

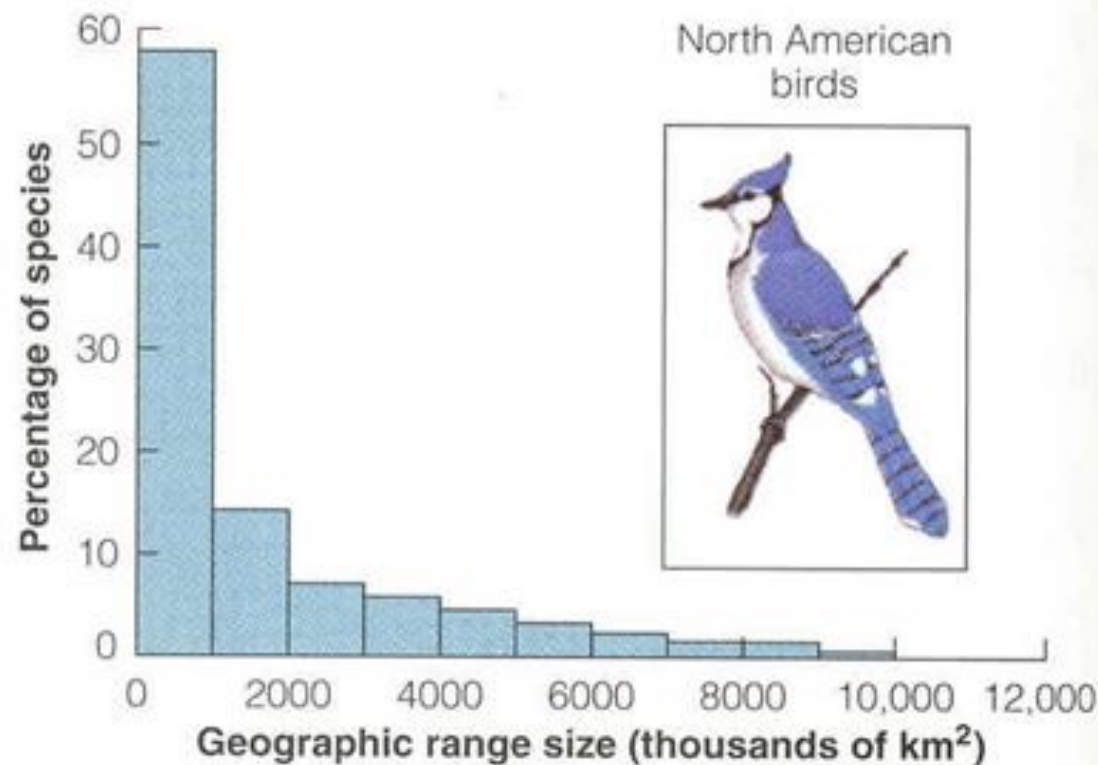
Introduction to the MA

Ecology and Spirituality

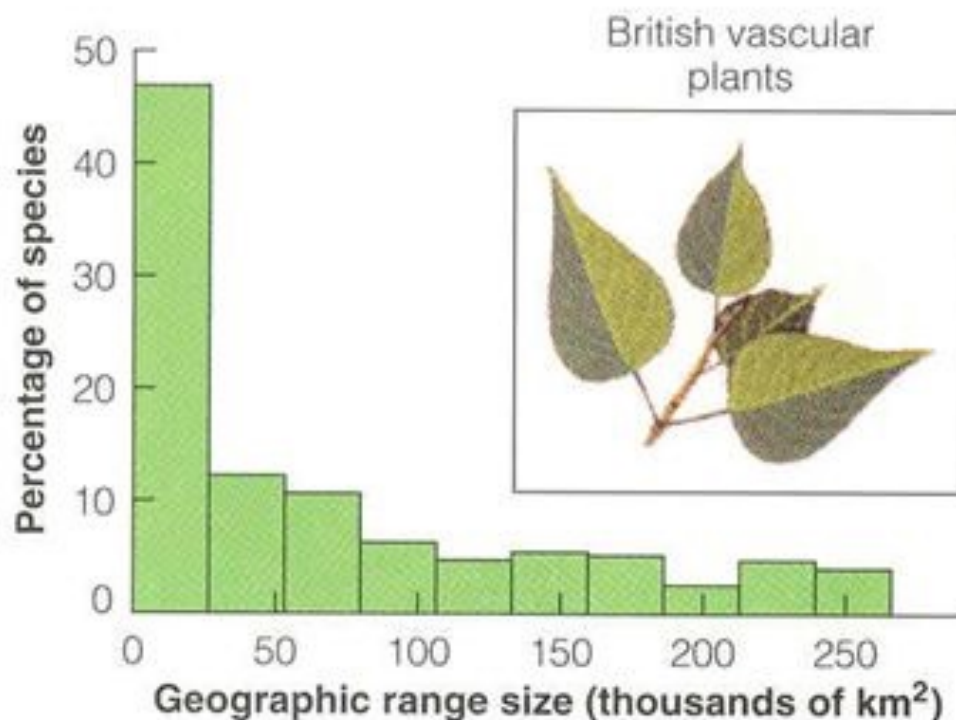
Ecology

- The scientific study of organisms in their living and non-living contexts
- The wider sense that we live in a world that is morally interconnected: to change the part is to change the whole

Variations in Geographic Range size



(a)

