

The Soul's Challenge
between hope and anguish
in a time of planetary crisis



Summer School
Canterbury, England
4-8 August 2008



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*My great-great grandchildren ask me in dreams
"What did you do while the planet was plundered?
What did you do when the Earth was unravelling?
Surely you did something when the seasons started failing,
as the mammals, reptiles, birds were all dying.
Did you fill the streets with protest when democracy was stolen?
What did you do once you knew"*

Drew Dillinger

We have lost the sense of our connection as part of the greater web of life. As a result we have inflicted a wound on our world from which it may not recover. Melting ice caps, rising sea levels, extinction of species, denuded seas are some of symptoms of an impending catastrophe. The scale is so great that we can barely encompass it. As individuals we react with denial, frustration, despair and powerlessness; on a collective level we see manic consumption, increasing addiction and desperate escapism. This crisis presents us with an enormous challenge - to face the reality of our current predicament and to recognise that whether the future will be catastrophic or meaningful and sustainable depends on the attitudes and actions of us, as human beings.

The potential tragedy we are caught in is that we have failed to act collectively and decisively, permitting a selfish individualism to hold sway and ruin our world. Yet building a sense of collective awareness, conscience and responsibility is not easy.

How do we all connect around the crisis of the planet? In the words of Albert Einstein: "humankind experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest - a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." In this way we may contribute to the healing of our wounded world as well discovering a new sense of richness and meaning in our daily lives.

The conference will awaken our deep yearnings for union, for wonder and awe – the inspiration and responsibility of being part of the whole. As a community, whether through sharing our grief, exploring new paradigms, prayer & meditation or awakening the warrior, we will work to release ourselves from our conditioned experience of a separate ego existence.

Application and Programme

Application forms can be obtained through your local institutes or by emailing Steve Marshall: efppadmin@gmail.com

More information on the programme is available on the EFPP website www.psychosynthesis.net

This is the fourth gathering of the professional psychosynthesis therapists in Europe.

Morning Training Seminars

Training seminars will take place over the four morning sessions. The groups for these will be fixed to give continuity and coherence. *Therefore you can only choose **one** of the Training Seminars below.*

AWAKENING BEAUTY IN TIMES OF TERROR Gianni Yoav Dattilo

In a sense, all the contemporary crises can be reduced to a crisis about the nature of beauty. **John O' Donohue**

We may awaken to Beauty through a renewed perception of the world 'as it is', beyond stereotypes and collective views, in nature, the arts and in ordinary everyday moments. It may evoke a taste of the eternal, breed a generous desire to share with others or stimulate its shadow, which is possessiveness. Beauty has a central place in the Kabbalistic Tree of Life, and integrates the opposite forces of kindness and power. We will explore our own relationship with beauty in our lives, and experientially find our personal ways to awaken its mysterious force in times of a global crisis.

THE HERO ARCHETYPE AS HEALER Robert Bakker

The archetype of the Hero, as found in myths and stories, is the redeemer, the saviour, the bodhisattva. By going through his or her own ordeal he/she transcends her/himself and becomes the one that heals family, land or even the world. It is that energy we may need in this time of global challenge. As Einstein said: "The world will not evolve past its current state by using the same thinking that created the situation in the first place". In this seminar we will use an inspiring legend from the native American Iroquois to learn how their way of looking at the world can change our way of seeing. We will use rituals and meditations from the legend to deepen our relationship to the earth and its inhabitants. We will use our creativity to make the discoveries of this adventure applicable in our work as therapists

THE PATH OF PRAYER, POEMS AND SILENCE Nanne Hessel & Irja Hellström

The task to create peace goes beyond all religions

Johannes Paulus II

Prayers are not an escape from reality they carry a possibility for our reality. How can we find a path of prayer which could strengthen our deep need to live our, our children's and grandchildren's future? Is there hope?

In the seminars we will explore – we will search – and together we will create rituals and prayers for our life and work in the world.

What might be when we turn our face towards the divine.....?

WITNESSING UNSPEAKABLE TRUTHS THE WORK OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSIONS AS A METAPHOR FOR PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC WORK Gary Hutchinson & Eve Adams

In the aftermath of the end of the brutal regime of apartheid in South Africa the conception of the truth and reconciliation approach to healing trauma was both audacious and inspirational. It rejected an anticipated call for revenge, retaliation and punishment in favour of understanding, reparation and participation of victims with persecutors. In this seminar we will take this approach as a creative metaphor for therapy itself. Participants will be invited to be involved and imaginative in experimenting with ways of working within this territory. It will also explore the need for us as therapists to be actively aware and engaged in healing the world's suffering as much as our personal suffering.

