

## 45th Annual IAPSP International Conference

### The Tragic Person Today: Existence and Meaning in Life and in Clinical Practice



**October 24-27, 2024**

**Pre-Conference Workshops:  
Thursday, October 24, 2024**

**Session 1: 9:00 – 11:30am**

**Session 2: 12:00 – 2:30pm**

**Registrants to choose one workshop in each session**

For a description of the session, its learning objectives, presenter bios and other details, please click on the session letter. (PRE-CON X)

#### **Session 1 Selections:**

**PRE-CON A: Therapeutic Process and the Uniqueness of the Dyad: An Integration of Theory and Practice (Part 1)**

Presenters: Christina Connell, RP, Jill Gardner, PhD, Daniel Perlit, MD, Estelle Shane, PhD

**PRE-CON B: From Tragic Man to Joyous Selfhood – The Path of Selfobject Psychology (Part 1)**

Presenters: Ranaan Kulka, MA, Iris Gavrieli-Rahabi, MA, Rona Kuperboim, MSW, Orly Shoshani, PhD, Osnat Schwartz Stav, PhD, Talya Pogrud-Miller, MA, Tirza Bar Hanin, MA, Andrea Shalom Kornhauser, PhD

**PRE-CON C: Introduction to Self Psychology (note: this presentation will be presented in Italian)**

Presenter: Mariangelo Tempestini, PhD  
Interlocutor: Paolo Stramba-Badiale, PhD

**PRE-CON D: Non-tragic Dialogues: Global Voices Speak Up Presented by the Global Advisory Committee**

Presenters: Gudrun Prinz, PhD, Xin Li, MA, Karina Goldberg, PhD, Kim de la Harpe, MA, Liling Lin, LCSW, Sibel Mercan, MD, Koichi Togashi, PhD, LP

**PRE-CON E: Couple Therapy and Adult Family Therapy in a Troubled World: How Concepts from Self Psychology Can Help**

Presenter: Carla Leone, PhD

**PRE-CON F: Revolutionary Listening: Empathic Responsiveness in a Global Frame**

Presenter: Lynn Preston, MA, MS

#### **Session 2 Selections:**

**PRE-CON G: Therapeutic Process and the Uniqueness of the Dyad: An Integration of Theory and Practice (Part 2)**

Presenters: Christina Connell, RP, Jill Gardner, PhD, Daniel Perlit, MD, Estelle Shane, PhD

**PRE-CON H: From Tragic Man to Joyous Selfhood – The Path of Selfobject Psychology (Part 2)**

Presenters: Presenters: Karina Goldberg, Ranaan Kulka, Iris Gavrieli-Rahabi, Rona Kuperboim, Orly Shoshani, Osnat Schwartz Stav, Talya Pogrud-Miller, Tirza Bar Hanin, Andrea Shalom Kornhauser

**PRE-CON I: Transforming Tragedy into Vitality: Intersubjective Self Psychology in Action**

Presenters: George Hagman, LCSW, Peter Zimmermann, PhD, Aviva Rohde, PhD, Harry Paul, PhD

**PRE-CON J: The Tragic Citizen and Human Existence: “The Psycho-Social Citizenship Dream Group” as a Generative Pathway to Reflective and Deliberative Citizenship**

Presenter: George Bermúdez, PhD, PsyD

**PRE-CON K: Tragedy and Survival in Literature: Macbeth, Dante and the Ancient Greeks**

Presenters: David Shaddock, PhD, MFT, Jeffrey Stern, PhD, Marcia Dobson, PhD

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### **Pre-Conference A&G: Therapeutic Process and the Uniqueness of the Dyad: An Integration of Theory and Practice**

**Presenters: Christina Connell, RP, Jill Gardner, PhD, Daniel Perlitz, MD, Estelle Shane, PhD**

Thursday, October 24, 9:00 – 11:30am (part 1) and 12:00 – 2:30pm (part 2)

*Although it is not absolutely essential, the presenters recommend that participants attend both Part 1 and Part 2.*

#### **Abstract:**

As our theories have developed, we have increasingly moved away from a focus on specific mental contents and structure toward a focus on the therapeutic process as it emerges between the two participants in the clinical exchange. Developments from infant studies, neuroscience, intersubjectivity and non-linear dynamic systems theory have led us to appreciate bidirectional, mutual influence in ways that underscore the uniqueness of any given therapeutic pair.

In this two-part, full day program we will explore the micro-process in two interviews, one with Estelle Shane as the therapist and one with Jill Gardner as the therapist, each conducting a 30-minute session with the same volunteer patient presenting the same problem to each. In the morning session, written copies of the complete transcripts of these interviews will be distributed to the participants for use in our discussion. The panelists will read aloud selected segments of the interviews, after which the participants will be encouraged to share their perceptions and reactions. *Please note:* The clinical material and format we'll use in the morning session will largely repeat what we offered in a similar program last year at the pre-conference in Chicago, giving us the opportunity to immerse ourselves again in a live clinical process that forms the basis for the theoretical discussion in our afternoon session. We believe this addition of a discussion on theory and how to best understand what we observe is an essential part of our ongoing development as clinicians.