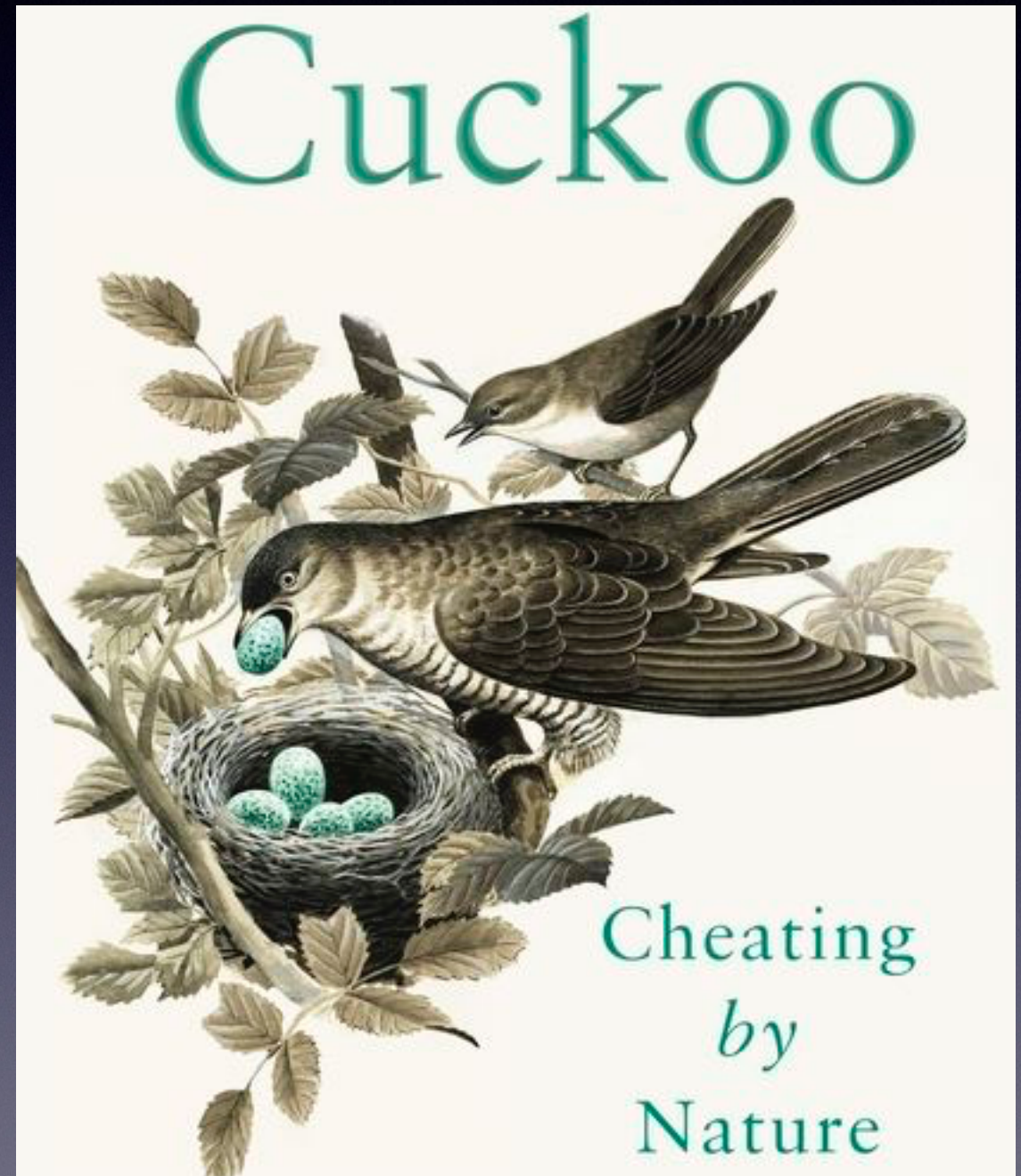


