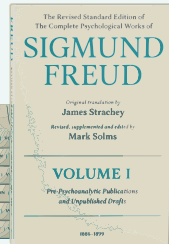


Freud in the 21st Century

- cultural, clinical and scientific perspectives

Launch conference for *The Revised Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*, edited by Mark Solms



Saturday 21st September 2024 at UCL

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| 9.00am - 09.15am | Registration |
| 09.15am - 09.30am | Welcome and Introductions Liz Allison |
| 09.30am - 10.45am | Introducing the RSE - Chaired by Stephen Grosz
Did Strachey Falsely Scientize Freud? Mark Solms |
| 10.45am - 11.25am | Refreshments |
| 11.25am - 13.00pm | Freud's clinical relevance - Chaired by Catalina Bronstein
In the Mind's Eye. Images in dreams, hallucinations, and art
Rosine Perelberg

Mourning, Melancholia and Machines: Mourning in the Age of
Griefbots Alessandra Lemma |
| 13.00pm - 14.15pm | Lunch |
| 14.15pm - 15.00pm | Freud's scientific relevance - Chaired by David Tuckett
Freud, Feynman and Free Energy Karl Friston |
| 15.00pm - 16.00pm | Freud's cultural relevance
Psychoanalysis, Political and Cultural Life in the 21st Century
Jacqueline Rose and Daniel Pick in conversation |
| 16.00pm - 16.40pm | Refreshments |
| 16.40pm - 17.30pm | Freud's relevance to the arts - Chaired by Fakhry Davids
Music, war and Freud Francis Grier |
| 17.30pm - 18.30pm | Drinks and celebration |

Elizabeth Allison DPhil is the Director of the Psychoanalysis Unit in the Research Department of Clinical, Educational & Health Psychology at UCL. She is an Associate Professor and Programme Director of UCL's MSc in Theoretical Psychoanalytic Studies. She is a psychoanalyst and Member of the British Psychoanalytical Society. She is the Editor of the Psychoanalytic Controversies section of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis. She holds a doctorate in English Literature from the University of Oxford.

Mark Solms is an acclaimed psychoanalyst and neuroscientist, known for the integration of contemporary neuroscience with psychoanalytic methods and theories, and for his discovery of the forebrain mechanisms of dreaming. Mark is a member of the British Psychoanalytical Society, American Psychoanalytic Association and South African Psychoanalytical Association, as well as Director of Neuropsychology at the University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital; Science Director of the American Psychoanalytic Association, and Co-Chair of the International Neuropsychoanalysis Society.

Mark Solms founded the International Neuropsychoanalysis Society in 2000 and he was a Founding Editor (with Ed Nersessian) of the journal *Neuropsychoanalysis*. He was awarded Honorary Membership of the New York Psychoanalytic Society in 1998, the American College of Psychoanalysts in 2004 and the American College of Psychiatrists in 2015. Other awards include: *Sigourney Award by the Mary Sigourney Trust* (2011) and the *Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award of the IPA* (2017)

He has published more than 250 articles and book chapters, and six books. His second book, *The Neuropsychology of Dreams* (1997), was a landmark contribution to the field. His 2002 book (with Oliver Turnbull), *The Brain and the Inner World* was a best-seller and has been translated into 13 languages. In 2021 he published *The Hidden Spring: A Journey to the Source of Consciousness on the hard problem of consciousness*. The 2024 publication of *The Revised Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud* is the culmination of thirty years of work.

Abstract

The claim that Strachey 'falsely scientized' Freud, mainly through the translation of his technical vocabulary, is the red thread that runs through all the major criticisms of the Standard Edition (e.g. Bettelheim, Ornston, Laplanche). In this lecture, I will argue against this criticism on three grounds. (1) It fails to take account of the differing conventions employed in German and English scientific writing. (2) It fails to take account of Freud's personal involvement in Strachey's choices. (3) It fails to consider continuities between Freud's neuroscientific and psychoanalytic writings. These points will be illustrated by way of representative examples.

Stephen Grosz is a psychoanalyst. Born in America, educated at the University of California, Berkeley, and at Oxford University, he teaches at the Institute of Psychoanalysis, London. Stephen has worked with patients for forty years.

