad, she reminds me to open myself for the Love. By opening my heart for Love for myself, I do the same thing for all the others. Being aware from a wide angle, without being judgemental. This gives me a deep feeling of peace in my ‘be-ing’. Life energy will flow much stronger.

It is my destiny to experience self-Love on a deeper level, and if necessary transforming dark sides by embracing in Love and bring it to the light.

I feel thankful and privileged to receive this support.

Her name is ISIS ..... it IS as it IS.

Much Love,

Hènriette Steneker (Netherlands)





## **Bird Skull raffle.**

On September 16th 2014 Ivo posted a message on the Manus Skull Keepers Facebook group. He was giving away a steatite bird skull to celebrate that the group had over 100 members. I found that so sweet! When I saw the pictures of the bird skull my heart fluttered. This bird had such presence, it splashed off the screen. I felt such a connection and such joy only watching it. Sure I signed up for the draw! And regularly looked at the picture. Also a bit wondering if I was imagining this connection I felt.

And then the big day was there. Ivo created such a unique draw, it was wonderful! 21 people signed up for the draw. And each name was written on a card. It was so exciting to see my name and I noticed my heart began beating faster. The cards were with strings connected to dog treats. Ivo's dog Jovi came in, snift, got a treat and pulled the card with my name out. I was jumping and screaming in my living room of joy. It was unbelievable and a moment I will never forget. It also taught me to trust my intuition. We were connected and he picked me!

It was also such a pleasure to go get the skull, give Ivo flowers and dog treats for Jovi. Ivo told that after the draw Jovi kept wandering around the meditation room in search of more draws to be taken, hahaha.

I am not someone who often meditates with or talks to her skulls. And for me there is no need really. One look at my bird friend and my heart sings, I just can't help smiling. He reminds me that all I need to do is to be happy, and that will give me wings. Together we fly. ♥

Mahalo nui Loa, thank you very much, Ivo!

Janice (Netherlands)



## **Levara.**

Levara came to be from the desire to fully commit to my life's path.

I had a sense that I needed to somehow make the next step, and that for a change I wouldn't need to do it alone anymore. The idea of a custom made skull from Ivo had been going through my head for quite some time before I went to his workshop and eventually expressed my feelings and desires. Little did I, and also he himself, know that he had subconsciously already started carving her.

In a flash of inspiration or a knowing he showed me a skull which, although not even nearly finished, somehow seemed to embody the feelings I had been getting about the skull I had envisioned. The size, larger than life, the mineral, peach selenite, and even the shape were impossibly similar to what I'd felt and seen. When I saw her there was an immediate connection, which is something that has never gone away since and have also not felt as clearly with any other skulls.

At that moment I felt exactly what she wanted and needed from me, some physical distance until she would have been 'born' and matured. During the short week afterwards I had the extraordinary experience of somehow living my life but at the same time being totally connected with her. I felt her consciousness grow because I was there, as if a babe that needed caring for her to develop into the beautiful existence she would come to be. The name Levara came to me during this process which amongst others means "to be led" in Portuguese.

When Ivo delivered her to me I was touched by her beauty, physically but also on the inside. I felt from the start that she somehow was very similar to a human being. She's got personality and room for growth therein. Though she felt like a different person, she also still feels like another part of me. As if another piece of my soul has been able to manifest itself on earth with me through the physical form she has been given by Ivo.

Since then I feel like I have been able to find my place on earth. To find a way to ground myself in society, within my family and most importantly in myself. In my connection with Levara we co-create and I feel led and inspired to find ways that work for me to bring more and more of myself to earth. She has helped me stay true to myself in my energy, creations, relationships and work. Her mere presence in the house and my life is soothing. I can't imagine my life without her.

Jari Fontijn, (Netherlands)

Shyam

[www.jarifontijn.com](http://www.jarifontijn.com)



Right Skull is Levara, the peach Selenite.

## Haven

This is a story about a dear friend of mine.

I first met him at a skull-meeting hosted by Ivo, and truth be told, he seemed a bit boring at first glance. He was like one of those people that hang out quietly at the edge of a party: those who keep to themselves because they do not feel at ease with chit-chat and quick wit. And whereas some of his brothers and sister had all kinds of brilliant colours and shapes, he was looking rather pale.

Yet there was something very unique about him; one side of his head was raw and unpolished with hundreds of tiny facets sparkling like a star-filled sky. I felt compelled to run my fingers over all the tiny pointy spikes of the surface. And as crazy as it sounds, it was as if I could feel the same thing happening in my belly: thousands of tiny sparkling specks of light, reflections of (parts of) me, responding and opening up inside of me.

Being my own worst critic, this touched me very deeply; because it made me feel like every part of me was not only wanted, but also had a place and a home inside of me, rather than needing to be removed, suppressed, or improved. After about fifteen minutes of crying and holding on to him like he was a vital part of me, it was safe to say that I was not willing to let him go anywhere but home with me. And luckily he seemed to like me as well.

We have grown closer ever since, and whenever I feel out of touch with myself, or stifled by my own expectations, I only have to look past my pillow to find the support that I need. Most people would call him a creepy looking rock. Me? I call him .....

Haven.

Joep Brants (Netherlands)



## Leo and Theo

The contact with my first skull was great, and finding out which Skull was meant for me, was very special. It was a selenite skull and she had to be called Leo. During the session, Ivo placed Leo in the back of my neck to clean things up, which instantly took an enormous burden away and lightened things up, this was my first love affair with Leo. Since then, Leo lies in my bed and was allowed to come with me to several meetings and drum sessions. In bed I often fell asleep with Leo in my hand and woke up in the morning with Leo still in my hand. I also asked Leo often for advice and Leo was my supporter before I closed my eyes. Leo is a selenite, meant for 'pisces', she helps with intuition, self-actualization and makes energy flow.

After a while I made a skull of pink selenite at Ivo's place, which I finished with much pleasure and love, and this Skull was meant to be called Truus. At home, I put Truus on my bedside table and subsequently she was banned to a little corner. I got no connection at all with Truus, and neither did Leo I think. After a few years I felt that Leo got tired and I made an appointment with Ivo to select a new skull. I had taken Leo and Truus with me. This session was very special and confronting too. Ivo said that Leo was worn out, he was dull and sullen and he began to show ruptures. According to Ivo I had subconsciously made Truus for someone else, since I had no connection with her. During this session we ended up at an Aquamarine Skull, again a pisces skull, and this was Theo. Theo is a Skull of comfort and he heals the respiratory system. Since Theo, I have slowly been able to diminish my medicines for asthma and I rarely have to take puffs.

I put Truus downstairs on the table and within a week someone came by who took up Truus and got goose bumps all over her body and asked "What is happening?". I said: "Truus is made for you and you may take her with you." Truus still evokes a beautiful emotion.

