



Thursday, June 25th

6:00 pm – 8:15 pm

Plenary Session I

Multiplicity and Unity within Relational Psychoanalysis: Convergences, Controversies and Creative Tensions

Moderator/Interlocutor: Chana Ullman, PhD, Israel
Presenters: Jody Davies, PhD, USA; Estelle Shane, PhD, USA;
Stuart Pizer, PhD, USA and Mark Blechner, PhD, USA

Abstract:

This plenary session will set the theoretical and clinical context for the conference as a whole. Jody Davies will open the session with what she believes unites relational analysts as a group despite individual and orientation differences. Each of the other panelists will speak to their own individual notions of therapeutic action: Estelle Shane from a more self psychological perspective, Stuart Pizer from a more object relations perspective, and Mark Blechner from a more interpersonal perspective. The panelists will articulate their theoretical perspectives including what features of their work they view as “relational” and then give a brief clinical vignette that demonstrates how their theory informs their clinical choices.

Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will describe the intellectual climate that gave rise to the relational perspective.
2. Participants will identify fundamental questions about psychoanalysis that unite all relational thinkers regardless of their specific orientation or training.
3. Participants will explain how different views give rise to fundamentally altered notions of therapeutic action.



Friday, June 26th

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Plenary Session II

**In and Out of Mind:
Engaging the Intrapsychic and Intersubjective in Relational Psychoanalysis**

Moderator/Interlocutor: Steven Cooper, PhD, USA
Clinical Presenter: Gianni Nebbiosi, PhD, Italy
Discussants: Margaret Black, LCSW, USA; Spyros Orfanos, PhD, USA and Hazel Ipp, PhD, Canada

Abstract:

By way of a multimedia presentation, Gianni Nebbiosi will demonstrate a form of "musical thinking" and how it differs from verbal/conceptual language. He will illustrate this clinically with a patient who had the habit of being assertive and "tranchant" in her statements and how his relationship with her led to "communicative musicality." Further, Nebbiosi will describe how this helped the dyad cope with complex traits of her personality. Margaret Black, Hazel Ipp, and Spyros Orfanos will to speak to their own individual notions of therapeutic action relating to the case and through the lens of their respective perspectives about the intrapsychic and the intersubjective.

Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will list the differences among the intrapsychic, the interpersonal, and the intersubjective.
2. Participants will define the notion of "communicative musicality."
3. Participants will compare listening stances that enhance therapeutic action.



Friday, June 26th

3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Plenary Session III

Thinking about Power and Authority in Relational Psychoanalysis

Moderator/Interlocutor: Donnel Stern, PhD, USA
Clinical Presenter: Francesca Colzani, PsyD, Chile
Discussants: Irwin Hoffman, PhD, USA; Jill Straker, PhD, Australia; and
Susana Federici Nebbiosi, PhD, Italy

Abstract:

Francesca Colzani will present a detailed clinical case to open this plenary panel. It will involve enactments of power and authority. Interlocutors Susi Nebbiosi, Jill Straker, and Irwin Hoffman will unpack some of the overt and covert power and authority dynamics of the clinical material. Moreover, they will offer representations of their own work and how their ideas inform their choices and stances. Analytic authority and moral authority will be addressed in the context of human suffering and freedom.

Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will assess the dynamics of power and authority in relational psychoanalysis.
2. Participants will discuss the impact of culture on conceptualization of clinical power and authority dynamics.
3. Participants will compare and contrast analytic authority and moral authority.



Saturday, June 27th 8:30 am – 10:30 am Plenary Session IV

Regression, Self States and the Developmental Dimension in Therapeutic Action

Moderator/Interlocutor: Adrienne Harris, PhD, USA
Clinical Presenter: Rina Lazar, PhD, Israel
Discussants: Samuel Gerson, PhD, USA; Anthony Bass, PhD, USA; and
Stephen Seligman, DMH, USA

Abstract:

This clinical plenary will begin with a case presentation by Rina Lazar. Lazar will highlight the role of regression and how she conceptualizes it and the impact it has on her therapeutic choice points. The three interlocutors, Anthony Bass, Sam Gerson, and Stephen Seligman, will each speak to their own individual notions of therapeutic action relating to the case. In addition, they will each also identify their own respective lens on matters of regression, self- states, and the developmental dimension and how such features in their own clinical work.

Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will recall the history of the developmental perspective in the relational perspective.
2. Participants will describe the role of regression in contemporary relational understanding.
3. Participants will identify research that informs views on regression and therapeutic action.



Sunday, June 28th

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Plenary Session V

Beyond the Big Tent: Questioning and Expanding Some Core Premises of Our Relational Culture and Canon

Speakers: Malcolm Slavin, PhD, USA; Juan Francisco Jordan-Moore, MD, Chile; and Francisco Gonzalez, MD, USA

Chair: Hazel Ipp, PhD, Canada

Abstract:

This final plenary panel will attempt to expand and shift the viewpoints implicit in the first four plenaries. Panelists Francisco Gonzales, Juan Francisco Jordan, and Malcolm Slaving will propose analytic and other perspectives that are perhaps less embraced in our pluralistic big tent. They will ask what are the formative, but essentially non-relational aspects of psychic development that have been either foreclosed or unexamined by relational analysts to date? They will also ask are there views of our existential condition, excluded analytic visions of the psyche, or compelling literary, scientific and artistic ways of narrating universal human dilemmas that markedly push the relational envelope as we have come to know and accept it?

Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will organize the emergent conceptual and clinical themes of the conference into their own understanding of relational psychoanalysis.
2. Participants will identify two essentially non-relational aspects of psychic development not included in our relational canon and culture.
3. Participants will appraise the relationship between existential views and relational analytic views of the human condition.