In 2013, he published *The Examined Life*. Writing in the New York Times, Michiko Kakutani said, '*The Examined Life* ... shares the best literary qualities of Freud's most persuasive work. It is ... an insightful and beautifully written book ... a series of slim, piercing chapters that read like a combination of Chekhov and Oliver Sacks.' An international bestseller, *The Examined Life* has been translated into over thirty languages, read on radio, and adapted for stage.

Next year, 2025, will see the publication of Stephen's new book *Love's Labour*.

Rosine Jozef Perelberg is a Distinguished Fellow, Training Analyst and past President of the British Psychoanalytic Society, Visiting Professor in the Psychoanalysis Unit at University College London and Corresponding Member of the Paris Psychoanalytical Society. Previously she undertook a PhD in Social Anthropology at the London School of Economics.

She has written and edited 12 books which include *Time, Space and Phantasy; Dreaming and Thinking; Freud A Modern Reader; Murdered Father, Dead Father: Revisiting the Oedipus Complex and Sexuality, Excess and Representation* all published by Routledge and the New Library of Psychoanalysis. *Psychic Bisexuality* has won the 2019 American Board & Academy of Psychoanalysis Book Prize for Best Edited Book.

Rosine Perelberg is the recipient of the 2023 Sigourney Award that honours outstanding psychoanalytic work worldwide.

Abstract

Images are present from very early on in Freud's writings, and they permeate his work; he discusses their role in paranoia, hysteria, and obsessional neurosis, as well as their relation to memory and dreams. In *The Interpretation of Dreams*, Freud indicates that one essential characteristic of the dream work is the "conditions of representability"; we dream in images. Thoughts are expressed in images that condense a multitude of thoughts or people, giving rise to "composite images". Freud's explores images in his own dreams, but also works of art, such as sculpture, painting and literature. In this paper I will explore the centrality of images in three clinical examples, namely a childhood repetitive dream, a hallucination and a sculpture. The paper indicates these images were inserted in the language of transference and countertransference which led to their transformation and elaboration into symbolic meaning.

Alessandra Lemma, Fellow of the British Psychoanalytic Society and Chartered Clinical and Counselling Psychologist, is a Visiting Professor in the Psychoanalysis Unit, University College London, Consultant, Anna Freud Centre and Visiting Professor, Centro Winnicott, Rome. For 16 years she worked at the Tavistock Clinic where she was, at different stages, Head of Psychology and Professor of Psychological Therapies in conjunction with Essex University.

She was a recipient of the 2022 Sigourney Award in recognition of her contributions to understanding body modification practices, the impacts of technology on psychic functioning and transgender identities as well as for her efforts in developing and disseminating a brief psychoanalytic intervention for mood disorders. She is the former General Editor of the New Library of Psychoanalysis book series and is the current Chair of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis' Management Board. She has published extensively on psychoanalysis, the body and trauma. Her most recent books are: *"Transgender Identities: A Contemporary Introduction"* (Routledge, 2021) and *"First Principles: Applied Ethics for Psychoanalytic Practice"* (OUP, 2023).

Abstract

Death and mourning are being shaped by posthumous opportunities for the dead to affect current life in ways not possible in pre-digital generations. The psychological and sociological impact of the dead 'online' and of 'grief tech' is only beginning to be understood. It has not yet been explored psychoanalytically until this paper that examines one type of grief tech, namely the griefbot. This development is critically explored through a psychoanalytic reading of an episode of *Black Mirror*. I suggest that a psychoanalytic model of mourning provides an invaluable perspective to help us to think about this technology's potential as well as the psychological and ethical risks it poses. I argue that the immortalisation of the dead through digital permanence works against facing the painful reality of loss and the recognition of otherness, which is fundamental to psychic growth and to the integrity of our relationships with others. Drawing on Derrida's conceptualization of 'originary mourning', I suggest that mourning is an interminable process that challenges us to preserve within the self the otherness of the lost object. The tools we use for mourning need to be assessed first and foremost against this psychological and fundamentally ethical process.