I was not yet able to banish Leo from my bed, so I very carefully also took Theo to bed, but I still kept them separated, because I had the feeling that I could not yet neglect Leo since he had meant so much for me. At present, after a few years, Leo and Theo still lie brotherly with me in my bed, but I feel that soon I will have to say goodbye to Leo and I will have to give Leo back to the earth with pain in my heart and thank her cordially for all her support.

Leo and Theo: two Skulls that were perfectly predestined for me and have given me support and help.

José van Dijk (Netherlands)



## Life saving Patrick.

Patrick is my 23kg selenite skull and yes, he literally saved my life.

But first, who is Patrick?

On one of my visits to Manus-Skulls home of many Skulls, a friend of mine totally fell in love with a skull and I sat next to her on the floor. I looked up a little and my eyes wondered a bit around the room and there he was, tucked away in an open rack on the floor, behind a table. A huge selenite Skull. I walked over to Sandra and she looked amazed when I asked if I could have a better look at him. Ivo sensed something going on in the room and he looked at Sandra with an amazed expression on his face. I wondered why. Sandra put the skull in front of me and we connected immediately. I put my other skulls around him and an energy vortex was formed right there in the room and I knew he was going home with me. Even though he was huge and cost me a months salary.

He looked a bit strange, something with his eyes and I loved it, knew they were special and they were.

He had very low esteem, was very shy, felt he was good for nothing and was depressed. Ivo and Sandra did everything they could for him, did energy work, Reiki and even more, he still felt he was no good and that he would never find a keeper. Other skulls, new skulls, the whole batch of Selenite skulls that were born together with him, had found their keeper, but not Patrick. "Cut me up into tiny skulls" he pleaded with Ivo, "maybe someone will take care of the smaller ones" he asked. Ivo didn't. Ivo asked: "what do you need to feel better?" and Patrick said "eyes, I would feel better if I had eyes". So Ivo gave him beautiful pointed clear crystal eyes. And those eyes saved my life.

I took him home, took good care of him and his confidence grew.

I was asked to do a workshop in Istanbul and it was around about the first anniversary after the Gezi Park riots in Istanbul. The evening before I was to leave for Istanbul I looked at Patrick and one of his eyes was a lot darker than normal. I was amazed....thought it must be the light and put him somewhere else, but it stayed darker. I was puzzled. Then the phone rang: a good friend said she had an uneasy feeling, she couldn't put her finger on it. I told her about Patrick's eye and she had no idea. Then I looked at Patrick again and had the strong feeling he wanted to tell me something. I needed to pack my suitcase, but he kept on calling for my attention. Then another friend rang and asked: "what is going on with Patrick, he wants to tell you something and you are not listening". So we tuned in and then the words came: "Don't go to Istanbul, you will not be safe" :-o

My friend told me not to go. I would come back, but not the same person.

I cancelled my trip and Patrick's eye turned bright again.

At the exact moment I would have been on Taksim Square in Istanbul, people were killed by the police, rubber bullets, water guns and real bullets flew around there, where I would have been waiting for my friend to pick me up.

Patrick literally saved my life!

Karen Stemkens (Netherlands)





## The story of Gawain.

It all began at one of Ivo's Sunday morning gatherings.  
The meditation that morning was wonderful, as always.  
After the meditation Ivo showed us his latest creations. A couple of Preseli bluestone skulls.  
He told us how special this kind of stone is, and where it came from.  
Even the inner circle of Stonehenge is made of Preseli bluestone.  
We were all invited to take a look at the new born skulls.

I went to the table where they were sitting and picked one up.  
It was a little skull with a very serious look on it's face.  
The very moment I picked it up it swept me of my feet. A part of me was in what felt like a previous life in England. Felt like centuries ago.  
I could see a landscape with green hills and pastures. It felt like home.  
But the other part of me was still in the room at Boskoop. That was very confusing.  
It all happened so unexpectedly and was so mind blowing that I could hardly stand on my feet.  
I felt I was switching between these two worlds. Unable to stay long in either one of them.  
The little skull was confused as well, I could feel it.  
We felt a deep connection, despite everything. As old friends who thought they had lost contact forever and now found each other, against all odds. We were happy and shocked at the same time.  
Ivo started asking questions. But I was unable to find words to give an answer. It took me quite some time to really come back into this world. What an adventure!

The little skull went home with me, of course. The next day it told me it's name, Gawain.  
( Name of Arthur's nephew and knight of the round table, in the Arthurian legend )

This whole event brought me back to my English, past lives, roots.  
So, that year Gawain and I went on a magical tour through the south of England and visited lots of spiritual places. Including Stonehenge, where Gawain could connect with the big Preseli bluestones in the inner circle.

The south of England is where I found the way back to myself, thanks to Gawain.  
There I felt the intense connection with nature's spirits again. Something I had lost on my way through life. This gave me a lot of energy. I felt whole again.  
And now, when I feel a bit low on energy, or just tired from a hard day's work, you can find Gawain and me somewhere in nature, charging our batteries.

Kiki & Gawain (Netherlands)



## Juul

Our connection started way before she even appeared. As a rough boulder of petrified wood in Ivo's studio.

I asked Ivo to make me a custom carved Skull, especially for me.

So I made an appointment to meet him at his place in Boskoop. We were bound to go on a special adventure in which Ivo would connect to me energetically. Than after a long talk he asked me from which stone I wanted him to carve my Skull. In his studio he has a very large table with all sorts of rough stones, in all sorts, in all colours from small to large ..... very large! I needed to choose which stone that would become my personal Skull. The Skull that would assist me in my process of personal development on many, many levels.

And there I stood, all alone ..... looking carefully at every stone, the one more beautiful than the other.

I did see a piece of stone to which I was attracted to. But I immediately thought this piece must be too expensive and way, way above my budget which I was about to spend to this process. So I thought it wise to take a much smaller piece, and therefore obviously much cheaper. Satisfied I returned and showed it to Ivo. Than he looked me in the eyes and asked me: "are you sure this is the right stone?"

Okay he said .... I do respect your choice, but I need to tell you this stone you chose is the most expensive one off all stones I have !!! Hahahhaa .... today's lesson: Nothing is what it seems!

Now Ivo asked .... "Shall I show you what I had in mind for you?" A little bit uncertain, I agreed. We went back to his studio and he took her off the table and put her in my arms, I started crying like a little child, it's her....my initial first choice! My big rough boulder of petrified wood. I could see her face already ..... She stayed in my house for more than a month before the master carver made her finally appear. I already knew her name even before she was carved : Juliana !

When I came back over to collect her, she gave me another a surprise: during carving she made it clear to Ivo not to waste any chip that came from her original rough form. (In my life I felt like losing many chips of my being ....).