INSPIRED CHOICE-MAKING Stefan Wängerstedt & Rineke Vermeulen Wängerstedt

We invite you to explore with us how the choices we make in our lives can be inspired by faith, hope and love and how that might encourage us and give strength instead of draining our energy. Drawing from Quaker experience and practices we invite you to get in touch with your inner teacher – your inner wisdom. What does it mean to listen more closely to the soul's whispering challenge? Could it guide us into a downward mobility and a more undivided life? We will work in a circle of trust, which we will create together and in which the soul might find a safe place to become visible.

THE POWER OF DIALOGUE: A PATHWAY TOWARDS PEACE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE Barbara Mettler-v.Meibom

Given that at the bottom of any crisis there is blocked communication, dialogue is both an attitude and a way of enhancing communication by opening to the unheard and broadening one's own awareness of the unknown. Dialoguing is a way towards peace, both inner and outer: it creates multiperspectivity, reduces anger, hate and misunderstanding and fosters wisdom in behaviour, interaction and decisions. By dialoguing between different subpersonalities, psychosynthesis offers a metaphor for dialoguing on the interpersonal level in any field. This seminar will explore the art and process of dialogue and will cover skills in relation to conflict resolution, decision-making and the maintenance of equanimity.

IMAGINAL WOUNDING – AN INTERFACE BETWEEN PERSONAL AND PLANETARY Nicky Marshall & Chris Robertson

The world, because of its breakdown, is entering a new moment of consciousness: by drawing attention to itself by means of its symptoms, it is becoming aware of itself as a psychic reality

James Hillman

In an age in which imagination has been degraded and surface glamour and style has usurped its potency, soul is starved through this impoverishment. Yet, within this sterile landscape may lie the seeds of change: if the world is becoming aware of itself through its wounds, then humanity, as the wounded wounder, is the means of that self awareness and healing. These seminars will explore how we imagine our broken relationship with each other and the earth, paying attention to the symptoms both within and without. Our aim is to re-vitalise our capacity to respond to these symptoms and to support the co-creation of a planetary psychic reality.

THE BURNT-OUT SOUL: THE THERAPIST/COUNSELLOR BETWEEN SELF-DENIAL AND REAL COMPASSION Tan Loc Nguyen & Chantal Quillart

The burnt-out syndrome is a precious indicator that points to deep-seated narcissistic needs, at an archaic level. Countertransference and pathology structure, as conceptual tools, are not sufficiently inclusive to help us explore the subtle realms of the burnt-out soul. In the seminar we will look at ways of moving ourselves towards real compassion and caring. The seminar will also use the experience of soul embodiment as a human given so that we may understand the various manifestations of the burnt-out syndrome and face the issues involved.

CHANGE THE DREAM Maggie Burlington & Joan Crawford

We live in a culture which is in thrall to the dream of technological progress and the pursuit of individual happiness – it is a form of trance which is bringing us to the brink of planetary catastrophe. We need to change the dream by which we live to one which recognises our essential interdependence, not only with one another but with the planet, for the healing of both ourselves and our world. In this seminar series we will explore how we can extend the context of therapeutic work from the purely personal to the larger cultural and environmental context.

EXPLORING A PARTICIPATORY WORLDVIEW: TOWARDS A SENSE OF PLACE Helen Sieroda and Jean Hardy

As the old ways break down a new vision of reality is emerging, a worldview based on participation and relationship. A 'participatory perspective' challenges many goals and norms we take for granted, requiring a transformation of thinking and identity. It calls us to become more effective agents for change, grounding inner work in meaningful actions in the world. Incorporating deep ecology, mindfulness practice, action research, and coaching, we will explore characteristics and implications of a participatory worldview for our current crisis. There will be opportunities for both reflection and exploring pragmatic potential for action.

Elective Workshops

Elective workshops will take place in the afternoons and give the opportunity to work with a variety of different trainers to meet a cross-section of fellow participants.

IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO! Penny Graham & Jonathan Freilich

HEALING ON A UNIVERSAL PLANE Kristina Brode

AUTHENTICITY AND PROFESSIONALITY Fredrik Lundh

OUT BEYOND IDEAS OF WRONGDOING AND RIGHTDOING, THERE IS A FIELD I'LL MEET YOU THERE Linda Thörn

THE CRISIS CAUSES MOURNING, MOURNING DISSOLVES THE CRISIS Ursel Neef

HEALING THE HISTORY BEHIND HISTORY Gabrielle Steiner

WILLINGNESS OF THE HEART - MAKING OUR LOVE AVAILABLE TO OURSELVES & THE WORLD Torsten Konrad

UTOPIA AND DYSTOPIA: INNER WORLDS, OUTER REALITIES Keith Silvester

APPROACHING OUR EDGE - TALKING POWER, OPPRESSION AND TRANSFORMATION IN THE THERAPY ROOM Deborah Berger & Havva Mustafa