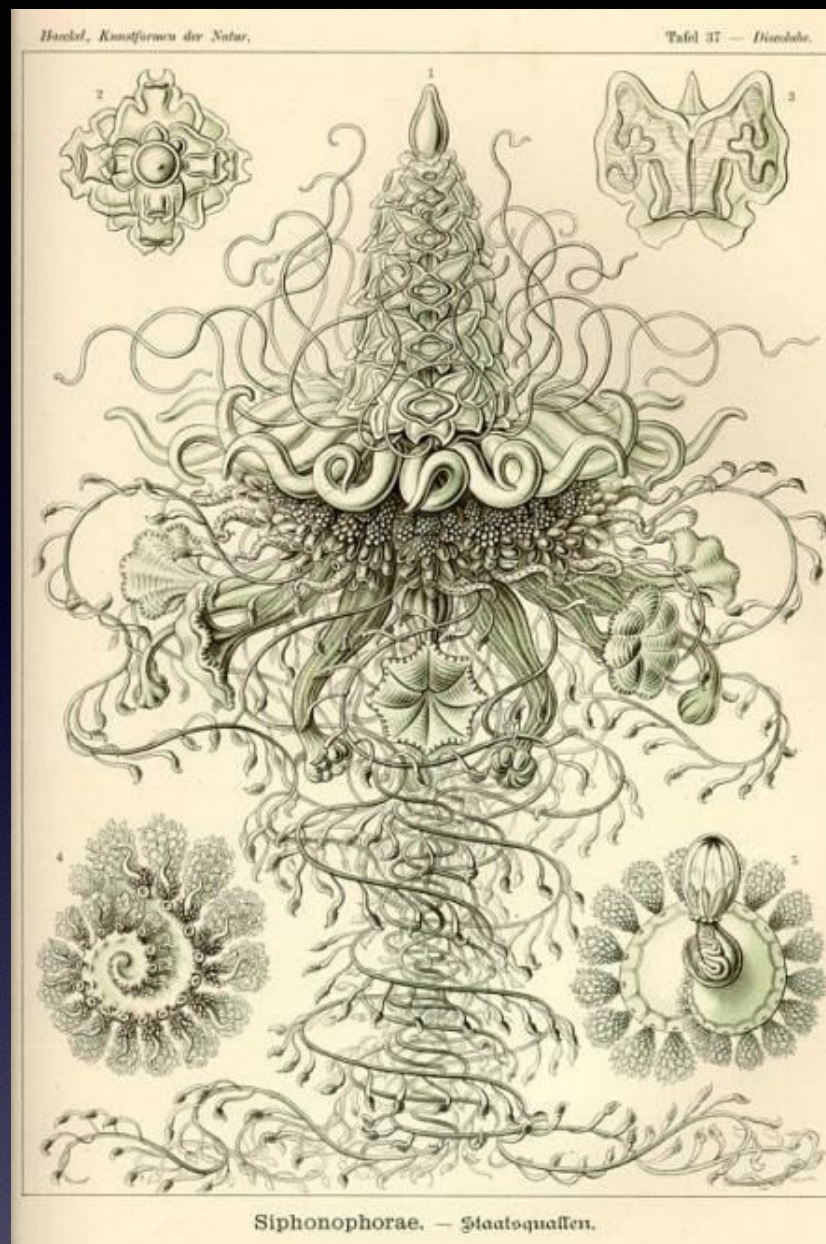
(b)