In the afternoon session, we will move into a more explicit focus on theory by adding presentations and discussion about several concepts and processes that can be illustrated in these two interviews. Each synopsis of our thinking on a specific concept or process will be offered via a brief didactic overview, followed by a group discussion as we explore together how the concept is manifested in the clinical exchanges. Among the topics we will seek to describe and illustrate are the following:

- therapy as process rather than content and structure
- commitment to mutuality, asymmetry, and trust in the therapeutic relationship
- belief in attitudes of care, affection, and respect
- the intersubjective, co-created nature of therapeutic process
- the essential uniqueness of any therapeutic dyad

We believe that these fundamental principles form the foundation of a relational self psychology. Our focus on empathy and selfobject experience, in all their manifestations, derives from these foundational principles. The clinical material we'll explore in this preconference offers a particularly good opportunity to expand our understanding of these ideas, as we explore them together. We look forward to discovering what we all can learn by doing so.

## Learning Objectives:

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

1. Describe the distinction between a structure theory of psychoanalysis and a process theory.
2. Name three concepts that underlie a relational self psychology.
3. Describe what is meant by and encompassed in a bi-directional process in the dyad.
4. Describe how the uniqueness of the dyad impacts therapeutic process.

## Presenter Bios:

**Christina Connell, RP** is a child, adolescent, adult and couple psychoanalyst/psychotherapist working in private practice in Toronto, Canada. A graduate of both the Toronto Child Psychoanalytic Program as well as the Institute for the Advancement of Self Psychology in Toronto, Christina serves as an elected member for Canada on the IAPSP Membership Council, and also represents the IAPSP Council on the IAPSP Executive Board. Christina is faculty and supervisor at the Toronto Institute of Contemporary Psychoanalysis, board member at The Institute for the Advancement of Self Psychology in Toronto, and supervisor and faculty at the Canadian Institute for Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy.

**Jill R. Gardner, PhD** maintains a private practice in clinical and consulting psychology. She spent 20 years managing the adult outpatient services of a hospital-based community mental health center, gaining extensive administrative, managerial, program planning, and supervisory experience, before entering full time private practice. She is a frequent presenter of inservice and continuing education programs for mental health professionals and has made numerous professional presentations at national and international meetings. Jill has published a variety of articles in self psychology and has taught graduate level courses on the subject in the social work school of the University of Chicago. She is currently writing a book on how self psychology theory is translated into practice.

**Daniel Perlitz, MD** is a psychoanalyst in private practice in Toronto, Canada. He completed his psychoanalytic training at IASP (Institute for the Advancement of Self-Psychology) in Toronto, Canada in 2014, Perlitz is on the board of directors and faculty of IASP, an Adjunct Lecturer at University of Toronto, and a supervisor of psychiatric residents in psychotherapy at St. Joseph's Hospital in Toronto. He is also on the board of directors and is treasurer of IAPSP (International Association of Psychoanalytic Self Psychology). His first published article, "Beyond Kohut - from Empathy to Affection," appeared in the *International Journal of Psychoanalytic Self-Psychology* in 2016. Subsequently he has published four more articles in the same journal in 2017, 2019, and 2021.

**Estelle Shane, PhD** is a Founding Member, Member of the Board of Directors, Faculty member and Training and Supervising Analyst, The Institute for Contemporary Psychoanalysis, Los Angeles; Faculty Member and Training and Supervising Analyst, The New Center for Psychoanalysis, Los Angeles; Past President and Council Member, International Association for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology (IAPSP); Advisory Board Member, International Association for Relational Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis (IARRP); Adjunct Faculty, UCLA Department of Psychiatry, Los Angeles; Consulting Editor, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*; Editorial Board, *Psychoanalysis, Self & Context*; author of numerous publications; and co-author (with M. Shane and M. Gales) of: *Intimate Attachments: A Developmental Systems Self Psychology*, Routledge, 1997.

## References:

Kaplan, A. (2014). Recalibrating a Psychoanalytic Compass: Searching for Flexibility in the Midst of Grief and Loss. *Psychoanalytic Perspectives*, 11(3), 229-242.

Altimir, C. & Jimenez, J. P. (2020). Walking the middle ground between hermeneutics and science: A research proposal on psychoanalytic process. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis* 101(3), 496-522.

Magid, B., Fosshage, J., & Shane, E. (2021). The emerging paradigm of relational self psychology: A historical perspective. *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*, 16(1), 1-23.

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#### Pre-Conference B&H: From Tragic Man to Joyous Selfhood: The Path of Selfobject Psychology

Presenters: Karina Goldberg, PhD, Raanan Kulka, MA, Iris Gavrieli-Rahabi, MA, Rona Kuperboim, MSW, Orly Shoshani, PhD, Osnat Schwartz Stav, PhD, Talya Pogrunder Miller, MA, Tirza Hanin, MA, Andrea Shalom Kornhauser, PhD

Thursday, October 24, 9:00 – 11:30am (part 1) and 12:00 – 2:30pm (part 2)

*Participants are able to attend one or both sessions. It is not required to attend both.*

#### Abstract:

This proposed special *full day pre-conference workshop* is an organic continuation of previous stages of this longitudinal research of the unique role of self psychology in bridging Buddhism and psychoanalysis: 1. A preliminary pre-conference workshop, and a presentation to the IAPSP International Council at Chicago Conference in 2013; 2. A pre-conference workshop in Jerusalem Conference in 2014; 3. The Kohut Memorial Lecture at Vancouver Conference in 2019.

The link between psychoanalysis and Buddhism is one of the miraculous linkages within human civilization during the last century, and we strongly believe that *psychoanalytic self psychology* is the historical missing link between these two inspiring twin-contemplative-disciplines.

