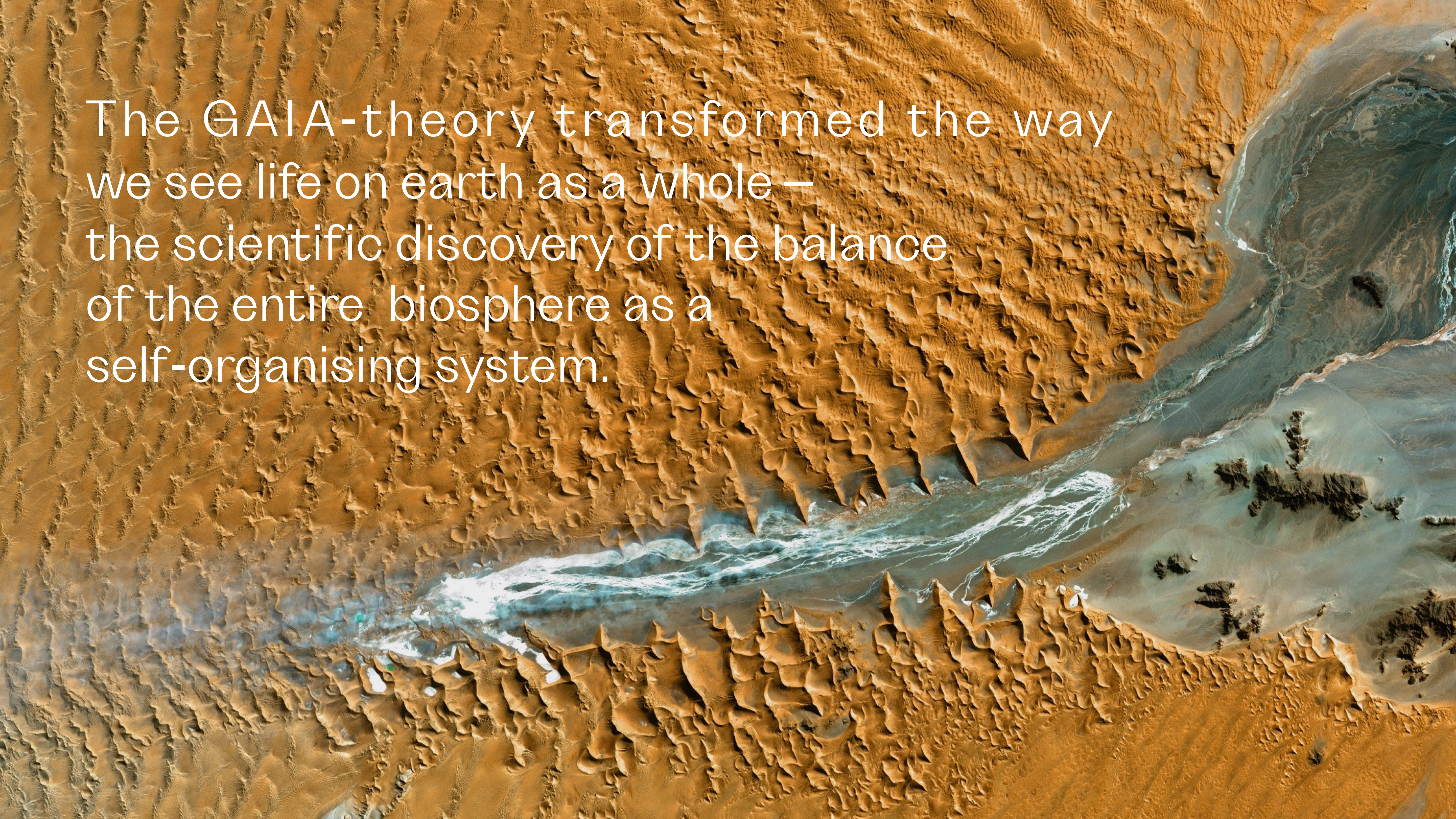


# “GAIA” ?





An aerial photograph of a river delta, likely the Nile, showing a complex network of channels and distributaries. The surrounding land is a vast, textured expanse of brown, undulating terrain, possibly a desert or a dry lake bed, with numerous small, rounded mounds and depressions. The river itself is a mix of light blue and white, indicating sediment and water flow. The overall scene is one of natural complexity and scale.

The GAIA-theory transformed the way  
we see life on earth as a whole –  
the scientific discovery of the balance  
of the entire biosphere as a  
self-organising system.



An aerial photograph of a body of water, likely a lake or a wide river. In the center-right of the frame, there is a small, rectangular wooden pier or dock structure. The structure is heavily overgrown with tall, dry, brown reeds or grasses that are leaning over the water. The water is a deep blue color with visible ripples and small waves. The lighting suggests a low sun, possibly during sunrise or sunset, as the water has a slightly shimmering appearance.

“We no longer see Earth as  
just a rock we live upon,  
but as a living process in  
which we participate.

Earth takes a presence in our  
consciousness  
as source of all we are and can  
become.”

Joanna Macy



# Funders of the Gaia Theory in Science

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"The past is all around us...  
This interdependence  
is an inexorable fact of life."

Lynn Margulis



"James Lovelock  
is to science what Gandhi was to politics.  
And his central notion, that the planet  
behaves as a living organism, is as radical,  
profound and far-reaching in its impact  
as any of Gandhi's ideas."

New Scientist



# A non-dualistic approach grounding Voices of Gaia

**Intrinsic empowerment** – by a natural, fearless bond



**Confidence through immediate experience** – Gaia within



Not falling into extremes: **acknowledging natural interdependence** – creation is neither external nor internal



sectarianism,  
SPIRITUAL  
MATERIALISM

IDOLISING, HIJACKING the  
GAIA hypothesis

- illusion of external power
- external idolisation
- reification

DENYING, IGNORING GAIA

- belief in material and intellectual superiority
- illusion of one-way dependence, unlimited control and forced growth

exploitation,  
ECONOMIC  
MATERIALISM

victimisation,  
depression

GAIA hypothesis recognised in science since the 1970s

arrogance,  
aggression

GAIA in greek mythology