

**Thursday, October 19th
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

Opening Panel Session: Keynote Address

The Pilgrims' Progress: A Therapist and Patient Journey to London

Speaker: Jeffrey Stern, PhD
Moderator: Andrea Harms, PhD

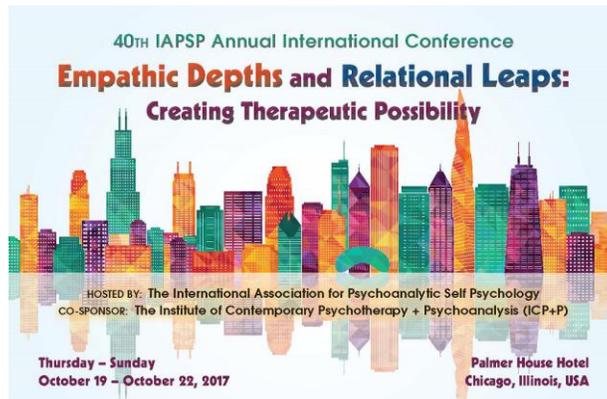
Abstract:

This paper is an account of an improbable therapeutic journey an analyst took with a gravely depressed patient to see a two-part performance of the dramatization of The Golden Compass trilogy at the National Theater. The novels had taken on enormous imaginative significance for both analyst and patient over a two year period and when they discovered they were being done on the stage a plan to see them came -- against all odds -- into being. What transpired and what such an experience might say about therapeutic process and possibility are the subjects of this paper.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe how the radical breaking of the traditional analytic frame can affect the treatment and the patient.
2. Explain how previous assumptions about the traditional analytic frame can be productively challenged.
3. Discuss how the nature of therapeutic action can evolve in a way helpful to the patient.



**Friday, October 20th
8:15 am – 10:30 am**

Panel I

Empathic Depths, Relational Leaps and Therapeutic Action: Where Are We Now?

Speakers: Hazel Ipp, PhD and Steven Stern, PsyD

Discussant: Joye Weisel-Barth, PhD, PsyD

Moderator: Peter Maduro, JD, PsyD

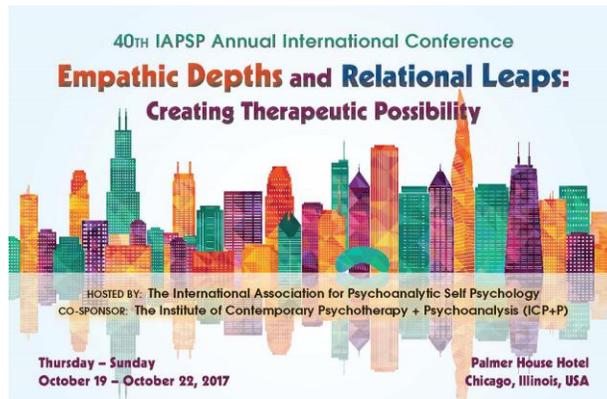
Abstract:

The purpose this Plenary is to consider and answer the question: Where are we now, three decades into the intersubjective/relational turn in psychoanalysis, in our thinking about the nature of the analytic process and therapeutic action? How do we now think about the nature of the analytic relationship and its healing properties, such that our conceptual model would cover the kinds of “relational leaps” that emerged in Jeffrey Stern’s treatment of “Drum” (described in his Keynote address)? What are the organizing principles that Jeffrey was implicitly drawing on, and that guide the contemporary self psychologist’s relational participation in treatments that remain “analytic”? Indeed, how do we now define psychoanalysis in light of the increasing relationality of psychoanalytic treatment, and how does this relationality connect with work in the “empathic depths”? The plenary is conceived as a large-group creative exercise in seeking answers to these questions. First the panelists, and then the audience as well, will be invited to approach these questions freshly, pushing our current ways of thinking beyond previously articulated assumptions and toward new understandings and principles which capture the complexity of psychoanalytic relationality as we now practice it.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Explain how the radical departure from the traditional analytic frame can be understood in light of contemporary psychoanalytic thinking about the nature of the analytic process and therapeutic action.
2. Describe the organizing principles that can guide the contemporary self psychologist(s)'s participation in the therapeutic relationship while ensuring that the treatment remains analytic.
3. List several previous assumptions that the presenters believe are changing or should be questioned in contemporary psychoanalysis in light of the increasing relationality of psychoanalytic treatment.



