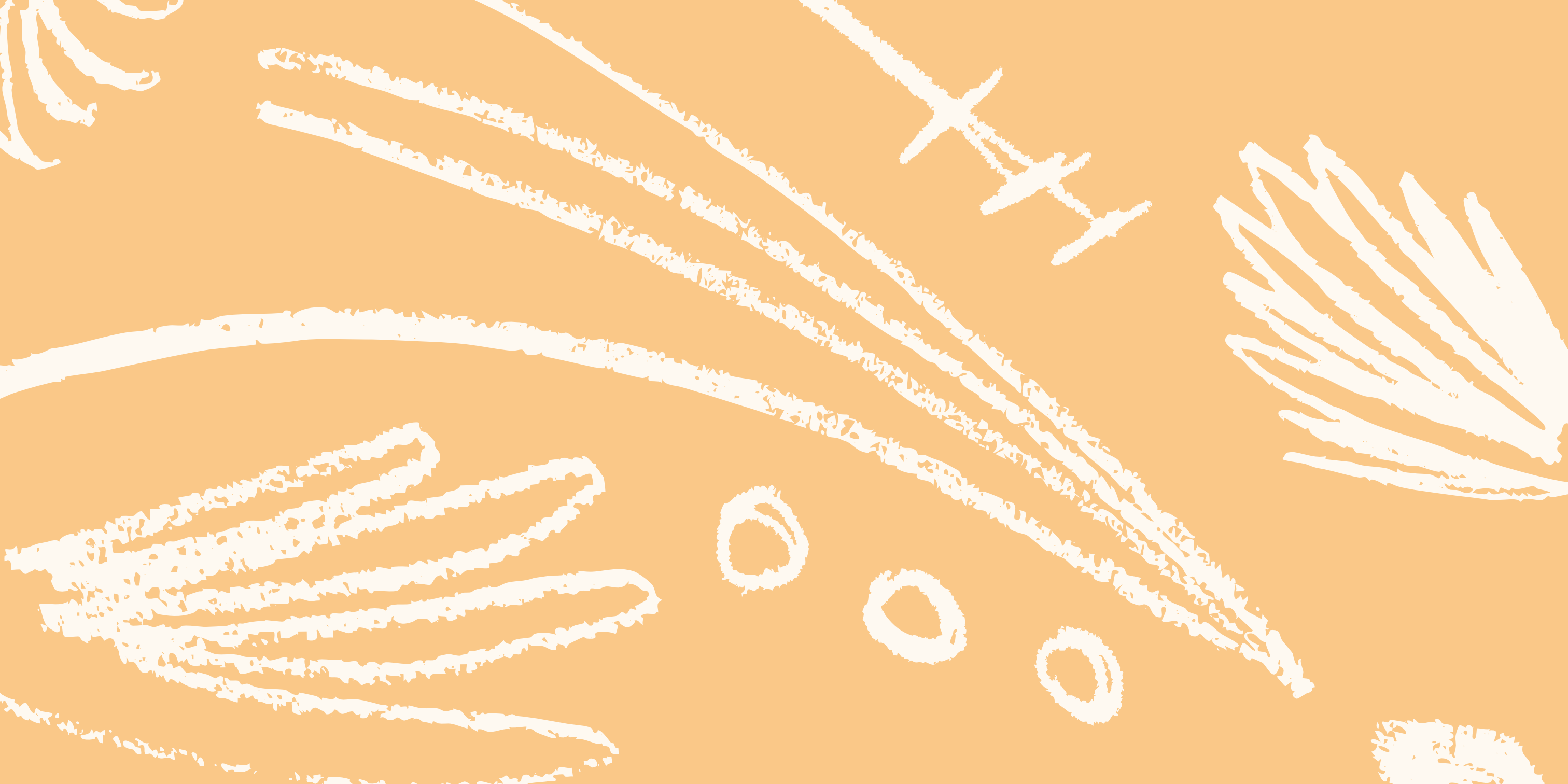


# Echoes of Young Hearts:

Contemporary Perspectives  
in Jungian Therapeutic Landscapes



This year's central focus and objective of the Conference will be to encourage meaningful discussion on therapeutic approaches and the challenges associated with addressing the mental health of children and adolescents. How often does childhood seem almost silent amidst the bustle of adulthood? We aspire that this symphony of voices—reflections of young hearts—will give rise to a wealth of ideas and methodologies, enriching our understanding of the intricate landscapes of growing souls.

