

26th Joseph Sandler Psychoanalytic Research Conference 2026

Theaters of the Mind: Dreams, Transference, Dissociation, and Trauma

Hosted by the Toronto Institute of Psychoanalysis

Friday 16 October 2026 -to- Sunday 18 October 2026
Victoria College, U of Toronto

PROGRAM

Friday, October 16

- 11:00-11:30 Registration
- 11:30-11:45 Welcome **Heribert Blass** (IPA president), **Siri Erika Gullestad**,
Margaret Ann F. Hanly and **Stephen Leibow**

Plenary I

- 11:45-13:00 Chair: **Erik Stänicke**
Stephan Hau (Stockholm): **On Nightmares.**
Discussant: **Joseph Fernando** (Toronto)
- 13:00-14:15 Chair: **Margaret Ann Hanly**
Siri Erika Gullestad (Oslo): **«I don't want to end». Relational
scenarios and the dynamics of transference-
countertransference.**
Discussant: **Cecilia Taiana** (Ottawa)
- 14:15 -14:45 *Coffee break (Poster session)*

- 14:45 -16:00 Chair: **Stephan Doering**
Steven Ellman (New York): **Dreams, REM Sleep and a Theory of Endogenous Stimulation**
Discussant: **Louis Brunet** (Montreal)
- 16:00 -17:15 Chair: **Rogerio Lerner**
Clara Schejtman (Buenos Aires): **The Impact of a hyperconnected world on parenting and transference. Initial research results on maternal and paternal Reflective Function and emotional interactive engagement.**
Discussant: **Heribert Blass** (Dusseldorf)
- 17:15-19:30 *Dinner Recommendations and Hosted dinners at Restaurants*

Public lecture

- 19:30-21:30 Chair: **Siri Erika Gullestad**
Mark Solms (Capetown): **Freudian Dream Theory in Light of Modern Neuroscience.**

Saturday, October 17

Plenary II

- 8:00-9:00 *Continental Breakfast*
- 9:00-10:15 Chair: **Line Stänicke**
Marianne Leuzinger-Bohleber (Frankfurt/Main), **Bradley Peterson** (Los Angeles), **Tamara Fischmann** (Berlin), **Gilles Ambresin** (Lausanne): **“..I could count myself king of infinite space, were it not that I have bad dreams...” (Hamlet). Dreams in the MODE Study**
Discussant: **Nancy Kulish** (Michigan)
- 10:15-10:30 *Coffee break (Poster session)*
- 10.30-11:45 Chair: **Alex Tarnopolsky**
Alexandra Harrison (Boston): **“Billy and the Thirteen Blackbirds: Co-creativity in the Transference Field”.**
Discussant: **Line Stänicke** (Oslo)

- 11:45 – 13:00 Chair: **Ron Ruskin**
Charles Fisher (Los Angeles): **A Metamethodology of Dream Research.**
Discussant: **Carolyn Ellman** (New York)
- 13:00 – 14:00 *Light Lunch Break (poster session)*
- 14:00 -15:15 Chair: **Stephan Hau**
Dominique Scarfone and Steven Ellman: Open Dialogue on Repression, the Unconscious, Dissociation and Transference
- 15:15-16.30 Chair: **Cyril Levitt**
Joseph Fernando (Toronto): **Trauma, dissociation and authoritarianism**
Discussant: **Erik Stänicke** (Oslo)
- 16:30 – 17:00 *Coffee Break (Poster session)*

Parallel Panels

- 17:00-18.45 **Panel 1.** Chair: **Mary Kay O’Neil**
Presentation 1: **Eva Papaislivi** (New York): **"The Psychoanalytic Concept of Transference across time and cultures: IPA Inter-regional Dictionary: Working Methodologies"**.
- Panel 2.** Chair: **Dan Traub-Werner**
Presentation 1: **Katrin Läzer** (Darmstadt) **"Psychoanalytical concepts and single case studies translated into a systematic review"**.
Presentation 2: **Rogério Lerner** (Sao Paulo) **"How evidence depends on context, and why this matters for psychoanalysis"**.
- Panel 3.** Chair: **Sarah Freke**
Presentation 1: **Erik Stänicke, Line Stänicke and Siri Erika Gullestad** (Oslo): **"The challenge of psychoanalysis confronting modern Zeitgeist: Emancipation and power in the digital age"**.
- 18:45-19:45 *Wine and Cheese Reception Old Vic Foyer and Alumni Hall*
See Recommended Restaurants

Sunday, October 18

Plenary III

8:00-9:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
9:00-10:15	Chair: Cecilia Taiana Margret Ann Fitzpatrick Hanly (Toronto): Sibling Trauma in Jane Austen Discussant: Gabriela Legorreta (Montreal)
10:15-10:30	<i>Coffee Break (Poster session)</i>
10:30-11:45	Chair: Stephen Leibow Stephan Doering (Vienna). Thinking under fire and the treatment frame. Lessons learned from Transference-focused psychotherapy of borderline patients. Discussant: Norman Doidge (Toronto)
11:45-12:45	Closure of the conference

Conference Registration and Site Information

REGISTRATION FEES

The conference registration fee includes a light breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, a Saturday lunch, a *Wine and Cheese* reception Saturday evening, and coffee and refreshments breaks.

Standard Ticket, <i>until July 1, 2026</i>	\$450 CAD <i>Approx. 330USD or 280EUR</i>
IPA Members, <i>until July 1, 2026</i>	\$399 CAD <i>Approx. 290USD or 245EUR</i>
IPA Latin American Members, <i>until July 1, 2026</i>	\$275 CAD <i>Approx. 200USD or 170EUR</i>
<i>*Limited Spaces*</i> IPA Candidates, RTP Fellows, Students, <i>until July 1, 2026</i>	\$275 CAD <i>Approx. 200USD or 170EUR</i>
Registration, <i>after July 1, 2026</i>	\$490 CAD <i>Approx. 360USD or 300EUR</i>

Please supply a copy of a document confirming student, IPA candidate, or RTP fellow status, to be sent with your registration.

Cancellation until July 1, 2026: 50% refund
Cancellation after July 1, 2026: No refund

Conference site: [Victoria College U of Toronto](#)
73 Queen's Park Cres E, Toronto, ON M5S 1K7

Accommodations: *The following hotels are within a 10-minute walk of the site*
[Kimpton St George Hotel](#)
[The Yorkville Royal Sonesta Hotel Toronto](#)
[The Andorre House – JDV by Hyatt](#)
[Park Hyatt Toronto](#)
[The Hazelton Hotel Toronto](#)
[The Four Seasons Hotel Toronto](#)