This time we propose an intensive full day workshop that encompasses two points of view that portray and substantiate the unique endeavor of *selfobject psychology Buddhist-based psychoanalysis*:

- A. Exploring theoretically and experientially the *longitudinal action research project* of 90 formal analyses that have been given during the last whole decade as altruistic offering to ordinary people of weakened population in an underprivileged multi-ethnic Jewish-Arab city in the center of Israel.
- B. The contemporary implementation of this research project as a unique resource for *psychoanalytic emergency intervention* in responding to the devastating tragic catastrophe of October 7<sup>th</sup> and the Israel-Hamas War.

The twofold facets of the workshop will enable us to propose a founded faith in the psychoanalytic endeavor of self psychology: The precious privilege to create new paths towards mind transformation for suffering individuals and communities, and in spite of the unbelievable challenges of existential burden of the *Tragic Man of our time*, to foster a subjective and collective psychic freedom towards the horizon of *Joyous Selfhood*.

#### The two-half day workshop will comprise:

1. Meta-theoretical introduction.
2. Two clinical presentations, of a formal analysis and of crisis intervention of trauma. Each of the presentations will be discussed separately by two discussants.
3. Two group-multi-dialogues.
4. Concluding ethical proposal for a new horizon of *Selfobject Psychology*.

\* Participants may take either both parts of the full day workshop or any half section of it.

## Learning objectives:

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

1. Assess how *selfobject psychology* is the future phase of self psychology.
2. Analyze Buddhist tenets as guiding organizing principles for the psychoanalytic thinking and practice of the psychoanalyst.
3. Use the interwoven linkages between Selfobject Psychology and Buddhism as a new matrix for conceptualizing mind transformation and psychic freedom.

## Presenter Bios:

**Karina Goldberg, PhD** is a Clinical Psychologist and Training Psychoanalyst in the Tel Aviv Institute for Contemporary Psychoanalysis. Member of the Israel Association for Self Psychology and the Study of Subjectivity. Leading Committee Human Spirit: Psychoanalytic-Buddhist Training Program of the IASPS.

**Raanan Kulka, MA** is a Clinical psychologist; Training psychoanalyst, The Israel Psychoanalytic Society, and the Israel Institute for Psychoanalysis; Founding member and former chairperson of the Israel Association for Self Psychology and the Study of Subjectivity, IASPS; Head, Human Spirit: Psychoanalytic-Buddhist Training Program of the IASPS. Kohut's Memorial Lecture, 42nd IAPSP Conference, Vancouver 2019. Author of two books' introductory chapters: a) Tragedy and Transformation: Israel's Contribution to Psychoanalysis; b) The Solution of an Historical Riddle: Self Psychology and Child Psychoanalysis (in press). Two writing projects in preparation: a) Meditating Kohut: Revisiting the Chicago lectures. B) The Future Shore: Selfobject Psychology.

**Rona Kuperboim, MSW** is a Clinical social worker, graduate of Bar Ilan University. Psychotherapist. Candidate in "Human Spirit", a psychoanalytic-Buddhist training program. Formerly worked as a therapist at the community mental health center in Lod. Member of the Israeli Association for Self Psychology and Subjectivity Research. Currently providing therapy for adults in private practice in Givatayim, Israel.

**Orly Shoshani, PhD**, is a psychotherapist and a graduate of the Hermeneutics and Psychoanalysis program from Bar-Ilan University. Candidate in Human Spirit Psychoanalytic-Buddhist Training Program. Member of the teaching committee and faculty member in the Postgraduate Studies in 'Self Psychology and the Therapeutic Act' at the Tel Aviv University Medical School. Chair of the Education Committee of the International Association for Self Psychology (IAPSP). Maintains a private practice in Tel Aviv.

**Osnat Schwartz Stav, PhD** is a Clinical Psychologist, Member of the Israel Association for Self-psychology and the Study of Subjectivity, with a Ph.D. in psychology, Haifa University and the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya (June 2020). On October 2018 I started my psychoanalytical training in the unique psychoanalytical program 'Human Spirit'. The 'Human Spirit' program is based on the merger of three fields of thought. Those fields deal with the transformation of therapists' mind in an attempt to establish an open position in relation to the world and to every human being. The three fields are: Psychoanalysis with focus on Self Psychology, Buddhist thought and practice of the Mahayana tradition, Humanities and the Arts- using selected treasures of human civilization from Eastern and Western cultures. Theoretical studies accompany psychoanalytical therapy offered by the candidates for free to the residents of the city of Lod.

I also practice psychotherapy in my own private clinic for adolescents and adults, and teaching Self-psychology and Buddhist seminary for expert psychotherapists.

**Talya Pogrund-Miller, MA** is a Clinical psychologist. Candidate of Human Spirit Psychoanalytic Buddhist Training Program. Member of the Israel Association for Self Psychology and the Study of Subjectivity. Member of the International Council Committee, IAPSP. Studies at Boston Institute for Psychotherapy, USA and studies in Self-Psychology at the Medical School, Tel-Aviv University. Private practice providing psychotherapy for children, adolescents, and adults in Kfar Ha'Oranim, Israel.

**Tirza Bar Hanin, MA** is a Clinical psychologist and supervisor. Candidate of Human Spirit Psychoanalytic Buddhist Training Program. Member of the Israel Association for Self Psychology and the Study of Subjectivity.