With only fragmented insights into Jung's perspectives on the psychological development of children and adolescents, and lacking an integrated theory that unites classical, archetypal, and developmental frameworks in this domain, a pivotal question emerges: What implications does this have for our identity as Jungian analysts, our professional evolution, and the therapeutic strategies we employ when working with children and adolescents within a Jungian context?

The landscapes and themes outlined for Plenary and Case study presentations delve deeply into the archetypal and symbolic dimensions of Jungian psychology, offering profound insights into the individuation process, psychotic experiences, and the interplay of unconscious and conscious dynamics.

Here's an overview of upcoming presentations:

# PROGRAM

- 6 Plenary presentations
- 14 Landscapes and Themes  
for Case Study Presentations
- 42 Workshops

# PLENARY PRESENTATIONS

Brigit Soubrouillard (SFPA)

# The vulnerability of the analyst when working with transsexual adolescents

While consideration of the use of medication and/ or surgery to align the physical sex characteristics of adult patients with their gender identity originated in the first half of the XXth century, gender-affirming care for adolescents did not emerge until the XXI th century.

Initially a marginal phenomenon, the prevalence of trans-identified youth has skyrocketed in the last decade. Analysts are faced with unprecedented situations as these young patients seek psychotherapy in conjunction with hormone treatments and/or plan for future surgery.

This presentation based on a case and mythological amplifications will discuss the conundrum and the challenges we face today, and the vulnerabilities of the analyst.

Emilija Kiehl (BJAA)

# The beginnings in the life of Baby L

As an analyst working with adults, my contribution to this significant conference will be reminiscences of the two years of my weekly observation of Baby L as a compulsory component in adult Jungian Analytic training at my institute, British Jungian Analytic Association (BJAA). The successful passing of the Infant Observation paper upon the two-year period in the baby's life has been a milestone - the precondition for candidates to start working clinically with training patients.

Infant Observation was introduced in 1948 by the British psychoanalyst and child psychotherapist, Esther Bick, as a necessary component in the Tavistock Clinic training for Child Psychotherapists. It later became part of many adult Psychoanalytic trainings worldwide, including some Jungian trainings, e. g., the SAP

and the BJAA in London and the C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco.

Interest in this developing psychoanalytic discipline as part of adult training continues to grow as a valuable source for candidates' learning about early life and experiencing the ramifications of psychological phenomena such as unconscious communication, transference and countertransference, reverie, to name but a few.

It was a moving journey for me to revisit a version I still have of my qualifying paper on observing Baby L so many years ago. I hope that taking us through that time of Baby L's first life experiences, with her family, and with me visiting regularly every week, will prove an appropriate offering as together we step into the world of young hearts.

Agata Giza Zwierzchowska (PTPJ)

# Who sleeps in children's rooms? Collective trauma, psychosomatics and embodied countertransference in jungian analysis of children and adolescents

*„In the language I am writing in, the past and the future differ by only one vowel.*

*„E” goes into „Y” and it sounds like a call.’*

*Olga Tokarczuk (2006)*

During psychoanalysis, the process of unravelling the experience of the unconscious, enables us to transcend the temporal dimension. In that experience of the unconscious, we enter a space of timelessness that seems to be simultaneously present, past and future at the same juncture. Such a phenomenon of the ‘relativity of time’ is experienced by the Jungian analyst working in liminal space with the child. Who can (s)he meet there? In order to appreciate the completeness of this experience, we usually need to transgress causality and temporal linearity. Within such a therapeutic mind-set, we can develop an approach that allows us to embrace the multidimensionality and synchronicity of young patients’ experiences.

