

24th ANNUAL DAY IN APPLIED PSYCHOANALYSIS

presented by **Between Hours/Interdisciplinary Dialogues**,
Applied Psychoanalysis Programme of the Toronto Psychoanalytic Society

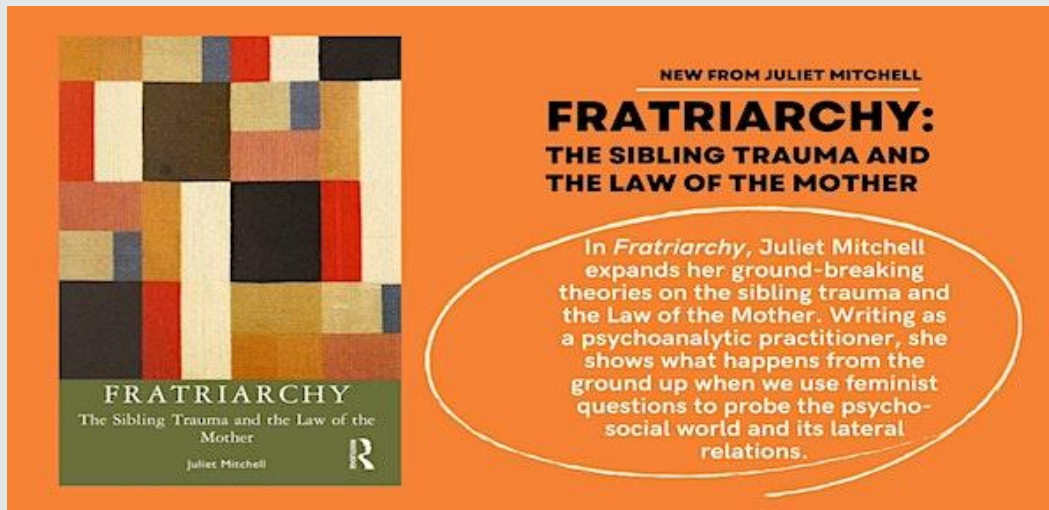
SATURDAY, October 21, 2023

9:20AM TO 2:00PM (ET)

A Zoom Symposium

(pre-registration is required)

The Sibling Trauma



Juliet Mitchell
with Margaret Ann Fitzpatrick Hanly

This symposium will bring to the foreground Juliet Mitchell's ground-breaking work on sibling relations. It will hone in on what she has viewed as a gap in psychoanalytic theory concerning the developmental dilemma of the toddler in being faced with the birth of a sibling. In this presentation she will speak about the role of the mother in setting prohibitions, in being called upon to mediate in the face of the displaced toddler's brush with murderousness following the birth of a new sibling – what she calls, the 'Law of the Mother'.

The presentation will also shed light on the toddler's experience of loss (of the baby he or she once was) in feeling displaced by the new baby (whether in phantasy or reality). This trauma—a product of the mother's prohibitions—has as its consequence the fear of maternal abandonment and death in the face of the toddler's wish to 'murder' the new baby.

In casting a light on horizontal/fraternal relations, Juliet Mitchell will speak to the existence of two intersecting developmental axes: a horizontal axis, along which siblings interact and a hierarchical vertical one, representing parent/child relations, including both the paternal oedipal structure and the earliest maternal infant relationship, with prohibitions against incest and murder operating from within both.

Margaret Ann Fitzpatrick Hanly will respond to Juliet Mitchell's seminal thinking on fraternal relations and bring to the discussion her own work on Austen's portrayal of loss, sibling rivalry, and unconscious fantasy.

This year's Annual Day will explore how the *sibling trauma* plays out psychically and interweaves with other developmental rites of passage. The presenters, both having a background in literature, will draw on underlying sibling dynamics as enacted in literary works and will explore the function of patriarchy and fraternity in the world today.

The day has been structured to allow participants ample time to reflect on the topic and to have an opportunity to participate in the discussions.

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In Fratriarchy, The Sibling Trauma and the Law of the Mother, published by Routledge in 2023, Juliet Mitchell argues that the mother's prohibition of her toddler attacking a new or expected sibling is a rite of passage from infancy to childhood: this is a foundational force structuring our later lateral relationships and social practices. Throughout the volume, Mitchell chooses the term 'Fratriarchy' to show that, as well as the up-down axis of fathers and sons, there is also the side-to-side interaction of sisters and brothers and their social heirs. Making use both critically and affirmatively of Freud, Klein, Winnicott, Bion, Pontalis and others, Fratriarchy indicates how the collective social world matches the individual family world examined by established psychoanalysis. Decades on from Mitchell's work on psychoanalysis and feminism which argued that feminism needed psychoanalysis to understand the position of women, Fratriarchy now asks psychoanalysis to take on board the developing practices and theories of global feminism.

Juliet Mitchell FBA trained as a psychoanalyst at the Institute of Psychoanalysis, London in the 1970s. She worked full time in private practice in London and later part-time in Cambridge. She is Professor of Psychoanalysis and Gender Studies and founder of the Cambridge University Centre for Gender Studies, and is an Emeritus Fellow of Jesus College and of the University of Cambridge and of University College, London. Juliet is a Fellow of the British Academy – an award granted to leading academics for their distinction in the humanities and social sciences and she continues to write and teach on psychoanalysis and on gender theory worldwide.



Margaret Ann Fitzpatrick Hanly PhD is a training and supervising analyst of the Canadian Institute of Psychoanalysis, chair of the IPA Committee on Clinical Observation, and past Director of the Toronto Institute of Psychoanalysis.

As an Austen scholar and an experienced psychoanalyst, she brings together psychoanalytic concepts and literary understandings of Austen's great works of literature in her 2019 book: *Jane Austen: Sibling Rivalry, Unconscious Fantasy and Change*. In it she explores the inner lives of Austen's familiar characters: their intense sibling rivalries, and the effects of early and unresolved losses.



We welcome you to join us for a day of stimulating dialogue!

Program

- 9:20 Welcome and Introductions, Vivienne Pasieka, Chair
- 9:30 Juliet Mitchell: The Sibling Trauma
- 10:20 Coffee Break (15 minutes)
- 10:35 Response from Margaret Ann Fitzpatrick Hanly
- 11:05 Audience Discussion
- 11:45 Lunch Break (45 minutes)
- 12:30 Juliet Mitchell and Margaret Ann Fitzpatrick Hanly in conversation
- 1:00 Open Panel and Audience Discussion
- 1:50 Closing Remarks

Registration

On-line: www.torontopsychoanalysis.com

Registration deadline: October 13, 2023

Or email: info@torontopsychoanalysis.com

Early Registration (before September 15, 2023) \$125

(after September 15, 2023) \$140

Full-Time Students \$75 early bird/ \$90 after September 15, 2023 (Proof of 2023/2024 status in universities/colleges is required)

This event is eligible for Section 1 CME credits (0.5 credits/hour) It is an accredited group learning activity (section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certificate Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, approved by the Canadian Psychiatric Association (CPA). The specific opinions and content of this event are not necessarily those of the CPA, and are the responsibility of the organizer(s) alone.

Refunds must be requested in writing 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the event, after which fees cannot be returned. A handling fee of \$30 will be retained.