Of each chip that came off during carving, Ivo carved another Skullie .... Juultjes Children. A real 'Mater Familias'

Each and every one who is visiting my home meets Juliana

She gives comfort, we can have fun with her, I sometimes make fun of her, giving her fancy heads on special occasions for instance.

This old lady is part of our family and community, she is royal, wise, fun, beauty in all her aspects,

We all love Juultje

She sometimes even reminds me to look after her master friend carver Ivo. So when I created something special for him, (a small witch bottle) she made me put a little piece of herself in it too. She literally give a little bit of herself to anybody .... Just by being Juul.

Maria (Netherlands)

Crystal skull caretaker and matchmaker,  
teacher, healer, mother & grandmother

[www.matronae.com](http://www.matronae.com)



Juul before she was carved.



Juul dressed up.

## Be Grateful.

My dearest dragon Thechirah learned me to be grateful in the fullest sense in every situation I'm in. Especially in relation with myself. After holding Thechirah in my arms on a rainy Sunday morning, she took me for a nice, quick trip to another sphere. We travelled to a cosy and warm, a bit humid place with a lot of trees, green grass and big rocks. With a calm breeze through the trees, the leaves made a beautiful sound next to the clattering sound of water from the waterfall nearby. At First, I could see and sensed this all from above with the help of My dragon Thechirah. After a little while we circled further down the forest. Then we landed on a big round Rock. Exploring the beautiful clean air at First and then the soil with their enormously big amount of different kinds of creatures on the ground. I felt as if I was transformed from a very huge person in to a very minimalistic, little living creature. I could feel the harmony and the co-operation of every living soul above and beneath the earth. Everything and every creature could see and sensed us, but they didn't let them being disturbed by us two. That feeling of Harmony all over the World and in this Cosmos gave me a happy state of mind and body at that moment. I could enjoy that state forever and ever. And after a while when I heard a soft sniffing sound and a gentle cuddle from my little dragon's side of the Rock, I woke up from my meditation sphere with Thechirah. So I had a very beautiful experience this morning that made me feel very, very happy and I felt Grateful to my dragon Thechirah. Thankfully and especially grateful I put Thechirah back on her spot in the grit in my practice "de Witte Bloesem". It felt if the trip was for four or five hours long, cause it gave me a lot of energy to cope with the whole week after the trip. But in real time the relaxing trip just took me just twenty two minutes on that rainy Sunday morning.

Marjanie Kartadi and My Labradorite dragon Thechirah (Netherlands)

[www.dewittebloesem.nl](http://www.dewittebloesem.nl)



## Pi & Jaya.

Today, February the 8th 2017 the call for a Skullstory came by again on Facebook. Earlier calls I just denied, didn't feel the urge to write, no inspiration. But still 10 days to go ..... the countdown has started.

So why do I notice this call now? In between the overkill of emails and newsletters? Would it be that the 3 Musketeers may be added to my 2 lovely skulls? To the modest but surely interesting Super Seven Pi and my beautiful and powerful Jaya, in her warm yellow calcite outfit. Or is there another message in it for me?

Although the story of how Jaya found her way to me, is much more spectacular than that of Pi ..... I will dedicate this story to Pi.

Pi is the quiet one, the unnoted, the modest.

At a skull gathering in Kessel-Eik at my friends centre, I met Ivo and Sandra Manus for the first time. In the middle of the room there was a column surrounded with many Manus Skulls. My eyes surfed over the beautiful stones and impressive skulls. Although I were not attracted to crystal skulls in the beginning, during the mediation I gathered three of the skulls around me. They were beautiful, and I was full of expectation what they would bring me during the meditation.

When Ivo asked if there was a skull who was calling his own name I heard "Pi, Pi, Pi" calling. I thought that was strange, I do hear something in my head what does not belong to me. I knew it wasn't one of these three who was calling.

So I decided to stand up and walk around, and there he was; standing behind the column ... a tiny little Super Seven skullie. I just had to smile, there he was .... Little Pi.

It was obvious, I did not had to choose, I was the one to be chosen by Pi.

When times are tough, or when I am in pain or sad, than there is Pi. As a loving full transformator and comforter, I will look him up. (I ought to do that more often!)

Now while I am writing this down, I do get the message.

I pick you up from the cupboard, you standing there next to Jaya. I take you in my hand and hold you against my face .... and I feel .... very deeply....

I swallow, I sigh .... Thank you dear Pi ..... just what I needed.

With Love,

Marlène (Netherlands)

[www.eight-8.nl](http://www.eight-8.nl)

[www.eight-8.nl/bz/](http://www.eight-8.nl/bz/)



Pi



Jaya



## Dear pretty Skulls

Together with a friend and to do her a favor, I came to Ivo and his Skulls. I was skeptical about it and I resented Skulls and Skull depictions. But... having entered, my attention was drawn to one Skull. The one with the 'open' top. Not the 'nice', perfectly cut Skulls, but this one. I realized that I don't like outer perfection. Beautiful. Finished. No one is beautifully perfectly finished. I felt that this Skull acknowledged that.

We sat in a circle to meditate. I obstinately picked another Skull to prove that this attraction was a bit nonsensical. It was a nice meditation. I experienced the power of the beautiful skull in my hand. Except for the fact that my attention was drawn repeatedly to that special one. (Monkey?) (Monkey is meant purely affectionately.)

At the point of leaving, I walked to Ivo and resolutely asked for my monkey. Flabbergasted by my own emotion. My monkey takes me home. To myself. 'Macca loco' my father called me: crazy monkey.

After a little over a year I again attended a meditation at Ivo's place. Now out of curiosity, not from a skeptical starting point. Now I also saw Elvis. Elvis is 'open' at the top too. This time I did take Elvis in my hand, and Monkey in the other. Male and female sides came together. My energy went round and round. I experienced yin and yang.

In my practice the both of them are always positioned in such a way that I feel them always and everywhere. They make me whole.

Martine de Gruijter (Netherlands)  
[www.takeiteasywaddinxveen.nl](http://www.takeiteasywaddinxveen.nl)



## **My amazing Amazhala.**

When I saw my steatite skull Amazhala I knew instantly that she was meant to be in my care. The connection was instant and electrical. I waited with excitement for her to arrive and for us to begin our adventures together. The minute I opened the box and unwrapped her I knew my life would be instantly changed for the better. I could feel her vibrating and humming as I ran my fingers along her carved lines...the spiral on both sides of her head, the bump on her third eye and her large, knowing eyes, the patient, watchful expression on her face. She came to me in a time when a lot of changes would soon be occurring. She helps me to feel safe and stable whenever I am going through major energy shifts and brings out what needs to be healed in order to push through to the other side. She is the keeper of the in between... time, space, dreams, life changes, life, death rebirth, relationships. She balances masculine and feminine energy. I think the most important realization I had when she came into my care is how important these times are and that sometimes the in between times seem like they are the hardest and are full of uncertainty but as long as we wait, have faith and look for the blessings we will always come out a better version of ourselves. That the in between spaces are the most beautiful and powerful times of our lives.

