

# **Geographies Of Psychoanalysis /Encounters Between Cultures**

**Tehran**

**October 2014 | 17/16**

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Translation of the papers and translation during the conference will be provided from English, French and Italian to Farsi, and vice versa by Toufan Garekani.

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Gohar Homayounpour will be chairing the day,  
and speakers will be introduced by various Iranian colleagues.

Morning - 16 October

PRESENTOR	TITLE	TIME
Opening ceremony Abbas Kiarostami		
Lorena Preta & Gohar Homayounpour	Introduction	9:15-8:30
Sudhir Kakar	How Culture Influences Both The Theory And Practice Of Psychoanalysis	10:00-9:15 Q&A 10:15-10:00
Anna Ferruta	Constructing Or Deconstructing Stories And Cultures	11:00-10:15 Q&A 11:15-11:00

LUNCH: 1:30-11:15

Afternoon - 16 October

PRESENTOR	TITLE	TIME
Alfredo Lombardozzi	Which Geographies? Psychoanalytic Anthropology Of Human Diversity	2:15-1:30 Q&A 2:30-2:15
Felix De Mendelssohn	Freud Aand The Djinn Doing Psychoanalysis In Algeria	3:15-2:30 Q&A 3:30-3:15
Panel involving all the speakers		4:00-3:30

Mohammad Sanati will be chairing the day,  
and speakers will be introduced by various Iranian colleagues.

### Morning - 17 October 2014

PRESENTER	TITLE	TIME
Tiziana Bastianini	The Subject Of The Affect: How The Actual Can Be Expressed In Different Cultures	10:00-9:15 Q&A 10:15-10:00
Mariano Horenstein	Psychoanalysis In Minor Language	11:00-10:15 Q&A 11:15-11:00

**LUNCH: 1:30-11:15**

### Afternoon - 17 October 2014

PRESENTER	TITLE	TIME
Sophie de Mijolla-Mellor	The Invariants Of The Couple	2:15-1:30 Q&A 2:30-2:15
Silvia Ronchey	Geography And The History Of Conflict	3:15-2:30 Q&A 3:30-3:15
Lorena Preta & Gohar Homayounpour	Concluding remarks	4:00-3:30

## Dr. Lorena Preta

Director of the International research group: Geographies of Psychoanalysis.

Full member of SPI (Italian Psychoanalytical Society) and IPA (International Psychoanalytical Society).

Past Editor in chief of the journal Psyche (Journal of culture of the Italian Psychoanalytical Society), 2001-2009.

Scientific consultant and director for many years of Spoletoscienza (Meetings of science and culture at the Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto).

She conceived and edited the series Italian Lessons from the Italian publishing house Laterza.

Author of many publications for the types Laterza, some published abroad, including:

\* La narrazione delle origini (1991)

Che cos'è la conoscenza (con Mauro Ceruti, 1991)

Immagini e metafore della scienza (1993)

La passione del conoscere (1993)

Il caso e la libertà (con M.Ceruti, P.Fabbri, G.Giorello, 1994)

In principio era la cura (con Pino Donghi, 1995)

Nuove geometrie della mente (1999)

She is the author of several essays published in books and magazines:

\* The narrative of the origins (1991)

What is knowledge (with Mauro Ceruti, 1991)

Images and metaphors of science (1993)

The passion of knowing (1993)

The case and the freedom (with M.Ceruti, P.Fabbri, G.Giorello, 1994)

In the beginning was the cure (with Pino Donghi, 1995)

New geometries of Mind (1999)

### **Title:**

Psychoanalysis An Updated Map Of The Psyche.

## Dr. Mohammad Sanati

Dr. Mohammad Sanati. MD, FRCPsych.

Associate professor of psychiatry.

Head of the Department of psychoanalytic psychotherapy and group therapy.

Director of the Psychotherapy Fellowship Course at Roozbeh Hospital, Tehran University of Medical Sciences.

Head of Psychotherapy section of the Iranian Association of Psychiatrists.