Worked at the Jaffa Public Mental Health Center at the Child and Adolescent Department. Directed and supervised professional staff. Participated at the Jaffa clinic, on behalf of "lechol Nefesh" organization, in a project of intensive long term psychoanalytic psychotherapy in public mental health centers. Worked as a Supervisor psychologist at the Umm El Fahm Child and Adolescent mental Health Center. Studied in psychotherapy programs. Supervisor and psychotherapist of children, adolescents and adults, Tel Aviv.

**Dr. Andrea Shalom Kornhauser, PhD** is a clinical psychologist and a psychoanalyst at the Israel Psychoanalytic Society. Andrea is a faculty member in 'Human Spirit', Psychoanalytic-Buddhist training program in the city of Lod, and is affiliated with the Israel Association for Self Psychology and the Study of Subjectivity. She resides with her family in Jerusalem, where she has her private practice.

#### **References:**

Riker, J. H. (2020) Empathy, Compassion, and Meditation: A Vision for a Buddhist Self Psychology. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 40, 327-339.

Sucharov, M. (2020) The Israeli Psychoanalytic Buddhist Project: An Ethical Psychoanalysis That Dares to Dream in a Land of Shattered Dreams. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 40,340-348.

Kulka, R. (2022) Self Psychology's Contribution to the Spiritual Dimension of Psychoanalysis. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 42,654-667.

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**Pre-Conference C: Introduction to Self Psychology** *Note: this presentation will take place in Italian*

**Presenter: Mariangela Tempestini, PhD**

Thursday, October 24, 9:00 – 11:30am

#### **Abstract:**

The author illustrates how the thought of Kohut and post-Kohutian authors was introduced in Italy, thanks to Franco Paparo above all, and how this contributed to what has been defined as "the relational paradigm shift" in this country. She then goes on to develop what she believes are the key points of the innovation introduced in the psychoanalytic field by Kohut: a) introspection and empathy seen as the main tools and essential constituents of psychoanalytic exploration; b) a positive vision of narcissism seen as a driving force for development; c) an understanding of what is therapeutic based not only on insight but on the possibility of a new emotional experience; d) focus on narcissistic transferences through which blocked developmental needs are reactivated and finally answered. Lastly, she investigates how, especially in post-Kohutian self-psychology authors, the importance of optimal responsiveness and the specificity of the psychoanalytic process is highlighted and how there are increasingly more contact points between them and analysts in the relational area.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

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

1. Explain how self psychology was introduced in Italy by Franco Paparo.
2. Describe the theoretical innovations introduced by Kohut and post-Kohutian authors within psychoanalysis.
3. Use these innovations in the clinical process in order to create a different therapeutic environment and a different management of the transference-countertransference dynamics

#### **Presenter Bio:**

**Dr. Mariangela Tempestini, PhD** is a psychoanalyst and has been working privately with adult patients since 1986 in her practice located in Rome (licensed activity with del. cons. of the Order on 15/02/1995).

She is a member of the I.S.I.P.S.E. Institute of Specialization in Psychoanalytic Self Psychology and Relational Psychoanalysis, of which she is currently a member with training functions for which she carries out teaching and supervision activities. She is also a student and candidate training analyst.

Since 2011 she has been the President and Legal Representative of the I.S.I.P.S.E. School, founded in 2005 and recognized by the MIUR on 2/11/2005.

#### **References:**

Rodini, C. (2014). I percorsi del cambiamento: evoluzioni interne del pensiero psicoanalitico e stimoli della ricerca scientifica. *Giornale italiano di psicologia*, 4 (201).

Migone, P. (2015). Heinz Kohut e la psicologia del Sé. *Il Ruolo terapeutico*, 128 (43-50).

Ramella Benna, S. (2019). This must be the self. Il modello clinico di Heinz Kohut nel cinema di Paolo Sorrentino. *Psichiatria e Psicoterapia*, 38, 2 (97-114).

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#### **Pre-Conference D: Non-tragic Dialogues: Global Voices Speak Up**

##### **A presentation by the Global Advisory Committee**

**Presenters: Gudrun Prinz, PhD, Karina Goldberg, PhD, Kim de la Harpe, MA, Xin Li, MA, Liling Lin, LCSW, Sibel Mercan, MD, Koichi Togashi, PhD, LP**

Thursday, October 24, 9:00 – 11:30am

#### **Abstract:**

Members of the Global Advisory Committee from 7 different countries will share their experiences and discuss them with each other and with the audience.

The presenters come from China, Turkey, South Africa, Israel, Taiwan, Japan and Austria. Their own cultural background is consciously taken into account when talking about therapeutic work, clinical phenomena and theoretical understanding.

Short case vignettes help to illustrate certain aspects with practical examples.

The atmosphere and spirit of the workshop are greatly influenced by the fact that the group already has a history of good cooperation and accepting exchanges with each other.

The diversity of cultural approaches and experiences represents a great potential within IAPSP. The presenting group wants to make this potential tangible by speaking up with voices from different parts of the world and inviting the resonance of their colleagues.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

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

1. Describe specific challenges that the presenters have to deal with in their countries of origin.
2. Identify certain historical, cultural or social aspects in the presenters' respective countries of origin that are interwoven with their clinical understanding and practice.
3. Discuss certain presenters' perspectives on self-psychological/intersubjective theory that are influenced by their specific cultural background.