‘The traumas of one generation become the

complexes of the next’ (Shalit 2006). Jung stated that a child is born immersed in their parents’ unconscious. This commonality is bidirectional. The child can also serve as the parent’s ego complex, and is reflected in this way. Traumatized parents can use the child’s Self, especially if they themselves have not had the opportunity to experience healing from their own, posttraumatic split. When this occurs, then a powerful complex prevents the formation of an archetype in the mother-child relationship. This becomes a task waiting for a therapeutic encounter.

The lecture will present two case studies of psychotherapy for psychosomatic disorders applying Sandplay Therapy, in which these kinds of dynamics took place. Furthermore, we will discuss the healing factors and transference experiences that may be crucial to therapeutic work with early childhood and transgenerational trauma in the context of Jungian theory.

Asta Adler (LAAP)

## The voice on the skin: understanding self-harm in adolescence

Adolescence is a critical developmental period marked by significant cognitive, biological, psychological, and social changes. During this stage, adolescents develop greater capacities for problem-solving, emotional regulation, and relational reciprocity while navigating the challenges of forming a mature self-identity. Emotional arousal, impulsivity, and interpersonal stress can often overwhelm adolescents, with self-harm frequently emerging as a maladaptive coping mechanism linked to developmental challenges and psychological distress.

Described metaphorically as the “voice of the skin,” self-harm serves as a non-verbal outlet for expressing unacknowledged or suppressed emotions. Common triggers include isolation, social comparison, and school-related stress, underscoring the complex interaction between individual, relational, and societal factors. Self-harm is a multifaceted behavior serving functions such as affect regulation, trauma processing, and communication of emotional pain. From a psychodynamic perspective,

it can be viewed as a sacrificial act tied to the desire and perceived lack of the other, reflecting adolescents’ struggles with separation, individuation, and autonomy, as well as their difficulty resolving internal conflicts.

Qualitative studies highlight the interpersonal dimensions of self-harm, linking it to psychological pain, relational stressors, and a need for connection. Many adolescents begin self-harming in response to relational difficulties or trauma. Although support from family and friends is vital, ambivalence toward treatment is common, making therapeutic engagement a nuanced process.

This paper explores self-harm within the context of adolescence by synthesizing insights from theoretical frameworks and clinical case studies. It examines self-harm as both an individual and relational phenomenon, emphasizing its role as a coping strategy for navigating emotional and developmental challenges in order to promote emotional resilience and relational well-being.

Emanuela Diaconu (SPJ)

## Who we are in the therapeutic position, for patients in late adolescence period

Taking into account that this period is now considered as important as the first years of life, therapeutic presence can be seen as having a significant impact and at the same time a discreet way of accompanying this phase full of challenges, insecurity and various psychological acquisitions. The therapist is challenged to be as aware as possible of the distance and involvement that he will face in accompanying this stage of life.

The psychic transition phase from late adolescence to adult life, which, in some cases, can be experienced with great difficulty, can be a period when the contradictory wishes between early childhood needs and the wish to become independent and to find a place in the world, will coexist. This can provoke intense countertransference reactions that can challenge the analyst’s ability to remain a „solid container” for the patients.

I will share from my experience the aspects of the therapeutic attitude that have had the most important effect and support for patients in this phase of life. The elaboration on this issue involves discussions of psychic dynamics, the Jungian concept of individuation and the importance of the unconscious manifestation.

# LANDSCAPES AND THEMES FOR CASE STUDY PRESENTATIONS



# INTO THE UNDERWORLD

depression, nigredo, coagulatio, dreams, abaissement du niveau mental, timelessness, mother as life and death archetype, soul, Persefona, Demeter

Michał Bienek

## The Psychodynamics of Inner Voices: A Jungian Analysis of Ego and Archetypal Relations in Psychotic Experience”

In psychotic experiences, autonomous psychic contents often emerge, which, in the Jungian framework, can be understood as manifestations of archetypes. This lecture examines the case of a young patient who experienced auditory hallucinations of two angels-Samael, the angel of destruction and pain, and Archangel Michael, the helmsman and navigator. These figures played a crucial role in his inner world, symbolizing the division of the psyche and the takeover of the ego by independent complexes.