Born 1945 in Esfahan, Iran.

Studied medicine in Medical Faculty, Tehran University, 1963-1970.

Went to London in 1974; pursuing training in psychiatry and psychoanalysis.

Worked in psychiatric teaching hospitals, London.

MRCPsych (1982), FRCPsych (1992).

Returned to Iran in 1985; working at Roozbeh Hospital, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, also having a private practice in Tehran.

Publications:

Many Papers And Articles In Psychoanalysis, Art And Literature And Culture

Books:

Psychoanalysis of art and literature (1998) (in Persian)

Sadeh Hedayat and the fear of death, analysis of the Blind Owl (2000)

Time and Immortality in Tarkovskies cinema (2001)

Death (2007)

## Dr. Gohar Homayounpour

Gohar Homayounpour is a psychoanalyst and an author who lives and works in Tehran.

Gohar Homayounpour is a training and supervising psychoanalyst of the Freudian Group of Tehran, where she is founder and director. Lecturer at Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.

Homayounpour has published various psychoanalytic articles, including in the International and Canadian journal of psychoanalysis.

She has written extensively on psychoanalysis and culture, cinema, femininity and language.

Her recent book "Doing Psychoanalysis in Tehran", the MIT Press August 2012, won the Gradiva award for the best psychoanalytic book of the year, and it has been translated into French, German, Italian, and Turkish.

Homayounpour is a member of the board at the Freud museum in Vienna.

## Dr. Sudhir Kakar

Sudhir Kakar is a psychoanalyst and writer who lives in Goa, India.

A leading figure in the fields of cultural psychology and the psychology of religion, as well as a novelist, Dr. Kakar is a member of the New York Academy of Sciences, the Board of Sigmund Freud Archives in the Library of Congress, Washington and the Academie Universelle des Culture, France.

Dr. Kakar's many honors include the Kardiner Award of Columbia University, Boyer Prize for Psychological Anthropology of the American Anthropological Association, Germany's Goethe Medal, Rockefeller Residency, McArthur Fellowship, Distinguished Service Award of Indo-American Psychiatric Association and the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, the country's highest civilian order.

Sudhir Kakar's seventeen books of non-fiction and four of fiction, include *The Inner World* (now in its 20th printing since its first publication in 1978), *Shamans, Mystics and Doctors*, (with J.Ross) *The Analyst and the Mystic*, *The Colors of Violence, Culture and Psyche*, (with K.Kakar) *The Indians: Portrait of a People*, (with Wendy Doniger). He is also the author of the novels *The Ascetic of Desire*, *Ecstasy*, *Mira and Mahatma*, *The Crimson Throne* and the editor of *Indian Love Stories*. His most recent books are *Young Tagore: the Makings of a Genius*, and an edited volume *Death and Dying*.

### **Title:**

How Culture Influences Both The Theory And Practice Of Psychoanalysis

### **Abstract:**

Looking back at my own personal analysis in Germany and thirty years of psychoanalytic practice with Indian, European and American patients, my talk explores the ways culture influences both the theory and practice of psychoanalysis. It reaches the conclusion that culture, as a fundamental way of viewing ourselves and the world we live in, is not a later substrate in the formation of the psyche but present from the beginning of life.



## Dr. Anna Ferruta

Psychologist, Full Member and Training Analyst of the Italian Psychoanalytical Society and of the International Psychoanalytical Association; Director of Training of the Italian Psychoanalytical Society; Member of the Monitoring and Advisory Board of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis. She works as psychoanalyst in Milan. Consultant Supervisor in Psychiatric and Neurological Institutions. Foundation Member of "Mito e Realtà-Association for Therapeutic Communities". Expert in psychoanalysis of severe psychic pathologies and in the psychodynamics of institutional working groups. Former activities: Scientific Secretary of the Italian Psychoanalytical Society; Vice-Director of Psiche; Lecturer in Psychiatric Specialization at Pavia University and in Evolutive Life Cycle Specialization at Bicocca Milan University. Author of Italian and International publications.

