

## Backgrounder on Hazlitt's Dharma and Music Tour

### Contact

Hazlitt  
Skype: hazlitt.krog  
Mobile: 415-846-3618  
Email: [hazlitt@gmail.com](mailto:hazlitt@gmail.com)  
Music: [www.perceptual.com](http://www.perceptual.com)  
Dharma: [www.pathbuddha.com](http://www.pathbuddha.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/hazlitt](http://www.facebook.com/hazlitt)



Photo Credit: Jose R. Rodriguez  
High-resolution file available: 2010-12-01\_hazlitt-teaching-dharma-peace-sign.jpg

### Summary

Hazlitt is an authorized Dharma Teacher of the Dzogchen Lineage of Tibetan Buddhism. He is also a singer-songwriter penning Dharma-inspired music. He's been on a Dharma teaching tour for the past 16 months traveling over 20,000 miles through 26 states and provinces, giving over 280 Buddha Dharma teaching sessions to over 1,200 attendees. He began to give private musical performances during the tour, performing his original music.

Recently in Woodstock Hazlitt gave a Dharma teaching at the Mothership and three musical performances at the Colony Café and Harmony Café. He is planning some additional teachings and musical performances in the Woodstock area before he continues his tour down the East Coast and across the South, returning to his base on the West Coast.

### Tour Summary

Includes cities visited and statistics of the tour.  
<http://www.pathbuddha.com/tour-history.html>

### Biography

Christened as Hazlitt Eiler Krog and born in the same week that His Holiness the Dalai Lama fled Tibet, Hazlitt has experienced a profound connection with the

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Dzogchen Lineage of Tibetan Buddhism without renouncing his Christian roots. He has cultivated a deep respect for all spiritual practitioners who relentlessly seek the truth no matter what system of faith or science they use as an vehicle for their exploration. He recognizes the importance of Interfaith dialog as a way to deepen our understandings of both the similarities and differences of various inquiries into what is truth.

Hazlitt graduated from SUNY Fredonia with a Bachelor of Arts in Special Studies titled "Music, Video and Film Production." Prior to becoming a Dharma teacher, he pursued a series of overlapping careers and avocations as a musician and songwriter, videographer and editor, multimedia producer, web producer, project manager, publisher, entrepreneur, investor, photographer, and author.

A major turning point for Hazlitt was in 1991, when he attended the Kalachakra Initiation conferred by His Holiness the Dalai Lama upon more than four thousand people in Madison Square Garden's Paramount Theater. The experience of being present in the room with His Holiness, day-after-day during the empowerment, greatly inspired Hazlitt. It began to dawn on him how special is this Nalanda Tradition that is embodied by Tibetan Buddhism. If this tradition had not been preserved and perpetuated in Tibet after it had been destroyed in 12<sup>th</sup> Century India, it would not exist in the same vibrant form today. This past transference of wisdom has a strong parallel with the efforts to preserved and perpetuate this tradition in the West after the attempts to destroy Tibetan Buddhism during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Over the years, Hazlitt has sought out Tibetan Buddhist teachings, empowerments, meetings and blessings from numerous masters. Since 2002, Hazlitt has spent a total of a year and a half in residential retreats with his main teacher, Dzogchen Khenpo Choga Rinpoche, as well as many additional months accompanying him on pilgrimage in India and Nepal, and assisting him during his numerous North American teaching tours. He has now participated in over 21 separate retreats taught by Khenpo Choga. Since June 2008 this has included the nine months comprising the first two Dzogchen Lineage Internship programs. During these retreats, he received specific empowerments and special transmissions on Phowa (transference of consciousness, the Tibetan Buddhist instructions for dying), Tummo (the practice of inner fire), Guru Rigdzin Dupa, Yidam Palchen Dupa, Dakini Dechen Gyalmo, Dzogchen Khandro Nyingthig, Dzogchen Longchen Nyingthig, Orange Manjushri, Green Tara and Guru Rinpoche. Although the Internships were focused on teacher-training, there were special instructions given and time set aside for Ngondro accumulations.

Hazlitt has tirelessly volunteered in support of Dharma activities and teachings, organizing and promoting teaching tours, hosting teaching events and as the Retreat Director for several Dzogchen Lineage retreats. For seven years he served as the President of the Dzogchen Buddha Institute in the San Francisco Bay Area. Since 2005 has been a Director on the board of the Dzogchen Shri Singha Foundation USA

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and presently serves as an officer on that board. He has been instrumental in the Foundation's acquisition and development of the 160-acre Dzogchen Retreat Center USA near Eugene, Oregon.

Khenpo has requested and authorized Hazlitt to teach the foundation of Buddhadharma as much as possible, and granted him the title, *Upasaka Bodhisattva Pema Bhadra Dorje, Dharma Teacher of The Buddha Path*.

Presently unmarried and without children, Hazlitt has been traveling and teaching Dharma since October 2011. An active singer-songwriter writing Dharma-inspired songs, Hazlitt has been offering private musical performances during the tour, and recently has begun to play guitar and sing in public.

A longer bio is available at:

<http://www.pathbuddha.com/biography-long.html>

### **Hazlitt's Root Teacher**

Great Perfection of Wisdom lineage holder Dzogchen Khenpo Choga Rinpoche was born in Tibet, where he began training in Buddhism at the age of five at the Dzogchen Monastery. He has been recognized as the reincarnation of enlightened Tibetan master Gedun Chopel, who is the emanation of Manjushri, the Bodhisattva of the Buddha's Wisdom.

He received the transmissions and teachings of the Sutras, Tantras and Shastras from forty-two Buddhist masters and the complete empowerments and instruction of the Dzogchen Tantras from his root masters Khenchen Padma Tsewang, Drupchen Chatral Chochoyab, and Guru Dechen Namdrol. Rinpoche is the thirty-third holder of the Dzogchen lineage, lama of Dzogchen Monastery, a Professor of the Dzogchen Shri Singha University, Spiritual Leader of Dzogchen Shri Singha International, Founder of the Dzogchen Shri Singha Dharma Centers, and Director of Dzogchen Shri Singha International Charitable Organizations.

The Dzogchen Lineage of Tibetan Buddhism is an ancient wisdom tradition that traces its source to the historical Buddha Shakyamuni.

For more about Khen Rinpoche and the Dzogchen Lineage, please visit:

<http://www.dzogchenlineage.org>

### **Interview**

There is a published interview with Hazlitt from January 2011 in the arts magazine Buzi Buty out of Amsterdam. It runs on pages 35-51:

[http://www.buzibuty.com/issues/buzi\\_buty\\_002.pdf](http://www.buzibuty.com/issues/buzi_buty_002.pdf)

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### Music

Hazlitt has a demo album of 10 songs downloadable for free at this website:

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



Photo Credit: Selena Hodom

High-resolution file available: 2011-01-17\_hazlitt-studio-guitar.jpg

### Video

There are some short videos of Hazlitt teaching, recorded in 2009 prior to all his teaching experiences on the teaching tour.

See the first three search results at this link:

[http://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=dzogchen+hazlitt&aq=f](http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=dzogchen+hazlitt&aq=f)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/hazlitt](https://www.facebook.com/hazlitt)