#### **Presenter Bios:**

**Gudrun Prinz, PhD.**, lives in Austria and works as a psychotherapist and psychoanalyst in private practice with adults, children and adolescents. She is a faculty member as well as a training and supervising analyst in the psychoanalytic training and master studies program which is conducted by the Vienna Circle for Psychoanalysis and Self Psychology (VCPSP) in cooperation with the University of Vienna. From 2018 to 2023, she was President of the VCPSP. She is a member of IAPSP and chairs its Global Advisory Committee. She is on the Editorial Board of Psychoanalysis, Self and Context. She has published articles and given presentations on topics such as creativity, feminism and sexuality and is co-editor of a self-psychological book on the subject of identity construction and experience. Recently, she has become particularly interested in how complex systems theory can contribute to the understanding of psychoanalytic processes.



**Karina Goldberg PhD** is a Clinical Psychologist and Training Psychoanalyst in the Tel Aviv Institute for Contemporary Psychoanalysis. Member of the Israel Association for Self Psychology and the Study of Subjectivity. Leading Committee Human Spirit: Psychoanalytic-Buddhist Training Program of the IASPS.

Having graduated in 2011, **Kim de la Harpe, MA** is a Clinical Psychologist, Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist for individuals and couples, and Supervisor, working in private practice in Cape Town, South Africa for the past decade. Previously, she was Senior Clinical Psychologist at the Child and Family Unit at a State Psychiatric Hospital in Cape Town, as well as lecturer in psychology and psychiatry at both the University of Cape Town and University of Stellenbosch. Kim is Chair of the Cape Town Psychoanalytic Self Psychology Group, and an Executive board member of IAPSP. She is also an International Council Member of IAPSP and a member of the IAPSP Global Advisory Committee and Couples Therapy Interest Group. Having previously published and presented on gender-based violence in South Africa, her current interests lie in exploring how psychoanalytic self psychology and intersubjectivity theory can be applied, deepened, and expanded in developing contexts such as South Africa.

**Xin Li, MA**, studied in McGill University, China Academy of Social Sciences, Tianjin Normal University; Background in basic Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Counseling psychology. In 2014, I founded Li Institute for psychology, and has been engaged in teaching, training, consulting and supervision of psychoanalysis self & intersubjective orientation for a long time. Accept Robert Stolorow for personal supervision, to become research, teaching intersubjective field theory experts and scholars. Since 2016, we co-founded SPEP Self Psychology educational Project with IAPSP and continues to promote self psychology and intersubjective thoughts in China. In 2022, SIPS self intersubjective practice System was established to become the base of Chinese self intersubjective scholars. I have been elected as an IAPSP council member; and currently as a member of the International Advisory Committee of IAPSP. In the future, we will continue to study and develop and promote the phenomenological intersubjective theory in China. Establish and develop intersubjective group theory research and practice in China.

**Liling Lin, LCSW** is a licensed clinical social worker in the States and currently has a private practice in Taipei City, Taiwan. She received her psychoanalytic training and had practiced in New York City for over a decade. In 2015, she moved to Taiwan and continued her practice there until now. Due to realization of the difficulty in language crossing, lately, she and a group of her students started a project of Self Psychology books translation. In the process of translating, they practice empathic immersion and critical thinking. The Kohut Seminars is upon finish and will be published in 2024. Liling Lin is the current President of Taiwan Psychoanalytic Association and Training and Supervising Analyst of Taiwan Psychoanalytic Society (Study Group). She has been an IAPSP member since 2013 and is currently a member of Global Advisory Committee.

**Sibel Mercan, MD**, is a Prof of Psychiatry, and is a Psychoanalyst with her private office in Istanbul, Turkey. She has been working as a lecturer and supervisor in different universities and associations for many years. She continues her work on Self Psychology in her psychotherapy practice. She has been part of the Self Psychology Community since 1999. She was a Council Member of the International Association for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology from 2005-2007 and has been a member since 2007. She is a founding member and former president of the Anatolian Psychoanalytic Psychotherapies Association established by Turkish Self Psychologists. She played an active role in organizing Self Psychology education activities in Istanbul and she had a chance to have courses and workshops from lecturers within IAPSP during that time. She also served as a member of the organizing committee and chair for the local committee for the first overseas 33rd IAPSP Congress in 2010, Antalya, Turkey. Currently she is a member of IAPSP's global advisory committee and e-forum in IAPSP. Her specialized areas include psychosomatic medicine and psychodermatology. She has published articles in national and international journals, written book chapters, and papers at conferences. She is an International Editor of *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*. Additionally, Dr. Allen Siegel's book "Heinz Kohut and Psychology of the Self" has been published in Turkey soon and she was one of the translators.

**Koichi Togashi, PhD, LP**, is a Faculty and Training and Supervising Analyst at the Training and Research in Intersubjective Self Psychology, New York; a Professor at Konan University, Kobe, Japan; and is in private practice in Hiroshima & Kobe, Japan. He is a Council Member of the International Association for Psychoanalytic Self

Psychology. He is an editor of *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, and an International Editor of *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*. He is also an editor of *The Japanese Journal of Psycho-Analysis*. He has published numerous books and articles in the US, Japan, and Taiwan. His latest book, "The Psychoanalytic Zero: Decolonizing Study of Therapeutic Dialogues," won the 2020 Gradiva Award for Best Book.

**References:**

Gonzalez, F. (2020). Trump Cards and Klein Bottles: On the Collective of the Individual, *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 30, 383-398.