Melissa Posey (United Kingdom)



I have attached a picture of her at home in all her glory..lol!

## The English Lady

Living in the United States, I had not actually heard of a Manus skull until I found a pre-loved skull group. It was the first time I had seen a skull that was free-formed and uniquely different than anything else I had brought into my family of skulls.

The Blue Lady or The English Lady arrived to my home during a period of change. Older members of my family were becoming ill, my daughter was becoming a teenager and I was left to wonder my place. The English Lady guided me through specially my Grandfather and Mother's hospitalizations. I remember a good percent of that time I really wanted to be anywhere else but in holding The English Lady, I was right where I was required to be.

I often thought of why me? Why did I have to have my family in this situation? In one connection to The Blue Lady, I realized that her roots of knowledge of families' through-out history had suffered more with less. She gave me the realization that in reality, I was a really lucky person to live where people had the equipment to handle illness. I believe the English Lady had seen either as a rough stone or perhaps as another being in another life a great deal of suffering. She has also seen a great deal of human changes and growth. The English Lady taught me in some of the saddest time that even though times can seem blue, there is always another rainbow waiting but you must find it. As life has given me a great deal and sometimes I think too much, I found myself taking The English Lady my purse with a small figure of Ganesha in my side bag. I believe that the network and the power of The English Lady senses as a guide where she is required and helps me to overcome even when the pass seems impossible.

Misty Wolf (USA)



## **My story with Khalil**

It was a happy coincidence how I obtained a Skull from Ivo that was carved just for me personally. A very special Lierbach-agate skull, inspired by my being. For me a great joy, a miracle!

I was very excited during the period he was carved, because I felt that he would be very special to me. Then Ivo sent me photos by e-mail. I could not really see what was his back and what was his front, which I perceived as mysterious in the sense that he did not yet show me his full beauty. Then he went on his journey to Switzerland. When I took him out of the black velvet bag, love flowed from my head to my toes. It flowed into me like a river flows home through my body into my heart in order to embrace it, lovingly and strong. Deeply touched by his being, personality and love, gratitude overwhelmed me to such an extent that tears of pure joy rolled over my cheeks. As I observed him with the open heart of my soul and with my clear mind, I looked at his appearance. Half dragon, half dog like a fairy tale nature-being, not from this time and world, an ancient primordial soul.

As our souls bonded, this feeling was omnipresent. His face reminded me of the paintings by Rembrandt, his painted portraits in which he uniquely depicts two halves of the face; the open-faced and the hidden shady sad introverted part. A mirror image of my soul. It was like I looked at myself, it chilled me to the bone, so deeply touched was my heart.

Over my lips came the words: 'Khalil, welcome at home, thank you from the bottom of my heart to have to come to me my beloved friend, my happiness. Support me to come nearer to my destination, however it will manifest itself to me. Stay by my side on my path, love will always carry us.' The name Khalil I have chosen because Khalil Gibran is my favourite philosopher as his words always touch me again and again.

Since that day, Khalil accompanies me as a faithful friend almost everywhere I go. It is like he would follow me and guide me in all my ways. At night he often sleeps next to my head, skin to stone, and visits me in my dreams. Or he lies on my body and I hold him tight so I can feel him. He supports me very much in recognizing important things so they can be transformed. Just like me, he is emotional and he mirrors the whole array of feelings that manifest themselves outside and inside. He is very loving, but also himself.

Khalil, I love you with all my heart. Thank you for every moment with you, and confronting it may be, your love is in everything you give me every day.

Munin Eiru, a gentle and quiet Amethystenlady, and the quietly resting friendly Pan, the horned forest god from Amazonite, are also carved by Ivo Manus and accompany me on my path with their miraculously wise souls.

I do not even want to imagine a life without them, because the vibrations of their souls are like the wonderful wing beat of a butterfly.

Petra Ammann (Switzerland)



## Sam

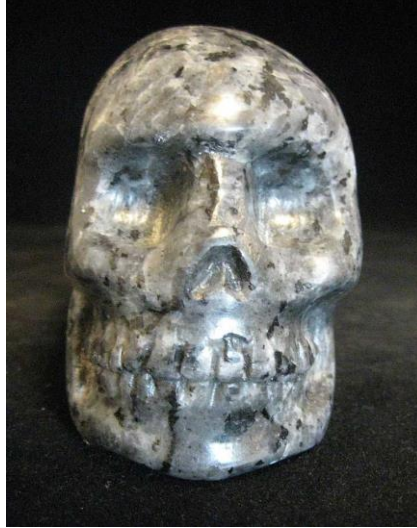
On a beautiful Sunday morning in August 2015, I came along with my girlfriend Kirsten to Boskoop, in order to fetch a Skull for her at Ivo Manus' home. I was quite skeptical about the phenomenon 'Skull' and associated it with for instance pirates and death. For some reason I also preferred not to touch them. Ivo convinced me with a great plea about the union with the higher realms and the beautiful symbolism of the Skulls and I already became somewhat more enthusiastic. We went up to the room where Kirsten's skull already were ready on the square table, in the middle of the room, surrounded by a lot of skulls. After some time Ivo stood up, took a grey/black colored Skull from the cupboard and gave it to me. I took the skull (quite a step) and held it on my lap. Immediately the Larvikite stone gave me a very solid grounding. Immediately it felt good, calming.

A few seconds after I took the Skull I spontaneously said to Ivo: "This Skull is called Sam". With tears in his eyes, Ivo told me the story of this Skull. He told me first that indeed every Skull has a name, which comes to you effortlessly. The rough stone had been in the possession of his diseased father, a geologist. When his father was already seriously ill, Ivo found the stone and showed it to his father since he did not recognize it at once. His father told him it was Larvikite, originating from the area around the town of Larvik in the south of Norway.

It was a beautiful emotional moment for father and son, who shared the same passion. Ivo subsequently made a great skull out of this stone. The amazing part of this story is that the name of Ivo's father was... Sam. I know no one who is called Sam, nor have been in contact with that name as far as I know.

It was a beautiful and emotional moment and naturally I have acquired the Skull. Together with Sam and Ent, a beautiful Skull made from petrified wood, I regularly meditate and get rid of a lot of 'soiled' energy with the help of the strongly grounding effect of both Skulls.