THE WAY OF SENSORY AWARENESS Joel Niemann

USING CONSTELLATIONS TO UNDERSTAND THE SOUL'S CHALLENGE Ingrid Gunberg & Ingrid Begat

A PILGRIMAGE AROUND CANTERBURY Lesley Brown & Maggie Anwell

SACRED DANCING Lesley Brown

WHAT ON EARTH SHALL WE TELL THE CHILDREN? Ewa Robertson & Sarah van Gogh

THE MYTH OF EXODUS Livia Frischer

WALKING THE LABYRINTH Jay Edge

THE ILLUSION OF CRISIS Gerhard Schobel

MIND THE GAP Sheila Munro & Claudine Maguire

PARENTING THE PARENTS Maggie Anwell & Steve Marshall

PSYCHOSYNTHESIS, A THERAPY FOR THE SOUL Alberto Alberti

Exhibition of Paintings

At the summer school there will be a special exhibition of paintings "**Concerns for the Body - Personal and Planetary**" by **Sue Adams**, a psychosynthesis therapist and artist.

TRAVEL OPTIONS to University of Kent at Canterbury include

By **Rail** from London; from Ashford (for Eurostar); from Dover and Folkestone (for ferries and Eurotunnel).

By **Air** from Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted.

By **Car** (parking must be pre-arranged).

Details are on the University's website <http://www.kent.ac.uk/maps/canterbury/find-campus.html>

The City of CANTERBURY

Canterbury, an ancient Cathedral city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a 10 minute bus ride from the campus.

It has two castles, six museums, the world's most famous cathedral (site of the murder of Thomas Becket), an abbey founded in 597CE and the oldest parish church in England still in constant use.

The European Federation for Psychosynthesis Psychotherapy

Founded in 1997, the EFPP is a non-profit association registered in Florence, Italy. EFPP operates as a federal body bringing together the autonomous psychosynthesis psychotherapy centres and institutes from different European countries. It works towards an agreement of common standards of training and code of ethics and represents psychosynthesis psychotherapy in European and international structures such as the EAP (European Association for Psychotherapy). Within EAP, EFPP is a European Wide Accrediting Organisation and appoints representatives for supporting local organisations in awarding the ECP (the European Certificate of Psychotherapy).

EFPP Member Organisations:

- AEON, Zentrum für Psychosynthese (Basel)
- Centre Source - Ecole Française de Psychosynthèse (Paris)
- CIRCADIAN Institut für angewandte Psychosynthese (Bergisch Gladbach)
- Eckhart House (Dublin)
- Psykosyntes Akademin (Stockholm)
- Psychosynthesis and Education Trust (London)
- Psykosyntes Institutet (Gothenberg)
- Psychosynthesis Studies (Amsterdam)
- Re-Vision Centre for Integrative Psychosynthesis (London)
- Societa Italiana di Psicointesi Terapeutica (Florence)

Costs and Accommodation

Registration for Seminars and Workshops

There are lower rates for individuals belonging to member organisations. There is also a discount if you pay by 14 April 2008. These exclude accommodation, which is dealt with below.

Individuals in EFPP organisations pay £165 (€ 225, 2100 SEK, 360 CHF), plus accommodation, by 14 April and £215 (€ 295, 2750 SEK, 475 CHF) after that date.

Individuals in non-EFPP organisations pay £215 (€ 295, 2750 SEK, 475 CHF), plus accommodation, by 14 April and £265 (€ 365, 3400 SEK, 585 CHF) after that date.

Accommodation Costs

The Summer School runs from 1700 Monday evening until 1200 noon on Friday. Registration is on Monday afternoon from 1400-1700.

Residential

Residential accommodation includes access to seminar rooms, refreshments, lunch and dinner including the Gala Dinner on Thursday evening.

Single Standard - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights - £305.00 (€ 420, 3910 SEK, 675 CHF)

Single En Suite - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights - £395.00 (€ 545, 5070 SEK, 875 CHF)

Non-Residential

Basic non-residential costs include access to rooms, refreshments and lunch and dinner including the Gala Dinner on Thursday evening.

Non-residential - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - £220.00 (€ 305, 2840 SEK, 450 CHF)

If you wish to attend for less than the full four days you cannot attend the morning seminars. For costs please email the administrator on efppadmin@gmail.com.

Friday Lunch

If you wish to stay for Friday lunch there is a charge of £10.00 (€ 15, 140 SEK, 25 CHF)