From a Jungian analytical perspective, these voices can be interpreted as an expression of the conflict between the archetype of the Self

and the Shadow, as well as an attempt to find direction in the individuation process. The metaphor of a “ship without a captain” reflects the disintegration of the ego and the need for its reintegration. The lecture also explores the role of the therapist as a psychopomp—a guide in the process of psyche reintegration—emphasizing the importance of symbolic understanding in Jungian therapy for psychotic experiences.

The discussion provides a perspective on psychosis not merely as pathology but also as a potential attempt at psychic self-regulation, where the emerging narratives may carry a profound existential message.

Aldona Zejmo-Kudelska

# Butterfly and silence as symbols of individuation of a 17 year old adolescent boy treated by Sandplay Therapy.

*"At the end of my suffering  
there was a door (...)."*  
*The Wild Iris*  
*Louise Gluck*

Can archetypal psychology with its notion of soul, poetics of imagination, reference to the world of archetypes and its mode of working with images have something to offer for contemporary clinicians working with adolescents in crisis?

In this case study I will tell the story of John - 17 year old boy diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome and clinical depression, hospitalized at the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, Warsaw, Poland. One year's work with John treated by Sandplay Therapy is a process of individuation consisting of a meeting with

powerful symbols; from the initial encounter with angelic and diabolical forces representing for the boy the experiences of life and death, light and darkness, good and evil (archetypal defences of Self) to an encounter with the butterfly representing the symbol of transformation and reborn soul. This work was often accompanied by a poignant silence being the space of psychic becoming, dialogue of the unconscious with the conscious and at the same time the space of a profound meeting between the patient and the therapist. The work with the images of the soul emerging from the sand led John to the acceptance of his own „weirdness“, rediscovering its constructive meanings and bringing out the healing potentials coming from creative areas of the psyche.

Ilinca Balas

# The “Unconsolable Child” Complex

Drawing upon clinical observations, two case vignettes with dream insertion and a cultural amplification from a Romanian fairy tale, in this paper we will be exploring the hypothesis of the existence of a particular kind of child complex, namely that of the unconsolable child. Having as a theoretical background Erich Neumann's perspective on the child and the primary relationship, we will start by presenting the clinical context in which we noticed this specific configuration, and we will be looking at the nature of this complex, its archetypal foundation, its main traits and aspects, when and how it might constellate. Furthermore, digging into the psychoid as firstly described by Jung, but also explained and brought to the present-day clinical practice by Addison, we will inquire on whether the unconsolable cry of the baby could be seen as a potential psychoid phenomenon. If the understanding of inconsolability could be lying somewhere in-between attachment, separation-individuation, early trauma and emotional dysregulation, we also bring up the question of its relationship with maternal depression. By means of clinical examples and referring to the interpretation of the fairy tale, we will be following the presence of this complex in three different life stages, childhood, adulthood and old age, how it might manifest accordingly, and which would be its theoretical and clinical approaches.



# UNDER THE SPELL

love infatuation, projections, compulsions, necessity,  
being stuck, mania, inside the womb of electronic devices  
and internet space, Hera

Dana Anghel

## I really need to keep it all!

This paper presents a Jungian analysis of the case of Tammy, a five-and-a-half-year-old girl diagnosed with Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) characterized by compulsive hoarding of food and garbage.

Within the framework of Jungian psychology, Tammy's symptoms are explored as manifestations of unconscious processes seeking symbolic expression within the context of her developmental stage.

The analysis also examines the interplay between Tammy's behavior and the unconscious dynamics within her family system. Furthermore, these dynamics are discussed in relation to the individuation process and the potential for enmeshment within the extended family.

The main theme delves into the symbolic significance of food and garbage within the child's psyche, considering their connection to themes of nourishment, security, loss, and the unconscious layout.

Finally, drawing upon Jungian principles, the paper explores therapeutic approaches, including play therapy, drawing, storytelling, and collage crafting, to access and work with the unconscious material that drives the child's compulsive hoarding, aiming to facilitate psychological integration and healing within the context.