- **Within a taxonomic group, most species have a small geographic range:**

Nick Davies

- generate testable predictions
- e.g. why does a cuckoo steal one egg when it lays its own?





WTF is life?

Ecology

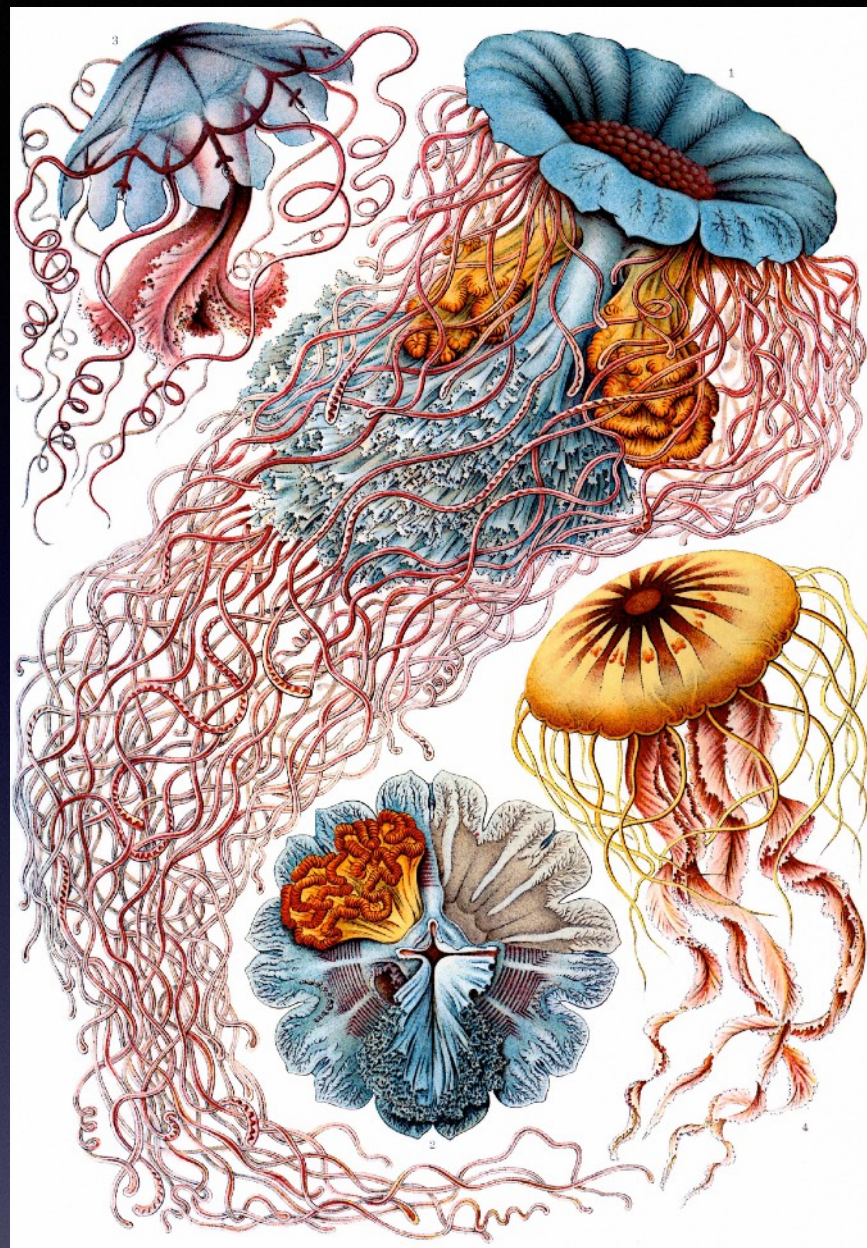
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Oikos = 'home', 'household', 'place where one lives'