Rob Heijkoop (Netherlands)



## Harry

“Hm, he kinda looks like Darth Vader, doesn’t he?” Ivo mumbled while holding my big black skull for the last time at his gallery. “You might experience some weird and emotional times but don’t worry... Your new friend will be very kind to you in the end. After all, that big black smile is a sincere one.”

My first encounter with my almost life-size black obsidian skull Harry was spot on... An absolute match that can’t be described in words. I’ve always been fascinated by crystal skulls but somehow never found the right one to take with me back home. Although I might ask myself what home actually is... As a worldwide touring musician I’m away from home at least 6 months per year.

“That reminds me.” Ivo said. “I made you a bird skull necklace from the exact stone where Harry was carved from... This way he’ll always be with you.” Bless him.

For your information, I always hated wearing necklaces but this one is an absolute exception. In fact on tour I wear it 24/7. And it sure connects me with home. This thing is one big antenna streaming thoughts, energy and emotions.

Since black obsidian is mostly known for its cleansing powers but most of all for picking up negative energy and confronting you with it, it’s the ultimate tool for self-reflection.

Boy, I was in for a treat...

In fact I wanted to use it so I could adapt these thoughts in creativity and most of all song writing. Since this skull has been in my life my music has become darker but more personal than ever and to be honest I’m extremely happy with it. My gut tells me this is just the beginning.

Recently I had one of the best but heaviest tours in my life. Being stuck with 14 people on a bus for a month isn’t meant for everybody. You have to be flexible, accept each other’s quirky behaviour and be respectful. Next to that you have to sleep on the same bus with the same 14 people while it’s driving to the next city for the next show.

Normally I sleep like a rock but not this time... Not at all. I had bad dreams and my mind was constantly overflowed with negative thoughts that simply... Well, weren’t me.

It took a few weeks until I looked in the mirror one day and I saw my black necklace.. I was simply picking up other people their vibes and no, not all of them were that good. It made perfect sense so at least I could give it a place and regain my inner peace.

The tour ended with a massive sold out show in Paris and I arrived home the day after...

Entering a home filled with tranquillity and I remember that big black skull waiting on the table, looking and smiling at me. I could almost hear him thinking; “I told you so?”

Bastard.

Rob van der Loo (Netherlands)

[www.epica.nl](http://www.epica.nl)





## **Salomon... ... or the bumpy road to kingship**

A few years ago, I organized an Ivo Manus exhibition and event in the New Age store 'Labyrinth' in Rotterdam. That morning, I was to meet the shop owner together with Ivo and Sandra. They took with them some of the skulls that would be exhibited. Beforehand, Ivo showed me his skulls. They were terrific – of course. Then he said: 'Here is a special skull that I just carved, inspired by the adventure ad hand.'" He added that he had carved this skull in a frenzy. The steatite skull he showed, was quite bulky, exquisitely carved with a huge labyrinth on its head: the logo of the shop. When I held it, it was like I was struck by lightning, I immediately deeply connected with it. But alas, it was to be sold at the shop or maybe even to the owner.

During the exhibition, I frequently visited the Manus Skulls and especially this amazing 'Labyrinth Skull'. It did not sell though, also not to the shop owner. Unbelievable, I thought. During my encounters with the skull, I kept feeling my connection with him, but the logo on his head became a question. Was it because of this logo that people would not adopt him? Why did the shop owner not see how incredibly beautiful and powerful this skull was?

After the exhibition, I went over to Ivo to evaluate. We were both slightly disappointed about the results of this endeavour. Ivo then presented me with a gift expressing his appreciation for our cooperation: the Labyrinth Skull. I was delighted, but about the logo I naturally had mixed feelings. But okay, part of the package!

I came home, unpacked the skull... and heard 'take it off, NOW!. Shocking. Several thoughts raced through my mind: 'No! Maiming a Manus Skull, how would I dare?', 'But yes, I'm an experienced skull carver with good tools at home, technically I could...' I looked closely: indeed the labyrinth was lying on top of the skull, it could be 'taken off' without carving in the skull itself... next thing I knew, I was sitting in my garden with my gear, starting to work on a Manus Skull...

I very carefully took off the labyrinth, exposing the skull underneath. Slowly, the logo faded away. What was left, was something in between a subtle crown and a 'kippay' which Jews wear at special occasions. At the moment I was finished, I heard 'I am Salomon'. And when I looked again, I saw that what appeared inside the crown/kippah was a perfect division between the two colours of the stone. A perfect 'on the one hand, but on the other hand...'. And I realised that I had just made a Salomon's decision... and the right one.

Ever since, Salomon has helped me to reign my life's kingdom wisely.

Robbert Bloemendaal (Netherlands)



## **My Preseli Bluestone Dragon Lak'ech.**

Hello, I may call myself the happy keeper of a Preseli Bluestone dragon. The best story I can tell you about him is of the moment I adopted him.

But please let me introduce myself first, my name is Sandra, I live in Belgium and I am an energetic therapist and Shamanic healer.

A good friend of mine advised me to visit Ivo to have a look at his crystal skulls and dragons. I was especially interested in this fascinating Preseli Bluestone because it reminds me of the Hunebeds, I always felt connected with these.

Wandering around in his skull room, I saw a Preseli Bluestone wand, a kind of ritual instrument. I had it in my hands, and it automatically pointed backwards time after time, like it wanted to tell me something. I just had to turn around, and there it was ... a huge Preseli Bluestone dragon. My heart immediately crashed.

The dragon was put on the table and I kept my hand on its head for at least 10 minutes. The energy was intense and serene. The feeling of oneness and eternity. The feeling that I had every right to be here, that everything is okay. That all my dreams would come true! I couldn't let go of him, and neither did he.

I decided that I would come back with a delegation of my skull family to collect him within a few days.

But on my way back home (I live in Belgium), I felt the dragon calling me back, he did not let go of me.

Never ever it felt so hard to leave a skull or dragon, I just wanted to turn around and go back to him instantly.

After a few days I finally went back to collect him. My other skulls immediately connected to him, it felt like a strong unity. The energy was so powerful, that we all had to step back.

On my way home I heard his name: 'In Lak'ech Ala K'in' ..... I am the other you.

Now after a few month, I introduced several people to Lak'ech.

Most of them burst out into tears, touched by its powerful healing energy.

Realizing how beautiful they are themselves, that they may be, allowed to shine.

Ready to show themselves to the world.

During my healing sessions Lak'ech is present, when he thinks it is necessary.

I daily feel his energy and he joins me wherever I go. That is to be said: energetically, for he weights over 8 kilo!

Each and every day I am grateful that I may be keeper of such a beautiful dragon.





## Manus Skulls

When I sat down to write my story, I had no idea what I would write. How to narrow it down to one skull? It's an almost impossible task... they are all so connected... but eventually this is what manifested:

When Ivo started carving the 'Ivolians', there was much excitement, not just among skully caretakers but the skulls themselves. I was fortunate to have several batches sent to me to sell on Ivo's behalf... they were among some of the most lively skulls I have ever encountered and very hard to part with. Very much like little children, they would giggle and chatter and on occasion sing too!