Catalina Bronstein MD, is visiting professor at University College London and at Essex University, Training and Supervising analyst of the British Psychoanalytical Society. She is a child and adolescent and adult psychoanalyst. She is former London editor of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis and is currently on its Board. She has published many papers and chapters and has edited *Kleinian Theory. A Contemporary Perspective* and co-edited *The New Klein-Lacan Dialogues, Attacks on Linking Revisited, On Freud's "The Uncanny", Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis in a Changing World and On Freud's "Neurosis and Psychosis. 100 years later"* She is a former President of the British Psychoanalytical Society. Catalina Bronstein works in London in private practice and at the Brent Adolescent Centre.

Karl Friston is a theoretical neuroscientist and authority on brain imaging. He invented statistical parametric mapping (SPM), voxel-based morphometry (VBM) and dynamic causal modelling (DCM). These contributions were motivated by schizophrenia research and theoretical studies of value-learning, formulated as the dysconnection hypothesis of schizophrenia. Mathematical contributions include variational Laplacian procedures and generalized filtering for hierarchical Bayesian model inversion. He currently works on models of functional integration in the human brain and the principles that underlie neuronal interactions. His main contribution to theoretical neurobiology is a free-energy principle for action and perception (active inference).

Karl Friston received the first Young Investigators Award in Human Brain Mapping (1996) and was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences (1999). In 2000 he was President of the international Organization of Human Brain Mapping. In 2003 he was awarded the Minerva Golden Brain Award and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2006. In 2008 he received a Medal, College de France and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of York in 2011. He became of Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology in 2012, received the Weldon Memorial prize and Medal in 2013 for contributions to mathematical biology and was elected as a member of EMBO (excellence in the life sciences) in 2014 and the Academia Europaea in 2015. He was the 2016 recipient of the Charles Branch Award for unparalleled breakthroughs in Brain Research and the Glass Brain Award, a lifetime achievement award in the field of human brain mapping. He holds Honorary Doctorates from the Universities of York, Zurich and Radboud University.

He is Scientific Director, Wellcome Centre for Human Neuroimaging; Professor at Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, and Honorary Consultant, The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery.

Abstract

Karl Friston will review the understanding of schizophrenia through Bleuler and Freud's notion of disintegration. The paper also discusses the value of a framework derived from computing which views the brain as a statistical organ making predictions on the basis of past experience - the so-called 'Bayesian brain' - in understanding psychopathology in terms of false beliefs or inferences.

David Tuckett is a distinguished fellow at the British Psychoanalytic Society and emeritus professor of decision-Making at University College London (UCL). A founder of PEP, he practiced psychoanalyst for 48 years, was the founding editor of the New Library of Psychoanalysis series and served as editor in chief of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis, was president of the European Psychoanalytic Federation, board member of the International Psychoanalytic Association (IPA), and chair of the Comparative Clinical Methods (CCM) Working Party.

He has contributed books and journal articles in the fields of medical sociology, economics, and cognitive science and developed and published articles in leading journals on conviction narrative theory—a theory of choice under uncertainty, which combines psychoanalytic, neuroscientific, sociological, and economic insights to understand decision making under uncertainty and its wider effects on society, such as in the creation of financial crises.

His latest book “Knowing What Psychoanalysts Do and Doing What Psychoanalysts Know”, co-authored with ten others, looks at the results of twenty years of research in the Comparative Clinical Methods Working Party, and was published in February 2024.

Jacqueline Rose is internationally recognised as a public intellectual for her writing on feminism, literature and psychoanalysis, on Israel/Palestine and South Africa. She is Professor of Humanities and co-director of the Birkbeck Institute for the Humanities, University of London. A regular contributor to *The London Review of Books*, and *The Guardian* among other publications, she is the editor (with Juliet Mitchell) and translator of *Feminine Sexuality – Jacques Lacan and the Ecole freudienne*. Her books include *Sexuality in the Field of Vision and The Last Resistance* (both published in the series *Verso Radical Thinkers*), *States of Fantasy*, *Women in Dark Times*, *Mothers – an essay on love and cruelty*, *On Violence and On Violence Against Women* and the novel *Albertine. The Plague – Living Death in Our Times* was published by Fitzcarraldo last summer. In 2020, she delivered the annual Freud lecture, ‘To Die One’s Own Death – Thinking with Freud in a Time of Pandemic’, livestreamed from the London Freud Museum to the Freud Museum in Vienna. She is a co-founder of Independent Jewish Voices in the UK and a Fellow of the British Academy and of the Royal Society of Literature.

