TR AUM A + T R ANSCENDENCE:
DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY, SPIRITUALITY, AND THE SACRED

June 22-24, 2018
Pacifica Graduate Institute

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, June 22nd

LIMITED SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM BEST WESTERN TO LADERA: 4:00PM - 6:30PM

OPUS Archives and Research Center
- Exhibit: Passages Through the Archives: Noon of Midnight (Gallery Hours: 4:00-6:00pm)
- OPUS Guided Tour: 4:30-4:50pm (sign-up sheet available in lobby) [meet outside Classroom G]

Registrations: 4:00-6:00pm [Back Portico]

Reception: 6:00pm-7:00pm [Lawn Area near Rose Garden]

Opening Welcome & Keynote Address: 7:00-9:00pm [Barrett Center]
- Joseph Cambray (7:00-7:20pm)
  Introduction & Welcome from Pacifica’s President
- Ann Ulanov (7:30-8:30pm)
  Trauma and Transcendence: A Spatiotemporal Framework for Opening to New Experiences
- Audience Q&A (8:30-9:00pm)

LIMITED SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM LADERA TO BEST WESTERN: 8:30PM - 9:30PM

Saturday, June 23rd

LIMITED SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM BEST WESTERN TO LADERA: 7:00AM – 9:00AM

Breakfast: 8:00-9:00am [Dining Hall]

Plenary Session: Presentation and Audience Q&A: 9:00-10:15am [Barrett Center]
Faculty introduction by Oksana Yakushko, Program Chair, Clinical Psychology
- Craig Stephenson (9:00-9:40am)
  A Soldier’s Story: Trauma, Trickster and Transcendence
- Audience Q&A (9:50-10:15am)

Paired Presenter Session and Audience Q&A: 10:30-12:40pm [Barrett Center]
Faculty introduction by Juliet Rohde-Brown, Program Chair, Integrative Therapy & Healing Practices
- Lionel Corbett (10:30-11:10am)
  A Depth Psychological Approach to Fundamentalism and Terrorism
• Donald Kalsched (11:20am-12:00pm)
  *Glimpses Through the Veil: Encounters with the Numen of Clinical Work*

• Audience Q&A (12:10pm-12:40pm)

**OPUS Archives and Research Center**

• Exhibit: *Passages Through the Archives: Noon of Midnight* (Gallery Hours: 12:40-2:00pm)

• OPUS Guided Tour: 12:45-1:05pm; 1:30-1:50pm (sign-up sheet available in lobby) [*meet outside Classroom G*]

**Lunch:** 12:45-2:00pm [Dining Hall]

**Paired Presenter Session and Audience Q&A: 2:00-4:15pm [Barrett Center]**
Introduction by David Odorisio, Director, the Retreat at Pacifica & Adjunct Faculty, Mythological Studies

• Ann Taves (2:00-2:40pm)
  *Trauma, Transcendence, and Culture: The Role of Appraisal Processes in Distinguishing Spiritual, Anomalous, and Psychotic Experiences*

• Tanya Luhrmann (2:50-3:30pm)
  *Is the Shaman Schizophrenic, After All? How Religious Practice May Change Distressing Voice Hearing*

• Audience Q&A (3:40-4:15pm)

**Dinner:** 5:00-6:00pm [Dining Hall]

**Paired Presenter Session and Audience Q&A: 6:30-8:30pm [Barrett Center]**
Faculty introduction by Willow Young, Program Chair, Counseling Psychology

• Polly Young-Eisendrath (6:30-7:10pm)
  *The Gates of Mercy: Portals of Transcendence According to Jung and Buddhism*

• Joseph Cambray (7:20-7:50pm)

• Audience Q&A (8:00-8:30pm)

**LIMITED SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM LADERA TO BEST WESTERN: 8:30PM - 9:30PM**

**Sunday, June 24th**

**POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP**

Donald Kalsched and Joseph Cambray
*Trauma and Synchronistic Phenomena in the Analytic Setting*

**LIMITED SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM BEST WESTERN TO LADERA: 7:00AM – 9:00AM**
Breakfast: 8:00-9:00am [Dining Hall]
Program Session: 9:30am-12:30pm [Barrett Center]
Lunch: 12:30-1:30pm [Dining Hall]
Program Session: 1:30pm-3:30pm [Barrett Center]

LIMITED SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM LADERA TO BEST WESTERN: 3:30PM - 4:30PM

Workshop Description

In analytic work with those who have experienced significant trauma in their lives, especially in early childhood, synchronistic phenomena are often observed. The intensity of these events is variable but tends to be impactful on the therapeutic process, often with a feeling of the numinous being constellation. In this workshop we will look at examples of such phenomena, as well as how to understand and employ them. Countertransference reactions often hold important clues to deeper meanings of these occurrences and we will seek to explore the use of these reactions.