Rayna Denitsova

## The Caged Adolescent: A ‘Feral Child’s’ Journey Toward Individuation

This case study explores the transformative journey of an adolescent who presented with debilitating anxiety around exams and drastic self-harm. Trapped between a dominating mother and two needy sisters, she had always been the peacemaker, squeezed into compliance and invisibility. Struggling to be seen, she resorted to brutal self-harm and manic, unpredictable behaviour, yet much like in Hamlet, there was “a method to her madness.” She spoke of herself as ‘feral’ and lost sense of self-preservation, but when she “woke up” from these manic states, the deep cuts on her body frightened her more vulnerable self.

A pivotal dream guided our work: a broken fairytale creature imprisoned in a cell, its luminous eyes projecting scenes of her life. My client was losing hope that she could be free to live rather than just imagine life. Like Lyra in *His Dark Materials*, confined to a chest by

her mother—both protected and imprisoned—she was trapped not just by her mother’s dominance but by her own longing to remain a child. The scars on her body were the visible trace of the battle between the part of her that longed for freedom and the part still afraid to risk being fully seen.

My client fiercely protected her therapy from her mother’s interference and used the space to tentatively begin individuating and moving toward her humanity. We understood that her anxiety around exams reflected her deep ambivalence about growing up and profound confusion, as she couldn’t distinguish between her own wishes and her mother’s pressure to do well. Soon after she managed to sit her exams, chose a university away from home, and navigated an intimate relationship with a growing sense of her worth.

Delia Dascălu

## Echoes of Individuation: The Mother Complex and Separation Dynamics in an Adolescent Diagnosed with OCD

This case presentation delves into the intricate interplay of individuation, the mother complex, and separation dynamics in the psyche of an 18 years old, male adolescent, diagnosed shortly after entering the psychotherapeutic process, with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Adolescence is a transformative period marked by identity formation and the drive for autonomy, where the individuation process—central to analytical psychology—comes to the fore as the adolescent seeks to integrate the conscious and unconscious aspects of the psyche. Separation is a critical process of psychological development, and adolescence is marked by tensions surrounding the need for separation from parental figures, in my presentation particularly the mother. This presentation explores how struggles with separation from the mother are reflected in the adolescent’s OCD symptoms, which act both as defenses against separation and expressions of unresolved relational conflicts.

These dynamics highlight a pivotal conflict: the paradoxical interplay between “holding on” and “letting go,” experienced by the therapist. Central to this presentation is the therapist’s role in maintaining the balance. How can the psychotherapist support separation without abandoning, or hold on without obstructing the natural flow of individuation? How much “holding on” is too much, risking stagnation and immobility? By examining presenting clinical vignette, the presentation will illustrate how the therapist’s awareness of transference-countertransference dynamics can provide a compass for navigating the therapeutic process.

Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the therapeutic challenges and strategies involved in balancing relational dynamics, fostering psychological separation, and facilitating the adolescent’s psychological journey.



# IN THE FOREST

hero quest, mother earth, initiation, animism, growing, losing and regaining identity, soul, Anima, fairy tales, Artemida, Gaia

Petra Fürbecková

## Between Worlds: Jungian Approach and the Search for Identity in a Globalized Life

This case study explores a therapeutic process with an 18-year-old client, initiated by their parents to explore their gender identity. The primary focus of therapy has been on the search for a cohesive sense of self, rather than gender, although discomfort with their body and consideration of top surgery were part of the broader exploration. Conducted predominantly online due to the client's living abroad, the therapy reached a significant turning point with an in-person meeting after almost a year of building trust.

Born into a family of immigrants in the US, the client later moved back to their parents' home country to attend college, creating a sense of dislocation as they navigated the complexities of belonging between two worlds. The parents, who also commute between

two homes with plans to retire in their home country, were unable to offer clarity on where the client fits within these shifting borders. This sense of fragmentation was a central theme in the therapeutic process, which used Jungian methods such as symbolic imagery, dream work, and drawing to explore their sense of self and belonging.

The Amazon myth emerged as an important symbol, representing autonomy and self-determination amid the client's search for identity. Additionally, potential traits linked to autism spectrum disorder were explored, highlighting how neurodivergence might shape the client's relationship with self and the others. This presentation offers insights into supporting young adults navigating complex identity challenges in a globalized world.