Long, C., Matee, H., Jwili, O., & Vilakazi, Z. (2020). Racial Difference, Rupture, and Repair: A View from the Couch and Back. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 30, 698-715.

Sperry, M. (2020). Living History: Responsibility and Blindness in the Therapeutic Process. *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*, 15(3), 267-275.

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#### Pre-Conference E:

#### Couple Therapy and Adult Family Therapy in a Troubled World: How Concepts from Self Psychology can Help Presenter: Carla Leone, PhD

Thursday, October 24, 9:00 – 11:30am

#### Abstract:

The enormous stresses of today's world – multiple wars and their sequelae, the climate crisis, the Covid-19 pandemic, major political division, and, for too many, various forms of other-ing, discrimination and oppression, among others - have taken a significant toll on individual mental health and on the healthy functioning of many intimate relationships. Kohut's "Tragic Man" – a reference to problems of depression, depletion, unmet needs and trouble with self-actualization, rather than problems related to repression of forbidden desires – aptly reflects the difficulties many people struggle with today, both individually and in their relationships with significant others. His suggestions for addressing these kinds of difficulties have contributed to revolutionizing individual psychoanalysis and are enormously useful when applied to couple and family therapy as well.

Using detailed clinical examples to bring theory to life, this workshop will begin by summarizing the major tenets of the self-psychological approach to couple and family therapy, as detailed in two papers by the presenter which will be sent to registrants before the presentation. The primary focus will be on couple therapy, but the major points to be discussed apply equally well to work with adult family members who are having relationship difficulties (adult children and their parents, adult siblings, adult in-laws, etc.), so a secondary focus will include applying the concepts presented to these relationships as well.

#### Learning Objectives:

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

1. List at least three basic tenets of the self psychological approach to couple therapy and adult family therapy.
2. Explain why stressors, threats and losses affecting both parties can negatively affect intimate relationships.
3. List three ways self psychological couple or family therapists might adapt their usual approach to address these difficulties.

#### Presenter Bio:

**Carla Leone, PhD**, is an adjunct faculty member of the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute and on the faculty of the Institute for Clinical Social Work, where she is the Director of the certificate program in Integrative Psychoanalytic Couple Therapy, a couple therapy training program offered virtually. She is the founder and director of a group private practice in the Chicago suburbs, where she works with individuals, couples and families and provides individual and group consultation. She is co-chair of the Membership Committee of the International Association for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology (IAPSP), an elected member of the organization's International Council, co-founder and co-chair of its Writing Interest Group, co-founder and former chair of its Couples Therapy Interest Group, and formerly served on its Executive Board. She is the author of several published papers on the application of self psychology to couple and family therapy and one on the "unseen spouse" of patients in

individual therapy, has presented nationally and internationally on these topics, and is currently working on a book on self psychology-informed couple therapy.

**References:**

Leone, C. (2018). Response to MacIntosh's review and discussion of the psychoanalytic couple therapy journal literature: A self psychological, intersubjective perspective. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 38 (5), 387–398.

Leone, C. (2021). The application of contemporary self psychology to couple therapy. *Couple and Family Psychoanalysis*, 11 (2), 170-186.

Leone, C. (2023). Individual sessions as part of couple therapy? How concepts from self psychology can help us decide. *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*, 18 (2), 218-233.

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### Pre-Conference F: Revolutionary Listening: Empathic Responsiveness in a Global Frame

**Presenter: Lynn Preston, MA, MS**

Thursday, October 24, 9:00 – 11:30am

#### **Abstract:**

The fragmentation, polarization and narcissistic rage permeating current community life calls upon us as relational psychoanalysts to broaden and complexify our empathic expertise to include the social/political sphere in new ways. In this workshop, we will consider some of the issues involved in facilitating systems-informed empathic connectedness in groups and communities. We will first consider some of the theoretical framework that can help us with this challenge and then we will engage in our own live experience of dialogue across difference.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

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

1. Describe some of the issues involved in translating bi-directional modes of empathic attunement into the multi-directional complexities of group interactions.
2. Identify some of the features of systems-oriented empathic attunement in groups and communities.
3. Demonstrate an experience of connecting across differences in the workshop setting.

#### **Presenter Bios:**

**Lynn Preston, MA, MS, LP**, is a New York City-based relational psychoanalyst and supervisor. She is the founding director of the Community Empowerment Project and Help for Helpers, an online covid-inspired international support group for therapists. She has written on the subjects of implicit experience and the use of the analyst's subjectivity. She has a special interest in applying self-psychological principles to groups and communities.

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## 45th Annual IAPSP International Conference

### The Tragic Person Today:

#### Existence and Meaning in Life and in Clinical Practice

October 24-27, 2024



### Pre-Conference I: Transforming Tragedy into Vitality: Intersubjective Self Psychology in Action

Presenters: George Hagman, LCSW, Peter Zimmermann, PhD, Aviva Rohde, PhD, Harry Paul, PhD

Thursday, October 24, 12:00 – 2:30pm

#### Abstract:

Patients enter treatment suffering from the aftermath of tragedy. Whether old or new, catastrophic or just disappointing, they struggle helplessly to free themselves from the beliefs, patterns and emotions of these trailing edges, structures of meaning which have come to organize their sense of self and self with others. The human tragedy of blighted hopes and unfulfilled yearnings, which haunts us all at times, has paralyzed the leading edge ambitions and potentials from which a person's unique drive for selfhood springs. Intersubjective Self Psychology is a clinical model designed to offer the opportunity for the patient to be freed from the crippling self-protectiveness which confines them (the trailing edge) and grasp the opportunity for a generative selfobject experience (the leading edge), which makes new organizations of meaning and being possible. With its emphasis on the analytic relationship as an intersubjective field, ISP illuminates the dynamics of the clinical relationship which makes this personal liberation and vitalization possible.

