



Scientific Meeting

Dr. Dan Merkur

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Faculty Club, 41 Willcocks St., University of Toronto

Jung's Formulation of the Repressed as the Personal Unconscious or Shadow: Clinical Implications for Psychoanalysis

What psychoanalysts called the “dynamic unconscious repressed”, Carl G. Jung termed both the “personal unconscious” and also “the shadow.” The first term flowed from his belief that the unconscious is not limited to the repressed, but also contains inborn materials that he termed the “collective unconscious.” On several occasions, Jung identified the collective unconscious with the superego of Freud. The metaphor of shadow expressed Jung’s appreciation that consciousness determines what in the psyche is in light and what in shadow. Jung’s analysis of the shadow used the moral language of his patients in an experience-near manner, but otherwise either adhered to Freud’s views on repression and symptom formation, or else anticipated views later to be expressed by Anna Freud, Heinz Hartmann, Melanie Klein, and D. W. Winnicott, among others. Jung’s effort to make conscious the unconscious moral values of his patients involved interpreting their projections, not merely as illusions and fallacies, but as evasions of responsibility for their own disavowed or repressed evil. The net effect of his interpretive strategy was to precipitate an honest or integrated sense of moral responsibility. The therapeutic change was analogous to the attainment, in Kleinian terms, of the depressive position, or in Winnicott’s, of the capacity for concern.

Participation at these meetings is restricted to members and guests of the Society (TSCP) and TICP Guests. There is no charge for members to attend. To check your current membership status, please contact:

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RSVPS are appreciated

For a copy of the advance reading please contact us:

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ADVANCE READING

(available upon request):

“Jung’s Formulation of the Repressed as the Personal Unconscious or Shadow”

Please contact 416.288.8060

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to obtain a copy of the advance reading.