Daniel Pick. Psychoanalyst and historian. Recipient of the Sigourney Award 2023. Professor emeritus Birkbeck College and training analyst at the Institute of Psychoanalysis. Publications include ‘Brainwashed: A New History of Thought Control’ (Profile 2022), ‘Psychoanalysis: A Very Short Introduction’ (OUP 2015), ‘The Pursuit of the Nazi Mind: Hitler, Hess, and the Analysts’ (OUP 2012), as co-editor, ‘Psychoanalysis in the Age of Totalitarianism’ (Routledge, 2016), ‘Rome or Death: The Obsessions of General Garibaldi’ (Jonathan Cape, 2005; Pimlico 2006); co-editor (with Lyndal Roper), ‘Dreams and History: The Interpretation of Dreams from Ancient Greece to Modern Psychoanalysis’ (Routledge, 2004), and ‘Svengali’s Web: The Alien Enchanter in Modern Culture’, Yale University Press, 2000.

Jacqueline Rose and Daniel Pick will explore the applicability of Freud’s evolving perspective on the psychic life of individuals and groups to contemporary cultural and political debates and discuss the extent to which his work can be read as reinforcing or undermining both his own culture and contemporary cultures.

Francis Grier is Editor-In-Chief of the *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, and a Training Analyst and Supervisor of the British Psychoanalytical Society. He is also a couple psychotherapist. He works in private practice in London. He leads a seminar for the psychotherapists in the Fitzjohn’s Unit of the Tavistock Clinic, which specialises in working psychoanalytically with patients who would not normally have access to psychoanalytic treatment. He has written and edited papers, chapters and two books on couple psychotherapy, including *Oedipus and the Couple* (2005, Karnac), and papers for the IJP on two Verdi operas (*Rigoletto and La Traviata*), on a gendered approach to Beethoven, on musicality in the consulting room, on the music of the drives and perversions, and on illusory and evanescent qualities in both music and psychoanalysis. Before training psychoanalytically, he was a professional musician. He gave the first ever solo recital at a Royal Albert Hall Proms concert in 1985, and in 2012 was awarded a British Composer Award. In 2023 new compositions have been recorded by the Choir of the Chapel Royal, Hampton Court, and in 2024 a disc of new organ compositions has been released. For 2025 he is writing new works for Clare College, Cambridge and for Bath Abbey.

Abstract

How do we understand the creativity of great composers manifest in wartime? This paper explores this theme, taking as illustrations Britten’s *A Ceremony of Carols*, Messiaen’s *Quartet for the End of Time* and Britten’s *War Requiem*. This musical creativity is set alongside

Freud's own psychoanalytic creativity in wartime. Music allows the evocation of feeling redolent of the chaos, destructiveness and tragedy of war, but also the possibility of some sort of resolution or reparation, albeit often partial or temporary. Additionally, the extreme circumstances of war are seen to promote Freud's and these composers' search for profound truths, marked by a spirit of the monumental. The story of David and Absalom, marked by the agony of extreme Oedipal conflict, set repeatedly to music over the centuries, runs like a thread through the paper.

Fakhry Davids MSc (Clinical Psych) is a psychoanalyst in full-time clinical practice. He is a Fellow and Training Analyst of the British Psychoanalytic Society, and currently chairs its Scientific Committee. He was a Board Member of PCCA (Partners in Confronting Collective Atrocities, www.p-cca.org), and served on APsaA's Holmes Commission for Racial Equality in Psychoanalysis (Co-REAP). He is a Visiting Professor in the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies, Essex University, Hon Assoc Professor in the Psychoanalysis Unit, University College London and Visiting Lecturer at the Tavistock Clinic. He lectures, supervises and teaches widely and has written on different psychoanalytic topics, including a book, *Internal Racism: A Psychoanalytic Approach to Race and Difference* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011). He was co-editor of Irma Brenman-Pick's *Authenticity in the Psychoanalytic Encounter*.