

TEILHARD STUDIES

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About the author:

Tracy Higgins came to know Teilhard during her years living in France. She now lives in New York, but as Gertrude Stein used to say, Paris is her hometown. She lived in Paris during her formative adult years as a counterintelligence liaison officer assigned to work with the French security and intelligence services. Her free time was spent riding French horses, exploring rural France from her friends' family homes in the provinces, and retreating to historic monasteries especially Solesmes and La Grande Trappe. She empathizes with Teilhard's profound attachment to France, where, as he wrote to his cousin Marguerite, the Spirit seems "to blow stronger." Nevertheless, having spent a military career mostly overseas in four foreign countries, she appreciated the opportunity to return to her family's native New York where she earned a PhD in Nursing from Columbia University. Her experience nurtured an acute awareness of the contrast between life in the United States and France, and how a native is indelibly imprinted by early experiences and relationships.