Session Descriptions

Ann Ulanov – Trauma and Transcendence: A Spatiotemporal Framework for Opening to New Experiences

Here we will focus on Jung’s multiple meanings of transcendence and its relationship to his notion of psychoid processes of the unconscious, with reference to the unrepressed unconscious of Matte Blanco and Bion’s notion of infinity. We will explore further understandings of transcendence that may emerge when trauma opens up our usual meanings of the term, and examine what keeps the person alive despite the destruction trauma inflicts. Clinical examples will be offered with attention to the Jungian focus of transference and countertransference.

Craig E Stephenson – A Soldier’s Story: Trauma, Trickster and Transcendence

The Brothers Grimm took up a story by Grimmelshausen and combined it with a traditional folktale, to tell of a soldier who returns from a war and, now jobless, falls into despair and finds himself bargaining for his life with a cloven-hoofed trickster. This lecture will connect the Grimms’ narrative to current issues about PTSD and combat trauma, including the implications for the transference/counter-transference relationship of such precarious experiences of numinosity.

Donald Kalsched – Glimpses through the Veil: Encounters with the Numen of Clinical Work

In depth psychology, we tend to privilege two avenues or pathways that provide access to the mysteries of the unconscious and its potentially healing energies: transference and dreams. In this presentation, Dr. Kalsched will describe specific “moments” where work in the transference opened important dreams that in turn led to a deep sense of shared meaning.

Lionel Corbett – A Depth Psychological Approach to Fundamentalism and Terrorism

This talk will describe the psychology of religious fundamentalism and its relationship to terrorism. We will look at the unconscious motivations that seem to drive violent terrorism, with special attention to what is known about the inner world of the terrorist.
Tanya Luhrmann – *Is the Shaman Schizophrenic, After All? How Religious Practice may Change Distressing Voice Hearing*

When anthropology was a young discipline, people smitten with the romance of cultural relativism argued that those who were diagnosed with schizophrenia in our society would simply be artists or shamans in another. When the biomedical model began to dominate psychiatry, it seemed clear that this romantic vision was a mistake. In recent decades, however, not only anthropologists but also psychiatrists have begun to wonder whether forms of cultural practice might alter the experience of even so profound an illness as schizophrenia in powerful ways. They have also begun to wonder whether these illness experiences are in fact a response to trauma. In this talk I offer the best evidence I have seen for these new approaches by examining a spirit possession practice in Ghana.

Ann Taves – *Trauma, Transcendence, and Culture: The Role of Appraisal Processes in Distinguishing Spiritual, Anomalous, and Psychotic Experiences*

Although depth psychological pioneers recognized the overlap between spiritual, paranormal, and psychotic experiences, we know relatively little about what makes some such experiences distressing and others transformative. This talk will draw upon data collected in the US and India via the Inventory of Non-Ordinary Experiences to discuss the role of appraisal processes — and by extension differences in belief and practice — in differentiating such experiences across cultures and the implications of cultural differences for thinking about trauma and transcendence.

Polly Young-Eisendrath – *The Gates of Mercy: Portals of Transcendence According to Jung and Buddhism*

This presentation draws principally on two models of substrate consciousness: Jung’s collective unconscious and the Buddhist (Yogacara) *alaya-vijnana* or store-house consciousness. Looked at from the perspectives of everyday life and psychotherapy, these models of mind are mapping the way to an awareness that is wiser and more transcendent than mundane consciousness. When we collide with loss, trauma, failure, pain, hurt, and some aspects of dreaming and meditating, our sense of a continuous self is disrupted. These disruptions are potential openings to a transcendent reality. I will present and compare these two models of mind and talk about how and why the human mental construct of self creates an illusion of control and how dropping that control is the only true path to grace and healing.

**FEATURED PRESENTERS**

Ann Belford Ulanov, PhD, is a Jungian analyst in private practice in New York City, a member of the Jungian Analytic Association, and former Christiane Brooks Johnson Professor of Psychiatry and Religion at Union Theological Seminary. An internationally known lecturer and prolific author, among her many articles and books are the highly acclaimed *Cinderella and Her Sisters: The Enviued and the Enving; Spiritual Aspects of Clinical Work; The Wisdom of the Psyche; The Unshuttered Heart: Opening to Aliveness/Deadness in the Self; The Living God; Our Living Psyche*; and *Madness and Creativity.*
**Joseph Cambray, PhD,** is President and Provost of Pacifica Graduate Institute as well as a Jungian analyst. He is Past-President of the International Association for Analytical Psychology, and former US Editor of the *Journal of Analytical Psychology.* For years he was on the faculty of the Center for Psychoanalytic Studies at Harvard Medical School. His numerous publications include the book based on his Fay Lectures: *Synchronicity: Nature and Psyche in an Interconnected Universe*; a volume edited with Linda Carter, *Analytical Psychology: Contemporary Perspectives in Jungian Psychology*; and a two volume compendium on research in analytical psychology co-edited with Christian Roesler and Leslie Sawin currently in publication. In addition, he has published numerous papers in a range of international journals.