- ecology
- economics
- ecumenicism



OIKOS



Ernst Haeckel (1834-1919)

'Ecology' in 1869



for Haeckel

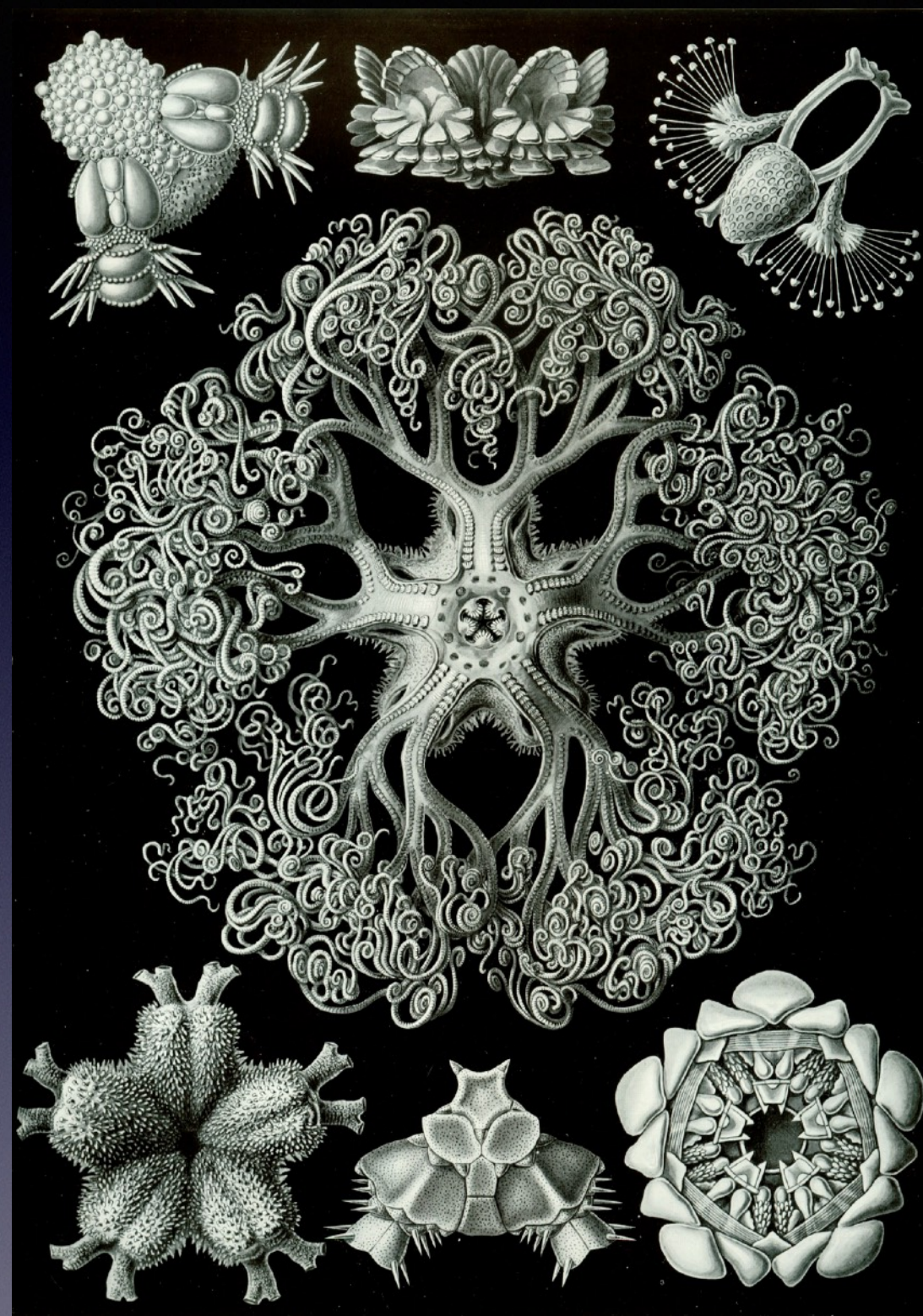
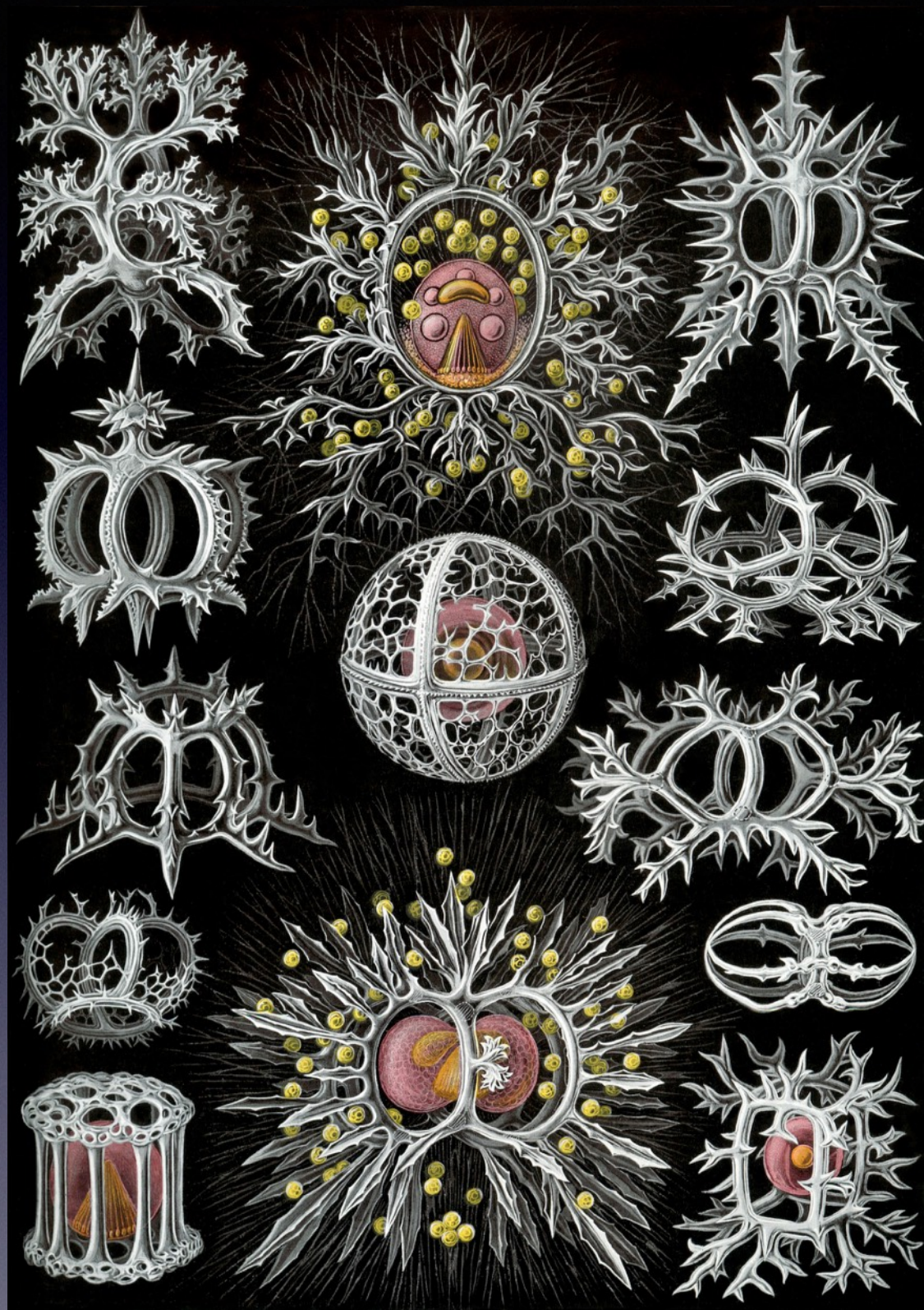
study of ecology leads to cosmic truth (monism)

“No dualism, no divine creation, no afterlife, just the eternal existence of force and matter in incessant change. Individuals were the ephemeral means for the maintenance of force and matter, and into the eternal substance of the universe from which they had come they would return: from here to eternity.”