Irena Petrova

# Thirst for life, thirst for self

Nowadays children and adolescents live under enormous pressure from the family constellations, environment and inner searching for meaning. In my clinical work Jungian framework creates an atmosphere for revealing the archetypal energies and emerging images, symbols and power of transformation from the self. Children's imagination nowadays is strongly influenced by video games and ready images from electronic devices which sometimes limit their own creativity. Sandplay in particular is a very precious tool toward the unconscious and a place where a child can meet its deeper levels of psychic in a playful and fruitful way.

This presentation explores the clinical case of an 8 years old boy and his searching for the water of life, the self and his initial masculinity. During the therapeutic process archetypal forces of good and evil, heaven and earth, feminine and masculine revealed in the sandtray and supported the young boy in his inner quest for growing. It shows how important it is for children and adolescents today to be supported in meeting and listening to their souls in a protected and nurtured atmosphere.

Jungian framework is a healing approach for the psychic which we need so much today for bringing the soul in this world.



# BORDERS AND IN-BETWEENS

transitional/liminal space and objects, transformation archetype, Mercury, Hermes, Trickster, borderline and psychosis, between stages of development, being stuck in between, play as a space between, the third, analytical field, synchronicity, psychoid

Katarzyna Kwasny-Czehak

## Working with infants and their parents

The first year in a child's life is a process of transformative change not only for the child but also for the parents, which is why it is often associated with a mental health crisis.

Parent-infant psychotherapy is a method of therapeutic work based on psychoanalytic thinking and aimed at building a safe bond between parents and infants. In my presentation, I would like to present how I work with parents and infants and how I understand mental phenomena that happen both in the collective and individual psyche. I will also refer to how this content can be placed in the therapeutic process from the perspective of the setting - from the first phone call with the notification to the separation from the family, and from the perspective of the therapeutic dialogue, which takes place not only verbally, but in an embodied processes.

Finally, I will talk about how an analyst can prepare for this type of work by observing infants, and how the Jungian perspective helps with this.

# Temenos and symbolic language in a context of language gap. Two pillars and three journeys

This presentation follows a psychological journey to access Temenos in the context of the shattering experience of war and displacement. My 6 months therapeutic work in Romania with 10 young Ukrainian refugees from placement centers had the challenge of the language gap. Protecting the therapeutic Temenos for their inner work with trauma became a challenge for me and, over time, a space of valuable growth for all of us.

Where there is a (language) gap... a bridge is needed. The emotional bridge and the therapeutic relationship were created on two pillars, significant for the Jungian work:

- the attitude of „therapeutic witnessing” (concept used by Professor Renos Papadopoulos) instead of an active attitude to change things
- the symbolic language, and its transcendent function and a way for the teenagers to share their story – with an art therapy-based approach, for an alternative “vocabulary” of the language gap

Three journeys unfolded:

- the young refugees’ journey from the experience of war towards the seeds of healing
- my struggle with emotional overwhelm, insecurity, anger towards war and the impulse to save
- our journey together to “find” each other in the realm of the symbols and discover how we speak the same universal language.

Blanco’s (17) story of change and artworks is shared. He is an introverted teenager who chose one artwork he had created from natural materials as the subject of a photograph he took for a public exhibition marking one year of war. Blanco transformed an ordinary paper cup into a work of art about reconnection and a newfound safe self-containing space.

Elena Maritescu

# Child's Play as a symbol of psychic growth, healing and Individuation

Through play, we can all begin to navigate through the complex psychological journey of Individuation. Dora Kalff and Michael Fordham extended Jungian theory to children and to the challenges they face. Verena Kast continues amplifying the importance of the feelings of enthusiasm, desire, interest, curiosity, fascination, imagination for a mental state of expectancy. Through play, children keep their balance in relation to perturbations that are coming from the parents and school and there are necessary steps to become undifferentiated from the unconscious. C. G. Jung describes the infant archetype as "The child [...] represents the most powerful and inevitable incentive to self-realisation. [...] is equipped with all the instinctual natural forces." That is an important resource that every human being has. Play requires freedom and depth. Through Play appears a connection with the beginning of life, the energy and movement of a new creation; the Self is involved. So, Play is Life! Play comes instinctively from the inside, the mood strikes. It represents a system of communication and expression.

