



The Analytical Psychology Club of New York, Inc.
A Gathering Place for Self-Discovery

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THE ANALYTICAL PSYCHOLOGY CLUB OF NYC
Presents

**TECHNOLOGY-PHARMAKON, POISON AND CURE: JUNG AND THE PARADOX
IN MEDIA**

ROYCE FROEHLICH, PhD, MDiv, LCSW-R
Saturday: September 21, 2019, 1PM to 5PM

THE CLOSET NARCISSIST: WOODY ALLEN’S “BLUE JASMINE”

SUSAN KAVALER-ADLER, PhD, ABPP, D.Litt, NCPsyA
Saturday, October 12, 2019, 1PM to 5PM

Members and Seniors: \$35.00, Non-Members: \$45.00
Students with IDs: \$15.00

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PRESIDENT'S REFLECTIONS

By Joe Moore, PhD, LCSW, Psychotherapist

As I mentioned before, my doctoral thesis was on the characteristics of child care workers who worked well with adolescents. I found that the workers who were more open-minded and less dogmatic related best to the teens in residential treatment. In order to come to this conclusion, I needed to understand dogmatism. Therefore, I studied the work of Milton Rokeach. Rokeach book: The Open and Closed Mind: Investigations into the Nature of Beliefs Systems and Personality Systems was published in 1960.

Rokeach found that open and closed-minded people differed in the levels of anxiety they experienced both as children and as adults. Closed-minded people displayed more anxiety on several tests given both groups of people. Closed-minded people also reported more childhood behaviors which indicated apprehension during their childhood years. Rokeach further stated that a characteristic of an open-minded person is the willingness to play along with or entertain new belief systems. This quality of playing along allows the open-minded person to laugh at some of the silliness that she/he sees in life. Open-minded people are able to be more empathetic and to be able to hold two contradicting thoughts in their minds at one time. Why am I reflecting on my 30 year old dissertation at this time? As we head into the year 2020, I am concerned with those in office, those that seeking office and those who will be voting.

Someone recently said that liberals are not always right. I agree. No one is always right. And I certainly think there are dogmatic liberals who are often wrong. In fact, I think that many dogmatic (closed-minded) people of all persuasions are wrong because their anxiety levels are so high that they cannot think outside of the box. They cannot hold two conflicting thoughts at the same time. There is only one way of doing things. Roe vs Wade is always wrong if not evil. Medicare for all is the only way to make sure everyone has medical coverage.

My favorite tee shirt states: "Demand Evidence and Think Critically."
This will be my maxim for 2020.

SUMMER IN RAINBOW by STEPHEN MOSKOVITZ

The heat is over this day. Southern California west of the Mojave Desert roasts everything and everyone around one hundred degrees everyday. Tucked in a remote island between freeways we are in a valley with only one road in and some fourteen hundred feet altitude. Coyotes stir each night surrounding us, same a mountain lion, rattlers, scorpions, tarantulas, and hungry bees searching everywhere looking for moisture. Our house seems to be on top of a mound from an ancient volcano and surrounded by a bowl of higher stone ledges that were the volcanos lip. It's a granite crumbling vortex. The winds blow east from the coast some twenty four miles away, bringing in the coastal breeze and the pacific fog (a.k.a. marine layer) most nights. Every morning the ground and all surfaces are drenched with the condensation from the rapid temperature changes.

The view is long range, Mount Palomar and it's sisters seem a few steps away. Behind her is the desert Indio, Palm Springs, Casinos and many indigenous tribal lands. I am again home in this oasis. Outdoors, little disturbance from the everyday indoor, news cycle treadmill, I've stopped. Hazel at my side never out of my view, she is aging gracefully with friends and fresh air. She is not under my desk, nor in her bed in our apartment. She stays relatively clean, no dirty paws to contend with. Hazel and her friends, two French Bulldogs, are what runs this compound asking everyone to stay alert from the danger at hand.

We are in an adventure. We are with three artists much younger. I bring a little experience, a support system and a commitment to this atomic structure. Three people coming together creating a space to create and safe place to do the inner healing that fresh air, green trees, mountains, and wildlife regulate. Nature rules. It keeps you alert. Three strangers all healing from extraordinary circumstances finding a bond as if they were one atom. I call them Proton Electron and Neutron without resistance. Electron had a vision, for the three. I am witness to the place and time, a year in. It took a moment for Neutron to understand the atomic structure and his role. That's where observation and a chance to encourage younger people to fly.

It's somewhat of a personal long length study in unconditional support to the spirit of the creative. Artists of every stripe speak a truth and a sincerity that is hard to see amongst the mass mentality. Artists are wounded warriors, maybe unaware of the generations of survivors they represent, that color the emotions of their work and all of us. The athletics of the artist and the discipline, overcome the shadowy residue of the emotions. A healing may take place and a liberation producing ART.

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Royce Froehlich, PhD, MDiv, LCSW-R

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The *pharmakon* is a concept Jung employed to support his theory of the paradoxical nature of the opposites, the inherent polarity of the psyche. The paradox of technology reveals itself as a power that is both life-enhancing and holds the potential for the self-destruction of humanity. C.G. Jung saw the threat to human life in the death machines of the two World Wars, and also the threat to psychic balance in the technological developments in the communications media of his day, “especially the television.” The greatest danger however, says Jung, “is the psyche of man,” and he feared that we would not be able to live up to the psychological demands that technology asks of us.

The music industry can also be seen as a *pharmakon*, bringing great joy to audiences throughout the global village while “the star-maker machinery” (Joni Mitchell) cranks out the next American idol. Two ‘rock operas’, *Tommy*, by The Who, and *The Wall* by Pink Floyd will serve to illustrate aspects of the mass effect of electronic media as well as its individual effect on the celebrity, the hero at the center of the spectacle; who, in turn, could be anyone. This workshop will locate Jung in the arena of media studies as a sober critic of technology and its effect on the psyche, with the intention of finding psychological balance in our electronically mediated lifeworld.

Royce Froehlich is a practicing Jungian analyst with an M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary, an M.A. in Media Studies from the New School for Social Research, and Ph.D. from the European Graduate School. He is a graduate of Columbia University’s School of Social Work (MSSW) and the C.G. Jung Institute of New York. Royce is on the faculties of the Jung Foundation and Institute.



A Big Thank You

The Club and the Kristine Mann Library wish to thank Dr. Sarah McPherson and Dr. Gordon Boals for their book donations to the library. Donations like these help the KML to add to its collection and to raise money during the book sale each year.

Save the Date

Susan Kavaler-Adler's workshop will be on October 12th. The workshop is about THE CLOSET NARCISSIST: WOODY ALLEN'S "BLUE JASMINE".

Tuesday Evening Discussion

The next Tuesday Evening Discussion meeting will be on September 24th at 6:30 pm. We explore interesting quotes of Jung every month. Wine and cheese will be served.

NEW MEMBER

We have a new member Ms. Ann Fitzgerald. It is a great pleasure to welcome new members to APC. We hope Ms. Fitzgerald enjoys our workshops and events.



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