As the 'Ivolians' developed, Ivo tapped into Spiral Energy Streams... something very close to my heart. I have often said that Ivo seems to 'feel' the Streams before he's even aware of it. The combination of Mongolian Energy Streams and the Spiral Streams created something quite spectacular, skulls that are so unique, gentle yet powerful.

I found them transmitting what appeared to be a Latin dialect, a language I have found that only comes from Ivo's skulls, not limited to, but particularly coming from, the 'Ivolians'. They would often sing complex operatic pieces too.

For me, the combination of Steatite and the Form of these skulls spoke loudly of Ancestors and Heritage... they have much to teach and just as with young children, much to learn too... this was one thing that was very clear about this Form... although they resembled the original Mongolian skulls, they never claimed to be copies, it was like they were a Repository for the knowledge to be handed down to the next generation of skulls but had also manifested to record the next chapters in the story.

My dear Soul Sister, Judith, acquired a most spectacular Ivolian named Mama Diva... She stole my heart. She was magnificent and whenever her photo popped up somewhere, I was completely mesmerised by her 'Spirallyness', particularly her eyes. They draw you down, deep into your Soul, taking you beyond this Realm. I couldn't believe my luck when her sister, Tor, was Birthed. I knew instantly that she was meant to be with me. The time came for Mama Diva to move on and I felt so privileged that she came here, to be with her Sister. The bond between them is so strong and they have much to do... they truly epitomise the Ancestors and are happiest when participating in EarthWork, reconnecting to the Ancient Ley Lines. I guess it was this pair that changed the way I worked with skulls, giving me more Focus and Insight. They are almost the same skull, part of the One that is All but they

are also worlds apart, it's something that isn't easy to put into words, it's more a stirring deep inside when you make physical contact with them.

Sharon Pitt (United kingdom)

[www.crystalskullsmotherearth.moonfruit.com](http://www.crystalskullsmotherearth.moonfruit.com)

[www.facebook.com/AmaranthineNorfolk](https://www.facebook.com/AmaranthineNorfolk)

[www.amaranthine.moonfruit.com](http://www.amaranthine.moonfruit.com)

[www.facebook.com/CosmicSpirals](https://www.facebook.com/CosmicSpirals)





## The Manus Skulls

I often think of how Ivo's carvings help us to connect not only with the crystal skull but also with many other skull owners.

I live in the USA and have daily exchanges on Facebook with Manus skull owners from all over the world. We've become friends that care about each other and the planet we live on. We come together to comment on the skulls and share our insights and thoughts. We share our joy in the carvings and work together to bring positive vibrations to each other. We learn from each other. We show each other the photographs of Ivo's skulls and the beautiful places in the world that they travel to. I'm amazed at all of the incredible locations that these skulls visit with their owners. I'm grateful that I get to share in these adventures. I've learned so much and experienced growth personally and spiritually. It's a wonderful experience that creates a synergistic positive energy. I'm very thankful to have the opportunity for such opportunities for growth and to share that energy with so many people. Ivo is guided to create the skulls. The skulls create experiences/relationships with the people. The people create the community. The community creates beautiful energy. It's a circle of divine energy.

Susan Waters (USA)



## Crystal skulls from Ivo Manus.

A few years ago a friend of mine introduced me to the Crystal Skulls of Ivo Manus. The artwork created by the hands and heart of Ivo are inspired, and ever so beautiful. I recognize myself in a lot of his work, so do many others. Every time I headed off to Boskoop to find myself a new Crystal Skull, I was excited! A 2,5 hours travel back and forth by train full of passion and nervousness .....

I was always welcomed with open arms in his studio. A place full of energy and treasures of gemstones, minerals and of course beautiful Skulls! But first there was time to have a coffee or a cup of tea accompanied with an interesting conversation. Than finally getting upstairs to the Skull room! Beautiful Skulls to be seen, a place that will help you discover who you really are. After an extensive time of watching and feeling, contacting each and every Skull .... It is time to make up your mind. Who will be coming home with me? Is it this one, or the other one? Or both? Sure it will be the one best for you, who fits in the process you are in right now.

The major thing that Ivo's Skulls brought me is of pure beauty, the beauty we all have within. Perfect ..... in the way it should be. Without being judgemental, just being able to feel who we really are. Simply being human and much and much more.....

In the meanwhile I do care take 13 Manus Skulls, they all stand together. They all belong to each other, I do enjoy them so much!

There is one in particular I love dearly. Once I brought a stone which I found during my holiday in Norway to Ivo and asked him to carve me a Skull for me. He sure is beautiful!

Dear Ivo, thanks for being around and that you are able to show yourself throughout the Crystal Skulls you carve. Your work is beautiful and I enjoy it every day! It did bring me a piece of myself, a piece of beauty of everybody.

Big kiss and hug,

Thijn (Netherlands)



## Avalonia and the Children

Avalonia was my first large 'Ivolian' skull. The spiral on her crown has always connected her with Glastonbury Tor, and the heart at her third eye gives her 'official title' - The Sacred Heart of Avalon. For a long time, she made it clear that she wanted me to take her to Glastonbury, and carry her up the Tor - however, she was very specific that I had to carry her in my hands the whole way, not put her in a bag!

In 2015 I was able to attend a retreat in Glastonbury, and on a sunny Sunday afternoon we set off to climb the Tor. This was my first time climbing it, and I hadn't realised how steep it would be! Although there are steps, it was very hard work with my arthritic knees. However, with the encouragement of my friend (and several rest breaks!) we made it to the top. Avalonia is a large and heavy skull, so it was a challenge to carry her all the way. Luckily Glastonbury is one of the few places where nobody seems to bat an eyelid if you are walking around carrying a crystal skull!

Reaching St Michael's Tower on the summit of the Tor was such a relief, and a great feeling of achievement to know that I had done it. We spent some time in the tower, enjoying the shade and allowing me to get my breath back. Also on the top of the Tor is a round plinth with a compass rose on it, pointing the directions to different parts of the UK. I put Avalonia down on it while I took a photo in the direction of home. While she was sitting there, a young girl of maybe seven or eight years old came up to me and started asking about Avalonia. She asked where she came from, so I explained she had been carved for me in Holland. She then said "She's quite strange, but I like her!" and walked away! Anyone who knows me, knows that I am no good at relating to children, so to have a conversation like this with a child was almost unheard of for me!