**Friday, October 20th
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm**

Couples Interest Group Panel

The Couples Therapy Interest Group Presents: Partners Who Think They Have THE Reality: The Problem of Psychic Equivalence in Couples Therapy

Presenter: Thomas Philp, PhD

Moderators: Carla Leone, PhD; David Shaddock, MFT, PhD and Steven Stern, PsyD

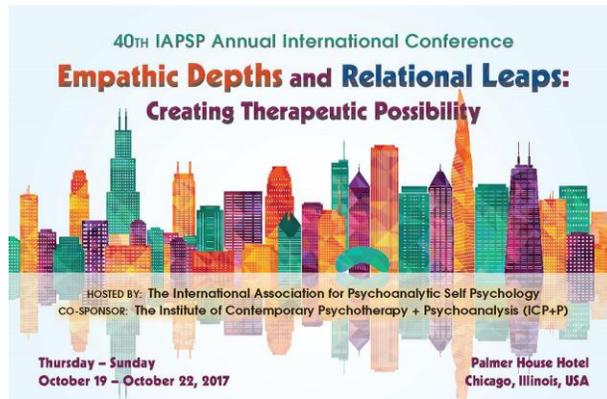
Abstract:

Couples therapy is difficult enough when both partners understand the concept that each has their own subjective reality. But when one or both sees his or her experience as veridical “truth” or “reality,” rather than simply their own particular subjective experience or viewpoint, couples treatment becomes significantly more difficult. Using the open discussion format used in the Couples Therapy Interest Group’s monthly listserv discussions, this “Listserv Live” panel will involve the presentation of clinical case material that illustrates this clinical question, followed by a facilitated discussion of the best ways to handle this difficult clinical situation.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this panel participants will be able to:

1. Define the concept of psychic equivalence and explain why it is a problem in couples treatment.
2. Explain the self psychological understanding of how this problem develops or why some people lack the capacity to see multiple points of view as equally valid
3. List three ways couples therapists might respond to this situation to promote greater ability to see the other’s view.



**Friday, October 20th
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm**

Child & Adolescent Initiative

Child & Adolescent Initiative Presents: And Analyst Makes Three: Reaching Empathic Depths in the Treatment of an Adolescent and Mother

Presenter: Valeria Pulcini, MD
Moderator: Denise Davis, LCSW (co-chair)
Interlocutor: Christine Kieffer, PhD
Co-Chair: Amy Joelson, LCSW

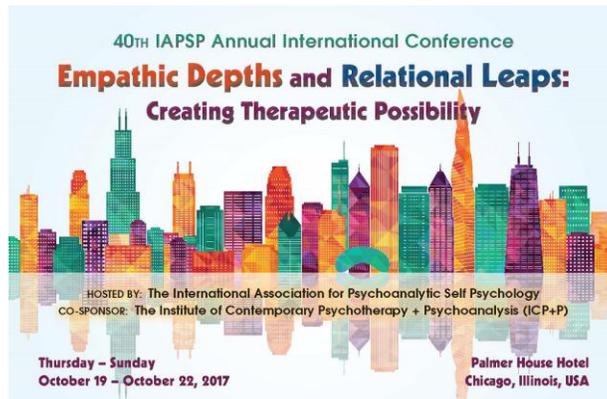
Abstract:

A mother and late adolescent daughter present for treatment, fully acknowledging that both are suffering and unable to communicate with one another. Early on in the treatment, the analyst recognizes some uncanny similarities between her own history and the developmental histories of both the mother and daughter. The analyst, feeling painfully aware of her own developmental longings as well as empathically immersed in the subjective experiences of both members of the dyad uses her countertransference to deepen her understanding of the pair. When there is a treatment impasse, the analyst opts to move beyond her own trepidation and makes the complicated decision to share the reason for her ability to understand both mother and daughter so readily. In a transformative moment of meeting, she discloses the surprising overlapping similarities in her own history and current life experience with both of theirs, and in so doing, explains why her closeness with them is both profound and complex. With the analyst's brave step, the mother and daughter are also emboldened, as they open up to new capacities to recognize one another.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe how the analyst's subjectivity contributes in promoting the joined therapeutic process of a mother and a daughter
2. Discuss the utilization of the analyst's self-disclosure regarding aspects of his or her vulnerability as a factor of change and as a possible way of dealing with an impasse.
3. Assess the value of experimenting new and creative ways of treating a problematic parent-adolescent relationship in a "non conventional" couple therapy.