### **Title:**

Constructing Or Deconstructing Stories And Cultures

### **Abstract:**

A patient who had reached the end of his analysis gave an account of a dream. He was with a dwarf, a highly intelligent and competent person, in a big house where each person had his own small flat, a sort of studio flat. He felt that the flat had what he needed and he accepted it. His mother arrived and they went to see the bathroom so that they could choose the tiles. A decision had to be made: whether the pixel-like mosaic tesserae were to have an abstract pattern or depict a figurative picture.

He associated this dream with the end of analysis, with the feeling that he now had something of his own, small as it was, and that a dwarf can at times also be big. His mother was always able to choose the right thing, especially with regard to the environment and liveableness.

We asked ourselves: where is the best place for him to live? In an environment where the pattern has not yet been traced and can be continuously recreated/redesigned depending on the relationship and life stage?

A psychodynamic theory of subjectivisation (Bollas) allows there to be a secure base (Balint) together with it being continuously transformed in accordance with the internal/external context.

The patient commented that sacred yoga was exactly like that: clearing the mind so as to reach the absolute.

There is thus a return to the origins of psychoanalysis, deconstructive psychoanalysis, that is. Constructive techniques are fascinating stories we talk about with our patients, the 'One Thousand and One Nights', in order to delay the moment of absence. Analytic technique lies in the shared ability to design a solid and changeable/changing floor that is open to becoming many stories.

## Dr. Alfredo Lombardozi

Full member of Italian Psychoanalytical Society (SPI) and International Psychoanalytical Association (IPA).

Training analyst of Italian Institute of Group Psychoanalysis (IIPG).

As an anthropologist he has been working for many years at the National Museum of Arts and Popular Traditions (Rome) and he has been teaching for ten years Psychoanalytic Anthropology at the Universities of Chieti and L'Aquila.

Director of the Journal Koinos- Gruppo e funzione analitica.

He published and edited the following books:

Lombardozi A., *Figure del dialogo tra psicoanalisi e antropologia*, Borla, Rome 2006.

Lombardozi A., Mariotti L., *Antropologia e dinamica culturale. Saggi in onore di Vittorio Lanternari*, Liguori, Naples 2009.

Lombardozi A., *Psicoanalisi di gruppo con bambini e adolescenti*, Borla, Rome 2012.

Lombardozi A., Beggiora S., Giampà M., Molino A., *Sconfinamenti. Escursioni psicoantropologiche*, Mimesis, Milan 2014.

He has published several essays on group psychoanalysis and the relationship between Psychoanalysis and Anthropology on several books and journals.

### **Title:**

Which Geographies? Psychoanalytic Anthropology Of Human Diversity.

### **Abstract:**

In this paper we will expand upon the problems of psychoanalysis that focus on the anthropological implications in its expansion in cultures that traditionally cover unconscious factors regarding the individual's internal life in different ways. Psychoanalysts ought to be in contact with the particular way in which pain, anguish and mental illness take a form in the social context that belong to those cultures. From an anthropological and psychoanalytical point of view, different cultures can dialogue between themselves. Each culture is different, but at the same time it is connected with the others and their otherness. They can communicate both the diversity and the things that they have in common.

## Dr. Felix De Mendelssohn

FdeM is a psychoanalyst and group analyst in private practice in Vienna and Berlin. He is retired Head of Dept. for Psychoanalytic Studies at the Sigmund-Freud University (SFU) Vienna and former chairman of Section for Group Analysis in IAGP (Int. Assoc. For Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes). Currently a member of the Scientific Advisory Board for the Sigmund Freud Foundation in Vienna. Publications (books and journals) in English and German, latest book (in German): "The Man Who Owed His Life To A Dream" (Ecowin publ. Salzburg).

