Lectures on Synchronicity and the Survival of Consciousness

Chaired by Ms. Joyce Bok
Psychologist
Port Melbourne, Victoria

Mini-Conference Programme

Lecture 1 (1:00pm to 2:00pm)

"C. G. Jung and the Composition of Synchronicity"

Dr. Laurence Browne
Historian, philosopher, and author
School of History, Philosophy, Religion, and Classics
University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland

The theory of synchronicity represents C. G. Jung’s attempt to understand the nature of meaningful coincidences. Jung thought that something acausal or paranormal was going on in meaningful coincidences, rather than just subjective interpretations by the individual involved. Jung also thought that perhaps such experiences were in fact fleeting glimpses of an underlying timeless realm in which mind and matter are as yet undifferentiated. Jung’s collaboration with the physicist Wolfgang Pauli in regard to the formulation of his synchronicity theory is now well known, but it may well be that this association was not as important for Jung’s conceptualisation of synchronicity as his friendship with the sinologist Richard Wilhelm during the 1920s. Wilhelm bequeathed to Jung an intuitive understanding of the Chinese concept of Tao, which was to become for Jung very much associated with the meaning in meaningful coincidences. In this presentation Dr. Browne explores these and other influences on Jung, and he gives some pointers on what to look for when making the all-important distinction between synchronistic events and chance coincidences.
The AIPR Mini-Conference 2016

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Lecture 2 (2:00pm to 3:00pm)
"Synchronicity vs. Coincidence"

Dr. Lance Storm
Research psychologist and author
School of Psychology
University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA

Parapsychologists have been studying extrasensory perception (ESP) for over a century, but they tend to ignore synchronicity even though it is a paranormal phenomenon. Jung thought the ancient Chinese system of divination, the I Ching, might be a way of testing synchronicity. In this presentation, Dr. Storm introduces some basic parapsychological and Jungian concepts. He will also contrast synchronicity (a.k.a. meaningful coincidence) with ordinary coincidences (i.e., 'meaningless chance groupings'), and he describes a new I Ching method by which synchronicity has been tested. Dr. Storm also discusses the purpose and usefulness of the synchronicity concept.

Tea Break - 1/2 hour (3:00pm to 3:30pm)

Lecture 3 (3:30pm to 4:30pm)
"Important Insights into Ghost and Haunting Activity"

Dr. Vladimir Dubaj
Paranormal Investigator
Melbourne, Victoria

Approximately twenty percent of individuals experience ghost and haunting phenomena during their lives. However, the scientific community devotes little attention to these phenomena due to their unpredictable and spontaneous nature. Based on the past eight years of active field investigations and documented reports submitted by witnesses, Dr. Dubaj presents his findings about ghost and haunting phenomena, the field of ghost research and some theories that may help elucidate ghost activity.

Lecture 4 (4:30pm to 5:30pm)
"The Haunted Abductee: The Case of the Alien Implant, the Missing Foetus, the Haunted House, and the Psychic Multiverse"

Mr. Robb Tilley and Mr. Bill Chalker
Paranormal Investigators, Sydney, NSW

In this presentation, Robb Tilley and Bill Chalker describe one of their more extraordinary collaborative investigations. Starting out as an ordinary haunted house in a Sydney suburb, Mr. Tilley soon realized that something wasn’t right. Things only started making sense when the mother of the family mentioned her "alien abduction". UFO and abduction expert, Mr. Chalker joined the investigation. This case is one of the few that has yielded physical evidence (e.g., X-Rays and ultrasound) of a parapsychological and ufological kind.

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3 Dr. Lance Storm earned a B.A. (Honours) in psychology (1998) and a Ph.D. in psychology and parapsychology (2002) at the University of Adelaide, South Australia, where he conducts research in psychology and parapsychology.

4 Dr. Vladimir Dubaj earned his B.Sc. (Honours) in Neurophysiology, and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Instrumentation. He is founder and President of the Australian Parapsychological Research Association (APRA), through which he conducts research into the survival of consciousness, ghosts and haunting phenomena, poltergeist activity, and out-of-body and near-death experiences.

5 Mr. Robb Tilley is a businessman with considerable experience investigating poltergeist activity and hauntings throughout Australia. He resides in Sydney, and is Public Officer for AIPR.

6 Mr. Bill Chalker is an Australian author and UFO researcher. His current major focuses include the alien DNA paradigm, the Asian UFO experience, science and the UFO controversy and so-called UFO solid light cases.
“This monograph addresses the provision of educational experiences in the field of parapsychology and is designed to meet the needs of both students and instructors. Part 1 of the monograph discusses issues of primary importance to the person who would like to study parapsychology. Topics examined here include motives and misconceptions about parapsychology; and unrealistic expectations and potential benefits of studying parapsychology. Part 2 looks at teaching a course in parapsychology, including the design of a balanced curriculum that maintains critical standards while still accommodating the wide range of students’ interests. The future of the discipline of parapsychology depends on the quality of its educational programs. Accordingly, this monograph, by drawing on many of my own successes and failures in teaching parapsychology, will help to enrich the educational experiences of both parapsychology instructors and parapsychology students.”

Harvey J. Irwin, PhD, Adjunct Research Fellow, University of New England, Armidale, NSW, Australia

Professor Harvey J. Irwin is an Adjunct Research Fellow at the School of Behavioural, Cognitive, and Social Sciences, University of New England, where he conducts research on the psychology of parapsychology.
Psychic Phenomena and the Brain
Exploring the Neuropsychology of Psi
Bryan J. Williams

“Psychic phenomena such as extrasensory perception (ESP) and psychokinesis (‘mind over matter’) have been reportedly experienced by people from all walks of life. But are these phenomena real? And how could they possibly fit into our knowledge of the human brain? In this monograph, Bryan Williams examines some of the latest findings to emerge from efforts that parapsychologists have made to explore how psychic phenomena may be linked to brain functioning. Although they do not yet lead to a fully working theory, these initial findings do point to possible brain correlates that could be a focus for further study using advanced brain wave monitoring and functional neuroimaging techniques.” Bryan J. Williams, Research Affiliate, Psychical Research Foundation, Carrollton, Texas, USA.

Bryan Williams is an affiliate with the Psychical Research Foundation. He was a co-recipient of the 2008 Eileen J. Garrett Scholarship Award offered by the Parapsychology Foundation in New York.