After a while we had to head back down the Tor to carry on with the other activities of the retreat, so once again I set off, carrying Avalonia in my hands. Part-way down we were walking behind a mum and dad who were carrying their baby daughter. She was also fascinated by Avalonia and kept reaching out to touch her. I can only attribute these interactions to the energy of pure LOVE that Avalonia exudes, especially in her spiritual home on the Isle of Avalon.

Vicky Moore, York, (United Kingdom)



Avalonia on a bench part-way up Glastonbury Tor



At the Tor



## Manus Preseli Dragon Story

I have a few Preseli Manus Skulls two Mongolians that came as a pair and one small Dragon. I have always felt the Preseli Bluestone was a great one for earth healing and ancestral links and these certainly are, the Mongolians are waiting specifically to go to Orkney with me to do a project of work that will be coming up this year which I have not been given the details of as yet, and the wee Dragon I have taken to many places to work with the earth and sea, I always get an ocean connection with the Preseli Dragons.

This story is a little different to what I had experienced before and I was not sure if I would get this tale written as it relates to a still difficult time for me and how a Preseli Bluestone Dragon is helping me through it.

My mum passed away the week before Christmas and a few days after that happening I received a package from a very special soul and inside was a beautiful gentle Preseli Bluestone Dragon called Tree Fern, the person had been told she was meant to be with me, as I held this lovely being I could feel the over whelming love coming from her and the dark heavy ache in my heart soothing.

We decided to not have Christmas or New Year at home and went to a friends by the coast and I took her and my other wee Dragon with me, they loved the sea and the Viking connection I could feel their excitement and I slept with them in my room. These beautiful souls helped me to get a decent sleep and to support me over a very difficult and upsetting time and was the first time I had felt a Preseli Bluestone working on me on a personal level and I am sure on an ancestral one too.

They now sit as a pair continuing to support me and sharing their love with the earth also, so through a very special gift from a friend I got to really feel another aspect of these special beings.

Anonymous (Scotland)



## PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE.

### PAST ....

#### THE CALL



*My first ivolian with old Mongolian*

As the wheel of the year turned from 2013 to 2014, I took my first step into Ivo's kaleidoscopic wonderworld. With a type of Skull rooted deeply in my core: The Mongolian. These old, rare Skulls belonged to Shamans in the past and are still connected to their Shaman's Spirit. They have a characteristic shape which distinguishes them from other Skulls: Facing upward, with large round eye-sockets and deliberately missing teeth. They are heavy (starting at 2 kg), mostly of chatoyant Golden Calcite, with Fossilized Wood and Fossil Coral also occurring incidentally. Mongolians are amongst the deepest and most meaningful Skulls I ever encountered, and I hold them very dear.

It was Judith Coulson who opened a new pathway by asking Ivo to carve a Mongolian. An enchanting bunch of little "Ivolians" (Ivo's Mongolians) then sprang forth and drew me magnetically to Ivo's doorstep, to meet this talented original carver and his remarkable Skulls. I still remember the moment I crossed the threshold into his Treasury: A space at the top floor of his home, where balance, purity and focus rule. And .... Skulls! A myriad of them, in all mineral sorts and sizes! However, the only thing I noticed at that first entrance was the intimate, modest center that Ivo had created, honouring and completely tuned into the Mongolian Spirit: Fire on a candle, surrounded by a circle of Ivolians in twilight. Peaceful, simple, profound, united.

My hand reached out to one of them and Ivo exclaimed: “Now I understand why I just had to finish her, late last night!” This was to become my first Ivolian: Manna (“heavenly bread”), of pink Selenite, with in the background an old Mongolian. Ivo and I both love Selenite, Ivo remarked that every once in a while he simply has to carve Selenite! Selenite brings Heaven to Earth .. It speaks of the joy and delicacy of living in Spirit, which I recognize as living in me too. What also strikes me is the remarkable pattern in her structure, matching the old Shaman way of carrying deer-antlers as a head-dress.



*Beluga at candle light*

Nonwithstanding Ivo’s caring advise to restrict myself during that first visit, on my way home I made an urgent phone call to him to reserve another Mongolian whose voice resounded louder and louder within me. This first visit marked the onset of my full-blown indulgence in Ivo’s awesome Skull Beings, which has only intensified since.

## BIRTHGIVING



### *Ivolian Group*

Speed and power of manifestation signify living in accordance with Spirit and characterize Ivo's style: Within days, our involvement reached a new level when Ivo proposed something that made me almost jump through the roof with enthusiasm and humble gratitude: He offered to bring the Ivolians to my home, where they could commune with the old Mongolians and from there, move on into the world. He could not have suggested anything more welcome! Before I knew it, Ivo now was at MY doorstep, his arms filled to the brim with Ivolians in all sizes!

Ivo spoke about the great urge he felt while manifesting them into Stone (mostly Steatite, incidentally also Lava, Tourmaline, Sodalite, Emerald, Marl, Calcite, Selenite and other minerals): They hovered in a cloud above him during the birthing process, one after the other announcing itself with great speed and energy to be incarnated. Almost tumbling over each other in their urge to be born. They wanted to get to WORK! Whereas the ancient Mongolians are hard to afford for many, these new ones were priced very friendly by Ivo to enable them to reach everyone. Ivo also emphasized that by no means they were intended as copies of the old Mongolians... They are new and different Beings: Ivolians!

It was spellbinding to see these fascinating Ivolians act by their own initiative in my home: They took their place and did their things. It was deeply rewarding to commune with these powerful, strongly earth-connected Souls, who provide easy access to the shamanic realm. They located their caretakers with similar speed and power as they were birthed with: In the wink of an eye each flew to its corner of the globe.

Three years later, Ivo birthed another batch of Ivolians, this time with Runes inscribed. Again, these were born in 1 great gulp and moved on to their caretakers with overwhelming power in that same single breath. The function of Ivolians, Ivo said, is to "kick people in the ass", to get them up and moving. They are extremely goal-directed. One can safely conclude that the Ivolians are a league of their own!



## CAVE CLOSED



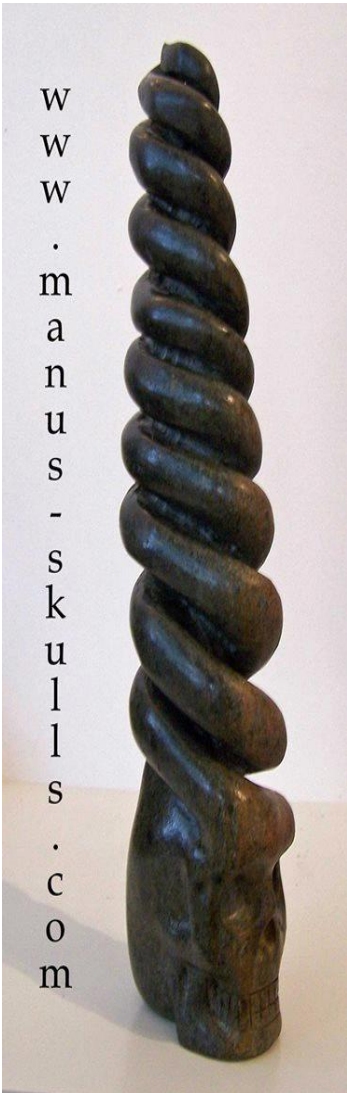
The first Ivolian .