### **Title:**

Freud And The Djinn – On Doing Analysis In Algeria

### **Abstract:**

This paper will consist of three parts:

- a) Description of the conference „Sigmund Freud – père de la psychanalyse“ at the University of Algiers and some excerpts from a paper on “Globalization and Development of Psychoanalysis“ which I presented there.
- b) Experiences while doing a one-day workshop with Algerian psychiatrists, psychologists and psychotherapists.
- c) A countertransference dream prior to and relating to these proceedings

## Dr. Tiziana Bastianini

Dr. Tiziana Bastianini is Member, Training and Supervising Psychoanalyst of Italian Psychoanalytic Society (SIP-IPA), Rome.

She is Scientific Secretary of Italian Psychoanalytical Society.

She has been Past President of Psychoanalytic Centre Of Rome (CPDR).

Editor of the journal Psiche.

Member of the Committee for Scientific Research of Italian Psychoanalytical Society.

Member of Committee Psychoanalysis and neuroscience.

She worked in the public mental health service as a head clinical psychologist.

She directed an intermediate structure for psychotic patients.

Directed also numerous training programs for operators of mental health.

### **Title:**

The Subject Of The Affect : How The Actual Can be Expressed In Different Cultures

### **Abstract:**

The author examines from a point of view of contemporary psychoanalytic theory the role of affects (emotion, feelings) as constitutive elements of human subjectivity. After careful theoretical examination of the concept of anxiety in Freud's writings, the author considers anxiety in the so-called «panic pathologies», which find a prevalent way of expression in the body, as an indication of a crisis of the symbolization-representation processes that bring about a failure of evaluation processes and hinder the expression of emotions: what Freud at beginning called " actual neurosis".

In 1963, for the first time, Marty and de M'Uzan, described psychosomatic patients who presented scarce imagination and a concrete way of thinking that the authors called *pensée opératoire*. Sifneos continued this line of research in collaboration with Nemiah and, in 1972, coined the term «alexithymia» - literally a «lack of words for emotions» - to describe the singular incapacity of some patients to identify and describe emotions. In subsequent decades, there has been a proliferation of clinical psychoanalytic research that has shown how alexithymia is a way of functioning (defensive?) at the base of many psychic disorders that access to psychoanalytic treatment in the west. This broadened perspective in the use of the theoretical concept of alexithymia probably corresponds to the growing focus awarded the subject of affects in the psychoanalytic debate, in addition to the evidence of their fundamental role in the early stages of child development. The author will exemplify the theoretical reflections with a clinical case and at same time will introduce an interrogative about crisis of symbolization, if and how, this crisis can manifest itself in different cultures and societies from the western worlds.

## Dr. Mariano Horenstein

Mariano Horenstein is a training analyst who belongs to IPA and works in Argentina. He's the chief editor of Calibán, the official Journal of the Latin American Psychoanalytical Federation. He usually publishes and lectures in many Latin American countries and has won some international prizes as M. Bergwerk (about the clinic forms of Evil), Lucien Freud (about Psychoanalysis and Culture), and A. Garma (given by the Spanish Association of Neuropsychiatry).

### **Title:**

Psychoanalysis In Minor Language

### **Abstract:**

The title of the lecture will be "Psychoanalysis In Minor Language".

The panelist will explore the role of geography in the constitution of the psychoanalytical practice, the ways in which it is shaped by the place of the world where it is performed. His point of view could be thought as a "Far West" one - that could be the place of Latin America for the so-called First World - and from this place he will try to rethink Psychoanalysis itself.

Anthropofagia as a way of processing knowledge, the Foreignness and the place of Language in the transmission of Psychoanalysis will be some topics of his lecture.

## Dr. Sophie De Mijolla-Mellor

Sophie De Mijolla-Mellor is “exceptional class” professor in the University Sorbonne Paris City (Diderot-Paris 7) from 1971 and has been for 12 years the director of the “School of Researches in psychoanalysis”.

She is Training Analyst in the Fourth Group in France, a Freudian association created in 1969.

Her formation is both in philosophy (Aggregation in Philosophy) and in psychopathology (State Doctorate habilitating in direction of researches in Letters and Human Sciences).

