

TWO DAY VIRTUAL SPECIAL EVENT: SLOW DANCING AND CHANGING LIVES IN PSYCHOANALYSIS

*with Jonathan H. Slavin, Ph.D., ABPP
& Miki Rahmani, M.A.*

Saturday, October 10 & Sunday, October 11, 2020
8:30 am – 12:30 pm PST

In April 2006 an 88-year-old Austrian artist met with a journalist and recounted a consultation she had had with Sigmund Freud 70 years before, when she was 18 years old. “It changed my life!” The story of this meeting is astonishing. In these two days of workshops we will tell you this story. And in brief commentaries, short videos, clinical vignettes, and active discussion with you (even on zoom), we will look at what we may learn from this story about the role of personal agency in human development, intersubjective experiencing in treatment, and the place of mind, body, and sexuality in a new relational psychoanalysis.

The Saturday and Sunday workshops are part of a single body of thinking, so we encourage attendance at both. For those whose circumstances may allow only Sunday attendance, we will do our best to be clear and comprehensive.

Saturday, October 10

“Those 45 minutes completely changed my life!” Freud’s consultation with ML and what twenty- first century therapists can learn from it (Case by Prof. Sigmund Freud and Margarethe Lutz)

Sunday, October 11

**Touching Becomes Touching:
Mind, Body, and Sexuality in a New Relational Psychoanalysis**

Pricing:

For one day:

\$150 - Non Members

\$135 - Members

\$75 - Students /residents/ interns/
community mental health professionals

For both days:

\$250 - Non Members

\$225 - Members

\$125 - Students /residents/ interns/
community mental health professionals

PRESENTER'S BIOS

Jonathan H. Slavin, Ph.D., ABPP, is Clinical Instructor in Psychology, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; Adjunct Clinical Professor, Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy & Psychoanalysis, New York University; Founding Director, Tufts University Counseling Center (1970–2006); Former President of the Division of Psychoanalysis (39), American Psychological Association; and Founding President, Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis. Dr. Slavin's published work has focused on fundamental experiential elements in the therapy relationship including love, sexuality, desire, truthfulness, and personal agency, and their role in the repair of the mind.

Miki Rahmani, M.A., is former Chief Psychologist, South Jerusalem Mental Health Center, and Faculty Emerita, School of Education, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel. In more than 35 years of clinical teaching and consulting she has taught annual courses, seminars, and workshops on the supervisory relationship, the supervisory process in clinical work and in education, and on the treatment process.

Jonathan and Miki have taught seminars and workshops on relational perspectives in psychotherapy, sexuality in development and treatment, and on clinical supervision in Armenia, Austria, Canada, China, Mexico, Romania, Russia, Israel, Italy, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Turkey.



SATURDAY PROGRAM

“Those 45 minutes completely changed my life!” So said 88 year old Margarethe Lutz, an Austrian artist, to her interviewer. She was talking about her single session with Sigmund Freud 70 years before, in 1936, when she was just 18 years old. This astonishing account was published in *Die Zeit* in Germany in 2006. But until 2016 it had never before been published or discussed in the psychoanalytic literature. Margarethe’s story shows us Freud working in a way that we almost never hear about, far different than the common idea of how psychoanalysis or psychotherapy is “supposed” to happen. Most important, we witness vividly what can happen in even one meeting when two minds meet and touch.

Two minds meeting is not the usual way we think of Freud’s views. Indeed we “know” that Freud’s thinking was designed to take psychoanalysis in the opposite direction; to objectify the process and to avoid both the analyst’s personal influence and the powerful efforts of the patient to affect the analyst.

In this workshop we undertake to have a new look at the evolution of Freud’s views, not simply as the familiar classical analyst, but to witness the uncanny emergence of frankly relational themes and ideas. We do this by examining two of his most important technical papers during the last 20 years of his work and in discussing the revolutionary way he worked with Margarethe.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Participants will learn the ways in which the therapist’s authority can be employed in obtaining more effective and lasting treatment outcomes.
2. Participants will learn how an active way of listening and participating in the treatment dialogue can foster the patient’s sense of personal agency.
3. Participants will learn the ways that traditional therapeutic constraints may interfere with the potential for significant change in the patient’s behavior and quality-of-life.