This workshop "Transforming Tragedy into Vitality: Intersubjective Self Psychology in Action" presents an introduction to the ISP model accompanied by two detailed clinical reports, which the participants will find theoretically enlightening and clinically useful. They will learn how the tragic lives of the persons whom we treat can be compensated for, or perhaps transcended, through a new self psychological approach.

#### Learning Objectives:

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

1. Recognize and explain the concepts of leading and trailing edge.
2. Develop and implement interventions that strengthen the leading edge of the treatment process.
3. Evaluate the patient's level of trust and connection to the analyst in the course of extended treatment.
4. Describe how working on the leading can transform a patient's preoccupation with tragedy into a sense of vitality.

#### Presenter Bios:

**George Hagman, LCSW** is a clinical social worker and psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City and Stamford, Connecticut. He is on faculty of the Training and Research in Intersubjective Self Psychology, and is a training analyst, supervisor, and faculty member of the Westchester Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy. He is one of the three editors of *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*. George is co-editor with Peter Zimmermann and Harry Paul of *Intersubjective Self Psychology: A Primer* (Routledge, 2019). He is also the General Editor of the Art, Creativity and Psychoanalysis book series and *New Directions in Self Psychology* book series both published by Routledge.

**Peter Zimmermann, PhD, LP**, Founding Member and Member of the Board of Directors of TRISP; Senior Faculty, Training and Supervising Analyst of TRISP since 1987. Former President of the Training Institute of NPAP (2016-2021), and Member of the Board of Directors of NPAP since 2012; Senior Member, Training and Supervising Analyst and Faculty Member at NPAP since 1984. Member of the Editorial Board of the *Psychoanalytic Review*. Co-editor and contributing author of *Intersubjective Self Psychology, A Primer* (Routledge 2019). In private practice in New York City since 1982.

**Aviva Rohde, PhD** is a psychologist and psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City where she treats adults and couples, and supervises clinicians. Trained at Columbia University and Training and Research in Intersubjective Self Psychology (TRISP), she is a senior faculty member and member of the training committee at TRISP and supervises at TRISP and National Institute for the Psychotherapies (NIP). An author of several chapters in *Intersubjective Self Psychology: A Primer* (2019), she has presented papers at TRISP and IAPSP on topics related to Intersubjective Self Psychology.

**Harry Paul, PhD** is a founding member, past president, faculty and supervising and training analyst at the Training and Research Institute in Self Psychology in New York City. He is a board and faculty member at the Training and Research Intersubjective Self Psychology Foundation and a member of the International Council of IAPSP. He is the co-author of *The Self Psychology of Addiction and Its Treatment: Narcissus in Wonderland* and most recently co-edited and contributed to *Intersubjective Self Psychology: A Primer*, Hagman, Paul, and Zimmermann, Routledge, 2019. He has authored numerous articles on intersubjective self psychology, and addiction. He is in private practice in New York City and in Chappaqua, New York.

### **References:**

Jacobs, L. (2016) Racializing Kohut's "Guilty Man" and "Tragic Man": Serious Play in the Service of Inclusiveness. *International Journal of Psychoanalytic Self Psychology*, 11,340-348.

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### Pre-Conference J: The Tragic Citizen and Human Existence: The “Psycho-Social Citizenship Dream Group” as a Generative Pathway to Reflective and Deliberative Citizenship

**Presenter: George Bermúdez, PhD, PsyD**

*Thursday, October 24, 12:00 – 2:30pm*

#### **Abstract:**

Contemporary citizens around the world live in nations that they increasingly cannot recognize as their own: Tragically, Citizens everywhere are searching for a communal home. Kohut in his late career (1976) began to develop the concept of the “group self”, which seemed to reflect his emergent but nascent focus on the social trauma of his youth: the Nazi oppression and murder of Jews. He suggested that “...The basic patterns of a nuclear group self (the group's central ambitions and ideals) account not only for the continuity and the cohesion of the group but also determines its most important actions.” (Kohut, 1976, pp. 801-802). Furthermore, Kohut, alluding to Freud’s courage in his self-analysis, rhetorically inquires: “Could it be that the analogous step in group psychology, the decisive advance toward a valid depth psychological understanding of the experiences and actions of the group, will be the result of a similarly courageous self-scrutiny of the psychoanalytic community by itself?” (Kohut, 1976, p. 838). This workshop will attempt to take up Kohut’s challenge to the psychoanalytic community—with a “Psycho-social Citizenship Dream Group”. The workshop will focus, through the exploration and illumination of dreams, on the group self and unconscious citizenship of psychoanalytic citizens in the contemporary tumultuous world. Participants will co-create a dream group process, generating new ideas for optimal citizenship. The entire process has three steps: Psycho-social Citizenship Dream Exploration; Reflection and Insight concerning Unconscious Citizenship; and Social Application for Optimal Citizenship.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

**At the conclusion of our workshop participants will be able to:**

1. Explain the difference between the conventional approach to working with dreams and the psycho-social citizenship dream group paradigm.
2. Describe the self-object function of the dream group as a relational home.
3. Identify the isomorphism among individual, family, institutional and social levels.