**Friday, October 20th
1:45 pm – 4:00 pm**

Panel II

The Implicit Connection Between Empathic Depths and Relational Leaps

Speakers: Christina Emanuel, PsyD and Steven Knoblauch, PhD
Discussant: Scott Davis, MD
Moderator: Sandra Kiersky, PhD

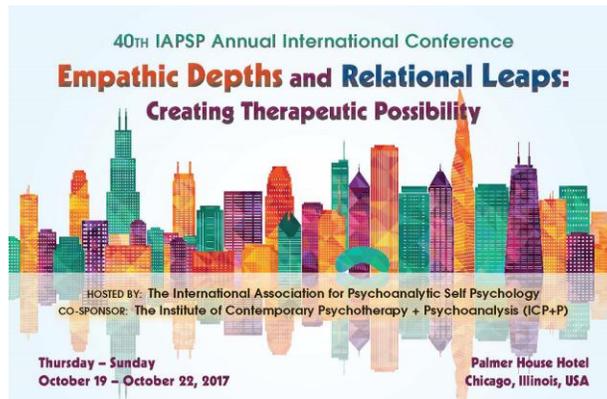
Abstract:

Both the Boston Change Process Study Group, in elaborating the non-interpretive mechanisms of change in the psychoanalytic relationship and infant research in elucidating the dimensions of procedural forms of knowing, attest to the critical importance of the implicit domain in the organization of experience. This Plenary will continue to develop this vision providing a much needed focus on micro-processes of embodied interaction to clarify the implicit connection between empathy and relational shifts and leaps. Weaving together theory and clinical illustration, we explore the use of the implicit domain to deepen an empathic process and co-create new, transforming experience within the registrations of interaction, sometimes represented verbally and sometimes not.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the implicit dimensions of therapeutic dialogue and apply this understanding to enhance clinical work with patients.
2. Identify how communication at the implicit, procedural level can facilitate a deeper empathic process and new, transforming patterns of relational experience.
3. Illustrate how the analyst may use implicit relational movements to deepen empathic connectedness when verbalized empathy does not seem to suffice.



Saturday, October 21st
8:15 am – 10:30 am

Panel III

The Analyst's Subjectivity: A Double-Edged Sword

Speakers: Sarah Mendelsohn, LCSW and Nancy Vanderheide, PsyD

Discussant: Steven Kuchuck, LCSW

Moderator: Judith Guss Teicholz, EdD

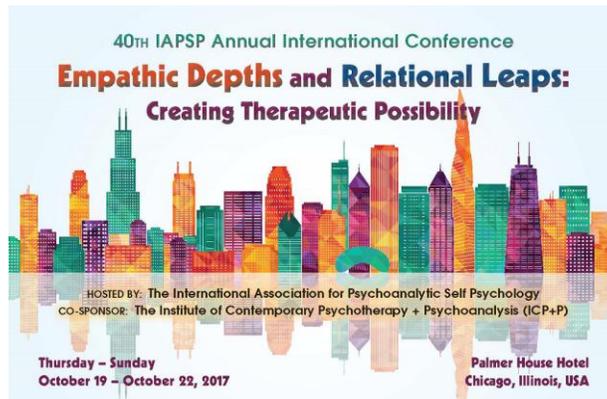
Abstract:

Through clinical illustration guided by experience-near theory, this Plenary aims to further our thinking about the double-edged sword of the analyst's unique subjectivity as it emerges in specific analytic relationships. The double edge refers to the fact that the analyst's subjectivity is the only lens through which we can see and engage therapeutically with our patients, but simultaneously is the aspect of the analyst most likely to create barriers to emotional intimacy or to evoke particular manifestations of the patient's pain and relational patterns. The challenge for the analyst is to hold both her own and her patient's subjectivity in the highest esteem: to monitor her inner experience and maintain the struggle for her own self-awareness; but at the same time to welcome the patient's communications, both implicit and explicit, about the analyst's contributions to the patient's experience and the analytic relationship.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe how the analyst uses subjectivity to establish growth-enhancing intimacy with patients.
2. Identify how aspects of the analyst's subjectivity may unwittingly interfere with empathic understanding or create barriers to transforming emotional intimacy.
3. Discuss how the analyst can experience tension in maintaining her own and the patient's subjective experience.