A clinical case of a child struggling to develop his own voice and how play had a big impact as an opening of energy and as a mediator through his soul; sandplay pictures will be presented.



# THE BURNING FIRE

libido, transformation, heating up vivid parts of psyche, Eros, eternal fire, burning to ashes, light, sun, Hephaestus, Prometheus, phallic-sun stage of development, Athena, Herakles, anger, Ares

Łukasz Mańkowski

## From boy to man. Becoming an adult man in the modern world

In today's society, the process of transformation from boy to adult man can be a complex and challenging undertaking. On the one hand, it is a path that has long been mapped out. Men are expected to be strong, capable and able to cope with anything. On the other hand, boys and men feel lost when they enter this old path. They feel fears and anxieties, which they suppress, repress, intoxicate themselves with stimulants and fall into a cycle of compulsive behaviors. However, the emotions cannot be suppressed. Attempts to deviate from the pattern of masculinity create anxiety. They are confronted with ideas of what masculinity should be and how the world describes what it means to be a man. Young people searching for their path in life often follow contemporary authority figures in an attempt to escape the trap of isolation and lack of self-acceptance and acceptance by others. Even teenage

boys worry about whether their bodies meet the 'requirements' of masculinity role models. On the other hand, boys lack affection and closeness. Without experiencing it, they are unable to give it to others.

Boys and men experience loneliness, hiding sensitivity behind aggression. Overstimulated and bored with the real world, they seek solace in stimulants and compulsive behaviors. Some find closeness and acceptance in social groups based on rivalry and aggressive behaviors. Some remain lonely with no solution, lost in a sense of meaninglessness.

However, the path of depression and loneliness is not the only option. I will try to show what complexes adolescents and young men face and whether there is a way out of the path of isolation, loneliness and old patterns of masculinity.

Diana Petrova

# Fairy Tale therapy in Jungian Analysis

Fairy tales are a profound gateway and brief introduction of life changing areas from the unconscious that can help a child or adolescent to overcome difficulties and find its way to the Self. Through observing and discussing the eternal themes that fairy tales and the world heritage of myths precipitate, the child deprives his worries of exclusivity and thus reduces the anxiety, isolation and sadness.

On the other hand while writing a self made piece with magical content the child or adolescent mobilizes a hidden power that makes out a creator of himself and eliminates the notion of helplessness so common in his age. Unnoticeably the adolescent or child opens a door to its creative power and drives it to integrate with other split parts of the soul.

Fairy tales are a universal instrument in Jungian analytical therapy and they can be used in two

main directions with adolescents and children. One is via discussions, alterations of the plot, adding heroes and changing the beginning, end or middle of a suitable story that concerns their personal issues and another one is via a toolkit with techniques for mutual creation of a fairy tale in which are participating both Jungian therapist and the client.

The adolescent can freely connect with the complexes that rule his life, can act out in a plot with the slower pace of the soul and can free a powerful content from the unconscious that can help in resolving major conflicts in growth.



# CROSSROADS

Hekate, Hermes, being lost, internal conflicts and ambivalence, holding the tension, decisions, finding new attitude, transcendent function, reorientation, being stuck in crossroads, puella and puer, coniunctio

Joanna R. Polinska

## “Hey, Mrs. Robinson”. Interpretation of initial dream of a young adult caught in perpetual adolescence

Presented is the initial dream interpretation of a 25-years old man being at the verge of independent living. Despite maintaining an independent living arrangement and enjoying a stable employment status, L. is confronted with an escalating sense of anxiety and a growing perception of derealization. The imminent threat of a mental breakdown prompts the decision to initiate therapy. A few years earlier, during his second year of college, L. was hospitalized after an episode of heightened anxiety and delusional disorder. He spent a month in the hospital and was unable to return to college for another year.