–Dr Mario A. Di Gregorio

“the orderly course of evolution, according to fixed laws, now leads the human spirit through long eons from a primeval chaos to the present ‘order of the cosmos’.”

–Ernst Haeckel 1895



- How should we interpret the world?
- How, then, should we act in the world?

A question of
hermeneutics



Ecology and Spirituality



The Ecological Self



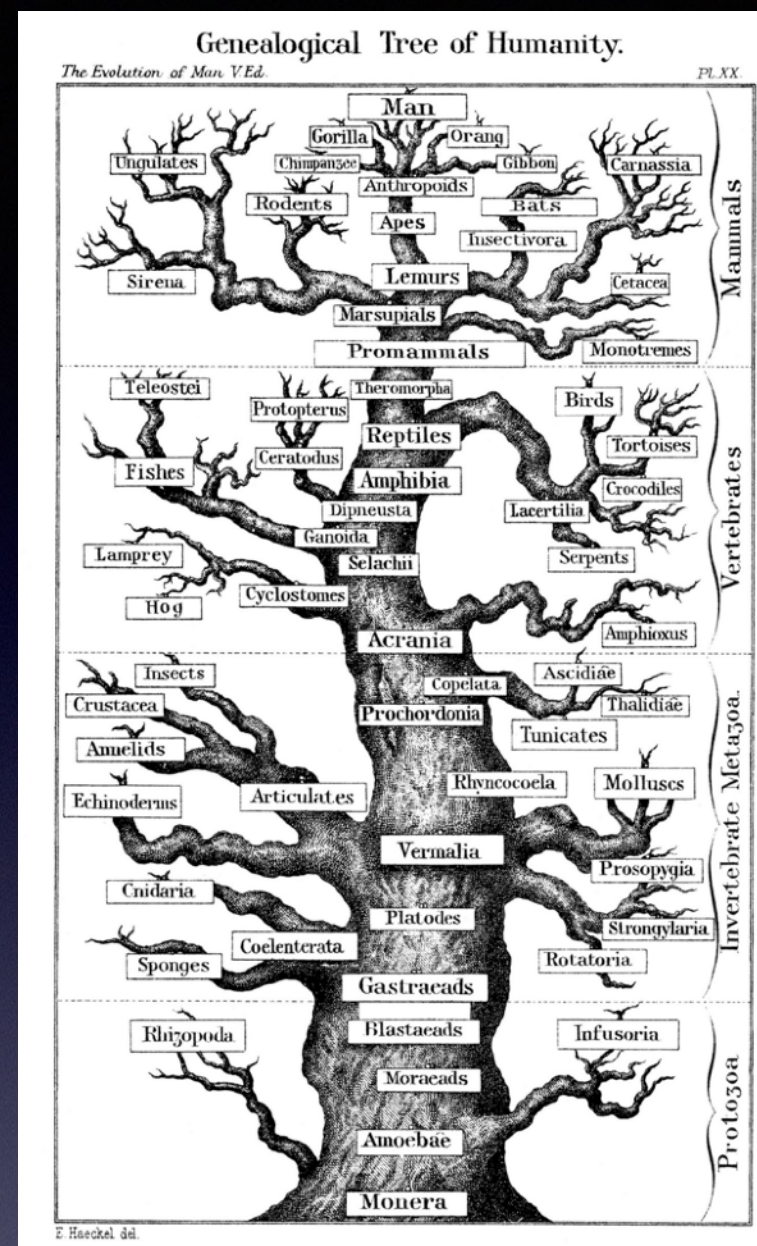
Indigeny Today



Sacred Activism



Western Esotericism



Evolution and Spirituality in the West