She is chief editor of scientific review in psychoanalysis: “Topique” ([www.revue-topique.org](http://www.revue-topique.org)) and president of the International Association for Interactions of Psychoanalysis (A2IP) ([www.a2i-psychanalyse.org](http://www.a2i-psychanalyse.org)).

The major axis of her researches is Sublimation and thought processes, Criminology and Politics, religious and cultural facts.

She published more than 100 scientific papers in various reviews, in French or other languages and 18 books, some translated in several languages.

### **Title:**

The Invariants Of The Couple

### **Abstract:**

Today the “sexual civilized morality” as defined by Freud has indeed changed but is the result completely different? Apparent evolutions in our Western modernity, such as questioning the validity of the notion of gender, the decline of the paternal function, must not conceal the constancy of the wish for forming in a couple, namely not only an addition of two persons but a real unit. Such an endeavor continues also nevertheless to meet various psychopathological configurations. Major hurdles are still caused by either an anxiety to lose one’s oneness by blending into one or, on the contrary, by an inability to conceive one’s identity without such an entity.

## Dr. Silvia Ronchey

Silvia Ronchey is professor of Classical Philology and Byzantine Civilization at Università RomaTre, Rome, Italy. In addition to numerous specialised studies on the Classical and Byzantine past, she has written several monographs that have enjoyed wide distribution and popularity, among which: *Lo stato bizantino* (Einaudi, 2002); *L'enigma di Piero* (Rizzoli, 2006); *Il guscio della tartaruga* (Nottetempo, 2009); *Il romanzo di Costantinopoli* (Einaudi, 2010); *Ipazia. La vera storia* (Rizzoli, 2010); *Storia di Barlaam e Ioasaf. La vita bizantina del Buddha* (Einaudi, 2012). She contributes to the cultural pages of Italian newspapers and writes regularly for *La Stampa* and *Il Domenicale*, the literary supplement of *Il Sole 24 Ore*. Ronchey has also authored and conducted television programs for the RAI (Radiotelevisione italiana), among which *L'altra edicola* (RaiDue, 1999-1994) and *Fino alla fine del mondo* (RaiDue, 1999). She has interviewed some of the prominent figures of the 20th century: Claude Lévi-Strauss, James Hillman, Ernst Jünger, Jean-Pierre Vernant, Élémiere Zolla.

### Title:

Geography And The History Of Conflict

### Abstract:

At the foundation of the baffling, reductive, and tranquilising interpretation of the traumatic beginning of the third millennium as “a clash of civilisations” is the denial of what Thucydides called “the primary causes” that unleash the multiple conflicts often described by this single phrase beginning, that is, with the idea or dialectical fantasy of a conflict ‘between two entities’: negation or collective denial of the complexity of conflicts between ethnicities, the transversality of coalitions and alliances, the multiplicity and complexity of opposing parties, of their resistance being reduced to dualistic opposition. It seems as if it is almost to exorcise the seismic clustering of conflicts that have opened our century - the continual asymmetrical drawing of new fault lines - that the Western psyche tries to interpret it as ‘one, discrete’ head-on collision. It is as if Western memory were precluded from understanding the real, multiple nature of conflict and its initial causes by the re-emergence of old complexes or collective trauma: feelings of guilt over colonialism, earlier contradictions and violence inherent in the shaping of national identities, and even earlier than this, the ‘child-like’ memory of lost multi-ethnicity with its ancient taboos, frictions over complex and multiple tribal identities long buried. Of course, multi-ethnicity is continuous conflict. But isn't this also the case in a healthy psyche? Isn't health perhaps tempered conflict? This is why investigating its ‘geographies’ leads psychoanalysis to explore horizontally and vertically. This is why a geography of psychoanalysis can only be achieved by historical, vertical reconstruction of the multiplicity of conflicts and coexistence with conflict. But digging into the past – of the individual as of civilisations – requires assistance and method: the vigilant attention of psychoanalysis.