In the beginning, L. reports a significant sense of guilt concerning his limited presence at his parents' house. The patient dedicates all of

his leisure time to being with his parents, and he consistently responds to all requests for assistance. L. is concerned about his future prospects and experiences feelings of alienation and loneliness. Concurrently, he undertakes additional measures to enhance his autonomy. L. has been observed to occasionally entertain divergent plans, yet he finds himself unable to decline his parents' requests. The act of refusing to comply with his mother's wishes is particularly challenging for him. She typically responds with anger and sadness, thereby exacerbating L's feelings of guilt.

The initial dream suggests an association with the mother and the role that the son plays. The themes of interdependence, dedication, and the inability to escape are addressed.

Elena Bortuleva

## Dreams in Achieving Coniunctio with a Teen Girl

With this, I am going to present the over 4 year-long therapy with the 13 year-old who was trapped in the confusion of inner and outer, of the psychic and physical and because of that defended maniacally against the relationships and growing by hostility and destructiveness. That defence made it difficult to attain the loving that comes 'from the guts', and, yet, without that it was impossible to love what was difficult to love but was longing to be loved. Without that kind of loving it was impossible to create a union similar to the relationship of reciprocity and trust between mother and baby in order to name the unnamed and to face the dread of the new (of growing) together.

I will show this journey through a series of dreams of the teen girl.

I also hope to dwell on Jung's understanding of a coniunctio and Bion's concept of container and the contained which I used as theoretical containers in this work. The work was an experience of an almost non-stop balancing on the knife's blade, using the first dream's image. I think we both learnt how to keep losing the link and re-connecting by naming and re-naming her affects and attributing them to the supposed events in her timeline. That practice helped the girl to change her own attitude to herself, her relations with her mother and a bigger environment. In other words, she started weaving a totally different personal story. .

Teodora Taneva

## Echoes of Young Wombs: Adolescent Pregnancy and Adoption

This presentation explores adolescent pregnancy and early motherhood in adopted daughters through the lens of psychoanalytic theory and the enduring resonance of my first clinical encounters. Drawing on my early years as a psychologist within the Child Protection Service, I reflect backward - with the symbolic gaze of the Jungian psychoanalyst I have now become - on two profoundly impactful cases of female adoptees who became mothers in adolescence, each giving birth to children they initially placed in institutional care, only to later return and reclaim them.

These maternal trajectories may be understood as unconscious reenactments of the primal wound of being abandoned - reenactments that allude to repetition compulsion, invoke symbolic identification with the birth mother, and emerge as fragile embodiments of maternal reparation. This presentation is an attempt to listen together to the subtle psychic movements, stirring within the echoes of those adolescent wombs. What might young motherhood be trying to remember? If the womb remembers the wound, how does the abandoning womb become a cradle again?

# WORKSHOPS

Anna Słaboń, Mateusz Kolaszkiewicz

# Playing with the gods

This workshop will focus on playing and acting, using imagination, objects, dialogues and movement to work with inner and transpersonal contents - complexes, feelings, symptoms. Animism and personalization of those contents helps the child to re-experience and reconstruct them. Therapist has to know how to animate and interact with such contents. During the workshop we will try to get into the shoes of mythical figures during play. Everything just „pretending as if it would be real” to stay with one foot out of the Dionysian flow, Aphrodites charm or Zeus rage. Such an attitude is well known and natural to a growing child or it is necessary to help the child to regain it after traumatic fragmentation or other overwhelming symptoms. We will look at these self-healing powers of play from a child centered play therapy perspective, keeping in mind Jung's, Neumann's, Hillman's and Fordham's reveries.

Miloš Rokić

# The Colors of Adolescence

The tissue paper collage is a non-structured medium through which we explore the unconscious. Creating images in this spontaneous fashion encourages dialogue between the conscious and the unconscious and the chief outcome of this workshop is to come to a non-verbal understanding of what it is like to be an adolescent. What are the distinctive and transcendent features of adolescence? We will try to understand if adolescence has color, touch or shape. Once an image is manifested, many processing questions and considerations will follow. Once these questions are considered and the answers are articulated, then the message from the unconscious is made fully conscious. Many questions during this workshop will have no answer and that is OK. Workshop will be offered to 15 participants in a duration of approximately 1.5 hours.