Saturday, October 21st
12:00 pm – 1:45 pm

Kohut Memorial Lecture and Luncheon

**From Theory Centered to Patient Centered Treatment:
How Kohut Impacted My Therapeutic Work**

Speaker: Richard A. Geist, EdD

Introduction: Jill Gardner, PhD

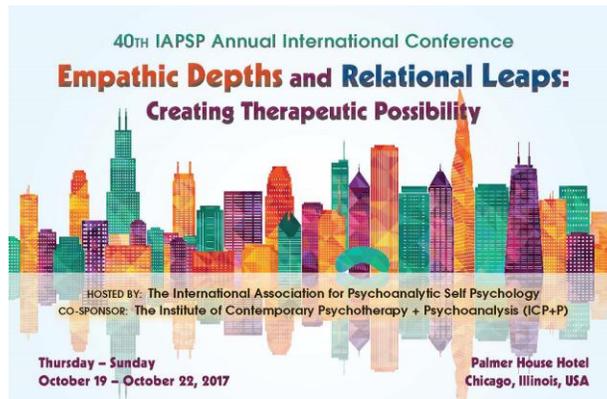
Abstract:

Kohut struggled courageously to proffer many ideas that were opposed to the psychoanalytic theories, philosophy, and clinical ideologies of his day. Not only did he question the way psychoanalysis was practiced, more importantly Kohut challenged the prevailing Freudian view of human nature; no one since Freud had offered such a radical Weltanschauung, a world view that discerned man and woman in such a disparate light that it precluded self psychology's easy integration with other theories. In this lecture, dedicated to my mentor Paul Ornstein, I will take you on a journey, from the time that self psychology came unbidden into my life—a time when I was trammled in the musty corridors of a glum and occluded psychoanalytic world both in my training and my analysis-- through its dramatic impact on my clinical attitude toward therapeutic work, to my attempt to preserve and update some of his more important but waning attitudes and concepts. I will emphasize the frequently unrecognized clinical consequences of Kohut's world view—his belief in protecting the patient, his faith in letting the patient teach us how to analyze him or her, his receptivity to permeable boundaries, his capacity to be vulnerable, his transformation of the atmosphere in the consulting room, and his belief in building on health rather than curing pathology. Traveling along this journey we will discover how Kohut altered the therapeutic relationship from one of shadow companions to intimate connections.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Define the philosophical changes underlying Kohut's clinical contributions.
2. Describe the impact of Kohut's theories on the atmosphere and interaction between patient and analyst in the consulting room.
3. Distinguish which self psychological theories can be expanded upon in this age of relational psychoanalysis.



**Sunday, October 22nd
9:45 am – 12:15 pm**

Panel IV

Psychoanalysis: What's Love Got To Do With It?

Speakers: Jody Messler Davies, PhD and Gianni Nebbiosi, PhD
Discussant: James Fosshage, PhD
Moderator: Jill Gardner, PhD

Abstract:

While research and clinical writing attest to the depth and quality of the relationship between patient and analyst as critically important to growth-enhancing transformation, the experience of love between patient and analyst continues to be complex and controversial. Through clinical illustrations, this Plenary asks what analytic love means and explores whether love, in all of its complexities, is essential within the analytic dyad. If the development of love between patient and analyst is important, how is it communicated — implicitly as mutually felt affection or explicitly as verbalized expressions of love. What are the advantages and risks of the communication of love between patient and analyst? And what is the analyst to do in those instances in which she does not feel love for her patient?

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Define analytic love.
2. Identify whether the experience of love between patient and analyst is essential to healing transformation and apply this understanding in clinical work.
3. Discuss the advantages and risks of expressions of love between patient and analyst.