SUGGESTED READINGS:

- Freud, S. (1915). Observations on transference-love. Standard Edition, 12:159-171. London: Hogarth Press.
- Freud, S. (1937). Constructions in analysis. Standard Edition, 23:256-269.
- Slavín, J. (2010). Becoming an individual: Technically subversive thoughts on the role of the analyst's influence. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 20:308-324.
- Slavín, J. & Rahmani, M. (2015). Legitimate guiding forces of one's behavior in the world. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 25:325-334.

SUNDAY PROGRAM

Recent psychoanalytic writing has involved an effort to reintegrate the body and bodily experiencing in our understanding of the construction of the mind. This integration is critical for psychoanalysis since, as is increasingly clear in science, the physical brain, the body's experiencing organ, and mind, are one. As Nobel prize for medicine winner Eric Kandel (2013) noted, "psychotherapy is a biological treatment, a brain therapy. It produces lasting, detectable physical changes in our brain."

Yet can we return to the brain, to the body, to materiality, to trying to find our minds in the body without returning to a fundamental psychoanalytic integration of the absolute centrality of sexuality in our mental development? Mustn't a new relational psychoanalysis that reckons with the body in the mind also reckon with Freud's compelling understanding of our sexual experiencing at the core and edge of our relational worlds?

In this workshop we will explore some of the ways sexuality embodies all of the potential for human experiencing in ourselves and in relationship: the driven and surrendering; the edges of passion and violation; the paradox of relationship and dissociation; attunement and personal desire. Our focus will be on sexuality in the powerful, brain changing interactions between parents and children; and on the powerful, brain changing interactions between patients and therapists.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Participants will study and analyze the ways in which sexuality, beginning in earliest childhood, infuses relational experience throughout the course of development and is critical to the shaping of the individual mind.
2. Participants will examine how a broadly understood concept of sexual experiencing is represented in the clinical process in psychotherapy even when sexuality per se is neither openly discussed nor experienced.
3. Participants will learn how to apply the concept of "sexual fingerprints" and examine how the sexual fingerprint of the therapist affects the outcome of the treatment process and is essential to the patient's ability to revise fundamental aspects of their own psychological functioning.
4. Participants will study and critique the ways in which some aspects of Freud's thinking about sexuality and classical psychoanalytic principles continue to be relevant in current understandings of development and treatment.
5. Participants will study the ways in which the theoretical views about sexuality in development and sexual fingerprinting in the personality of therapist and patient can be used to analyze the clinical process.

SUGGESTED READINGS:

- Freud, S. (1915). Observations on transference-love. Standard Edition, 12:159-171. London: Hogarth Press.
- Benjamin, J. (1995b). What angel would hear me: The erotics of transference. In: Benjamin, Like Subjects, Love Objects: Essays on Recognition and Sexual Difference, pp. 143-174 New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- Slavín, J. (2011). The innocence of sexuality. In L. Aron & A. Harris (Eds.), *Relational Psychoanalysis, Vol. 4: Expansion of Theory* (pp. 45-67). NY: Routledge. (Originally pub., 2002, *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 72, 51-80.).
- Ackerman, A. (2019). First encounters with erotic desire in treatment. *Psychoanalytic Perspectives*, 16:1, 9-18, DOI: 10.1080/1551806X.2018.1554952

Continuing Medical Education

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint providership of the American Psychoanalytic Association and the Oregon Psychoanalytic Center. The American Psychoanalytic Association is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The American Psychoanalytic Association designates this Live Activity for a maximum of 6.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE INFORMATION FOR ALL LEARNERS: None of the planners and presenters of this CME program have any relevant financial relationships to disclose.