**Lionel Corbett, MD,** received his Medical Degree from the University of Manchester, England, in 1966; served as a military physician; and became a Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1974. In the USA, he did fundamental research into the biochemistry of the brain; began one of the first programs in the psychology of aging; was a hospital medical director of in-patient psychiatry; trained as a Jungian analyst at the C. G. Jung Institute of Chicago 1978-1986; helped found a training program for Jungian analysts in Santa Fe, while carrying on a private practice and teaching psychiatry at the University of New Mexico. Dr. Corbett has studied various spiritual disciplines including Christian and Jewish mysticism, Buddhism, Advaita Vedanta, and Yoga and has had a personal meditation practice for 20 years. He now teaches depth psychology at Pacifica Graduate Institute, where he founded the Psyche and the Sacred program, a highly successful series that integrates spirituality with depth psychology. This program has developed a powerful approach to spirituality that is based on personal experience of the sacred, avoiding all forms of doctrine and dogma. He is the author of numerous books, several training films, and over 40 professional articles.

**Tanya Marie Luhrmann, PhD,** is the Watkins University Professor in the Stanford Anthropology Department. Her work focuses on the edge of experience: on voices, visions, the world of the supernatural and the world of psychosis. She has done ethnography on the streets of Chicago with homeless and psychotic women, and worked with people who hear voices in Chennai, Accra and the South Bay. She has also done fieldwork with evangelical Christians who seek to hear God speak back, with Zoroastrians who set out to create a more mystical faith, and with people who practice magic. She uses a combination of ethnographic and experimental methods to understand the phenomenology of unusual sensory experiences, the way they are shaped by ideas about minds and persons, and what we can learn from this social shaping that can help us to help those whose voices are distressing. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003 and received a John Guggenheim Fellowship award in 2007. *When God Talks Back* was named a NYT “Notable Book of the Year” and a *Kirkus Reviews* “Best Book of the Year.” She has published over thirty OpEds in *The New York Times,* and her work has been featured in *The New Yorker, The New York Review of Books, The Times Literary Supplement, Science News,* and many other publications. Her new book, *Our Most Troubling Madness: Schizophrenia and Culture,* was published by the University of California Press in October 2016.
Donald Kalsched, PhD, is a Jungian psychoanalyst and clinical psychologist. He is a senior faculty member and supervisor with the Inter-Regional Society of Jungian Analysts, and teaches and leads workshops nationally and internationally. His celebrated book, The Inner World of Trauma: Archetypal Defenses of the Personal Spirit, explores the interface between contemporary psychoanalytic theory and Jungian theory as it relates to clinical work with survivors of early childhood trauma. His recent book, Trauma and the Soul: A Psycho-Spiritual Approach to Human Development and its Interruption, explores the mystical dimensions of clinical work with trauma-survivors.


Ann Taves, PhD, is Professor of Religious Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara where she teaches courses on religious experience, new religious movements, and comparative worldviews and supervises the interdisciplinary Religion, Experience, and Mind Lab Group. She is the author of numerous books and articles, including Fits, Trances, and Visions: Experiencing Religion and Explaining Experience from Wesley to James (Princeton, 1999), Religious Experience Reconsidered (Princeton, 2009), and Revelatory Events, a study of the emergence of three new spiritual paths: Mormonism, Alcoholics Anonymous, and A Course in Miracles. She is currently working with collaborators to develop and test a cross-cultural Inventory of Non-Ordinary Experiences.

Polly Young-Eisendrath, PhD, Jungian Analyst, Psychologist, author; Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Vermont; Founder and Director of Institute for Dialogue Therapy; and in private practice in central Vermont. She is chairperson of the non-profit “Enlightening Conversations: Buddhism and Psychoanalysis Meeting in Person”. She has published many chapters and articles, as well as sixteen books that have been translated into twenty languages. Her most recent books are The Present Heart: A Memoir of Love, Loss and Discovery (Rodale, 2014); The Self-Esteem Trap: Raising Confident and Compassionate Kids in an Age of Self-Importance (Little, Brown, 2008); and The Cambridge Companion to Jung: New and Revised, of which she is co-editor with Terence Dawson (Cambridge University Press, 2008). Polly’s forthcoming book, Love Between Equals: Relationship as a Spiritual Path, will be published in 2018. www.young-eisendrath.com