When both Ivo and his wife Sandra recently felt that Ivo's first carved Ivolian: An 8 kilo heavy-weight of Alabaster, wanted to come live with me, I was flabbergasted. This Skull had always filled me with utmost respect, being -for me- Ivo's personal Mongolian. Yet I also recognized Ivo and Sandra's intuition, for the Skull had definitely been calling my attention that day. I feel most honoured that they trust me to be its carrier. So, this first Ivolian ever took its place in my home and I sense its depth, rooted in ancient times, anchored in earth's old wisdom. A personal master, a blind seer, a mighty spirit. With a wide voice, like the old Mongolians have too. Speaking distinctly, in silence and immobility. Of goodness, offering vast wisdom, and shamanic knowledge. And, most distinctively: singing. It is a low vibration, a sonore hum. Each Mongolian has one, and so does s-he.

Thus, the first became the last. The circle closed. It breathes beauty that the firstborn closes the Ivolian ranks: Like a mighty boulder closing Aladdin's cave. Ivo, like Aladdin, shone his wonderlamp upon its hidden treasures and for a moment opened the cave to let them flow out into the world.

PRESENT

A PLURIFORM SKULL UNIVERSE



Ivo is courageous. He dares step outside the regular, the established. In fact, he constantly crosses borders and thresholds to enter into the unfamiliar. This to me is true science: To search one's individual, authentic path through life. Ivo lives this, and it is exactly this which makes the adrenaline rush through my veins with enthusiasm for his work. Every creation of Ivo is completely fresh, vibrant and unique, he never repeats himself. His works of Art never cease to astound and impress me and double the value of his Skulls: Besides becoming caretaker of an appealing, rich Personality, one also gets a one-of-a-kind outstanding work of Art! That is why I feel one can never have too many Ivo Manus Skulls, and so they gradually have filled my home with their endless diversity. For instance this spiral Skull of green Serpentine ... I passed by the table where Ivo was working on him and was impressed by the craftsmanship and vision, without imagining it ever to become my life's companion! Yet, during another visit, once I took him in my lap, I never wanted to let go of him anymore, so he found his way to my home. One of the many to be cherished intensely!

Ivo's Skulls also possess clear strong healing and grounding properties. Ivo's talented work as healer and leader of shamanic journeys extends into his Skulls and transmits these gifts to their caretakers. They are, like Ivo himself, full of beaming energy and power!



Dragon Meredith

Courage and Dragons belong together, don't they? Have you ever encountered a Dragon like Ivo's anywhere else? I surely haven't! Ivo is a daring Dragon himself! Fierce Beasts with mighty teeth and extreme facial expressions are not uncommon in Ivo's Family of Dragons! Yet these fiery Beasts are not devouring, but the most loyal friends one can wish for. And I savour their characteristic skewed curves, such as Meredith shows in this picture, which are pure artistic delight. Meredith is a 5 kg heavy Apoplyllite Dragon, that I intended to call Foechoer (the giant benevolent white Dragon in "The Neverending Story"), but he told me his name is Meredith, and when looking that up its meaning appeared to be: "The right hand of God". I love the theme of the Skewed asymmetrical long lines in Ivo's Dragons, yet, again and always the artist: each Dragon has them in its own unique personal way!



*Labyrinth skull Nirvana*

I love and admire all of Ivo's Skull Creations and just can't keep away from them so, irresistible, they have found their way to my home. To be cherished, and also to be lovingly proposed to Ivo's fans for adoption. A job I love: The same boost of energy that characterizes all of Ivo's work, I feel for recommending his Skulls to their caretakers: A never-ending enthusiasm filling me with admiration and praise for these wonders!

This white Labyrinth Skull is a double blessing. When Ivo walked me to the door one day, we came by a white stone that I felt great love for and affinity with. Ivo told me he'd been working on it, but the stone broke and he had been on the verge of disposing of it. Now, he would make a skull of it and gift it to me.... This became Nirwana, a miracle of beauty with blue eyes and a labyrinth inscribed. S-he is always, always near to me at night. S-he is one example of the uncountable blessings that Ivo bestowed upon me during our rich years of interaction. I can never thank this man and his wonderful and equally warm-hearted and special family enough for all the blessings and good they have bestowed upon me and which I never will forget!

## FUTURE

### I M



*Skull with Ivo's signature: "I AM "*

What will the future bring? One thing is for sure: With Ivo one is always in for a surprise, for many surprises, for a snowball effect of surprises! One of them came with the year 2017: At its onset, Ivo launched his perfect signature I M (Ivo Manus, and I AM), which all of his carvings from now on will bear. As 2017 adds up to the number 1, it symbolizes a new start and creation, as Ivo told me. Ivo uses numerology both consciously and intuitively in his work. My experience with the I M skulls is that they are even more grounded, stronger connected to Earth, more incarnated.

They Are!

## ABSTRACTION



*Twirl*

When recently I first saw Twirl, an abstract Marble sculpture, I wondered whether there would be an Entity connected to him. I felt drawn and during a next visit decided to invite him to come home with me to explore. And to my amazed enchantment: YES, it IS a Being, it IS an individual, very distinct consciousness greeting me in him. Which teaches me that form is subordinate to intent of creation.

It makes me look over my shoulder at Ivo's work from before his Skull carving period. (Only a few years ago, how incredible, when looking at his vast family of Skull carvings!) Ivo's skills as an outstanding sculpturist were firmly established well before he ever started carving Skulls! His previous sculptures already show his affinity with abstractions and pluriform associations. As Ivo is always on the move to new and unheard of realms, I wonder how his various affinities in the future might integrate into new and amazing creations .....

One thing I know for sure: With Ivo, one is always in for a surprise! One never knows what comes next. He might tomorrow even stop carving Skulls as we know them altogether! The only thing which is sure is that his work will be always fresh, strong, ensouled and forever alive. With this man, everything happens fast and with great impulse and creative power. Ivo makes many seeds burst forth into mighty Cedar trees interacting with Cosmos. How lucky are we, the caretakers of his pluriform creations, to receive the blessings of this Father Abraham's diverse Skull offspring!

Do Jansen (Netherlands)

*Laurens Ivo Manus Skulls* group on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/groups/874890862617105/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/groups/874890862617105/?fref=ts)

*The End*  
*of the Beginning ...*