

Wilhelm Reich short biographical notes

Wilhelm Reich (1897-1957).

On 1922 Reich obtained the degree in Medicine and in the same period approached Freud's work on psychoanalysis. On 1933 he published the first edition of *Character Analysis* and *the Mass Psychology of Fascism*. In this latter book he discusses the responsibilities of the masses in the establishment of the dictatorships. During the rise of the Nazi movement in Europe, he was invited by some Norwegian psychoanalysts, amongst them Ola Raknes, for a study period in Norway where he stayed until August 1939. Reich carried out his researches and lectured on his findings at the University of Oslo. On August 1939 he moved from Europe to the Usa where he founded the *Orgone Institute*. In the Usa he started a period of researches characterised by investigations more related to the biological and physical fields than to the psychological one. In short time he set up a laboratory to perform his experiments on orgone biology and biophysics, and continued the studies on cancer cell development. In the summer 1940 he discovered what he defined *cosmic orgone energy* and in the same year, built the first orgone energy accumulator.

In 1948 he published *the Cancer Biopathy* and founded the *American Association for Medical Orgonomy* (AAMO). In the same year he organised the first International Congress on Orgonomy, held in Orgonon, Rangely, Maine. The new research field of Reich became the meteorology, and particularly the desertification process. To better study the process the scientist organised, in October 1954, an expedition to Tucson, Arizona, that was called *Expedition Orop Desert Ea*. Few months later FDA investigations on Reich's activities resulted in Reich arrest for fraud. Notwithstanding all attempts to free him from blame, the scientist was taken to Lewisburg penitentiary, Pennsylvania, where on November 3, 1957, a week before his release, was found dead in his cell. Official cause of death was cardiac failure.

During his detention he continued working and developed the final relationship for the negative gravity. He also completed his last book *the Creation*. The manuscript mysteriously disappeared and the equation, that he had to give the week after to his son Peter, followed him in the grave.