#### **Presenter Bio:**

**Dr. George Bermúdez, PhD, PsyD**, Psychologist-Psychoanalyst, Training & Supervising Psychoanalyst at The Institute of Contemporary Psychoanalysis Los Angeles, and 2020-21 Visiting Scholar at the Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern California (PINC), has developed pioneering scholarship and practice—an expansion toward a social psychoanalysis—exploring the “social unconscious” through “social dreaming”. The author of “The Social Dreaming Matrix as a Container for the Processing of Implicit Racial Bias and Collective Racial Trauma” (*International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*, 2018) and “Community Psychoanalysis: A Contribution to an Emerging Paradigm” (*Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 2019), he has focused on numerous contemporary socio-political concerns: American Xenophobia; Whiteness and Psychoanalysis; Black Reparations; The LGBTQ Unconscious in the Trumpian Era; and The Global Unconscious in the Time of Pandemic. Dr. Bermúdez’ most recent work focuses on the applications of social dreaming to the discovery of potential solutions to our climate crisis and the development of “deliberative democracy”.



**References:**

Bermúdez, G. (2018). The social dreaming matrix as a container for the processing of implicit racial bias and collective trauma. *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*, 68, 538-560.

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### Pre-Conference K: Tragedy and Survival in Literature: Macbeth, Dante and the Ancient Greeks

Presenters: David Shaddock PhD, MFT, Jeffrey Stern, PhD., Marcia Dobson, PhD

Thursday, October 24, 12:00 – 2:30pm

#### Abstract:

Psychoanalysis has traditionally looked to literature for inspiration and guidance. In this workshop three self psychologists who are also scholars will extend and update this tradition. Marcia Dobson PhD will examine the shift that occurs between the Homeric hero stories and the Greek tragedies, with special attention to the way this shift parallels the development of Kohut's own thinking. Jeff Stern, PhD will present a paper on Shakespeare's Macbeth that considers his murderous actions from a self psychological point of view, focusing on his sense of emptiness and his terror of women. And David Shaddock PhD will read and discuss "A New Life in Love," a work that through prose and poetry compares Dante's idealization of Beatrice to the vicissitudes of his own marriage. Throughout this presentation and in discussions that follow, we will pay particular attention to the way these literary sources can inform clinical work with patients who have endured or face their own tragic losses.

#### Learning Objectives:

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

1. Explain the way defenses against loss underly adult relationships.
2. Assess our clinical work and what is involved in moving from fatedness to destiny.
3. Identify the client's sense of their destiny, including their existential fatedness which can evoke Kohut's idea of what constitutes "tragic man".

#### Presenter Bios:

**David Shaddock, PhD, MFT** is associate editor *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*, Leader, IAPSP Couples Therapy Interest Group, Clinical Supervisor, The Wright Institute, Adjunct Faculty, Chicago Institute of Social Work. He is the author of *From Impasse to Intimacy, Contexts and Connections*, and *Poetry and Psychoanalysis: The Opening of the Field*, as well as four books of poetry. He maintains a private practice in Berkeley.

**Jeffrey Stern, PhD** is a research and clinical graduate of the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute where he is a training and supervising analyst and faculty member and past President of the Chicago Psychoanalytic Society. Dr. Stern received his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in English Literature, where his dissertation on Shakespeare's late romances won the Humanities Prize. He has been a lecturer in Psychiatry at Rush University and the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine, where he won the teaching award. He has also lectured at the University of Chicago in the Committee on General Studies in the Humanities. Dr. Stern is in addition Visiting Professor of Psychoanalysis at Wuhan University in Wuhan China. In 2017 he was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the International Association for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology. Dr. Stern writes on clinical psychoanalysis, literature and film and is the associate editor of *The Annual of Psychoanalysis*. His work including papers on clinical cases, Shakespeare's *King Lear*, *The Wizard of Oz* and Alomodovar's *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* has appeared in *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *The Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*, and *The Annual of Psychoanalysis*, among others. A volume of his papers from Routledge is scheduled for publication next year. He maintains a private practice in Chicago and throughout the world online.

**Marcia D-S. Dobson, PhD** is an AE of the IJPSP. She co-edited an issue representing Cultural Perspectives in Self Psychology with Amy Eldridge (April, 2012). She also compiled a memorial volume for IJPSP on the work and life of Marian Tolpin (Vol. 4, Supplement 1, 2009). She has published papers in the IJPSP over the past five years, including "Freud, Kohut, Sophocles, Did Oedipus Do Wrong," (Vol 2, no. 1 2007), "Marian Tolpin: A Latter Day Athena," (Vol.4, Supplement 1, 2009) Commentary on Frank Summers' "Kohut's Vision and the Nuclear Program of the Self," (Vol. 6, no. 3, 2011) and has recently published a paper with OUP, part of a collection of papers on a Seminar on Myth and Psychoanalysis, on self-psychological perspectives on the Aristophanes' myth in Plato's Symposium (2013), as well as both presenting and responding at the 2013 IAPSP conference in Chicago, Illinois. Dobson is a professor of Classics and chairs the Psychoanalysis minor at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, where she maintains a private practice in psychoanalytic self psychology.

#### **References:**

Federici, S. (2019). Tragic Greek Wisdom and Young Kohut's Empathic Understanding. *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context* 15(1),94-99.

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