

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



SALMAN AKHTAR, MD is an internationally known psychiatrist, psychoanalyst, writer, and poet based in the United States. He has published 110 authored or edited books and given lectures and workshops in over 40 countries.

Salman has served on the editorial boards of the three most important journals of our field, namely **JAPA**, **IJP**, and **PQ**. His books have been translated into many languages and he has received numerous professional honours, including the highly prestigious *Sigourney Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychoanalysis*. Recently a 10-volume set of his *Selected Papers* was released at a festive ceremony at the Freud House & Museum in London. Salman has published 18 collections of poetry and serves as a Scholar-in-Residence at the Inter-Act Theatre Company in Philadelphia.



ROB GORDON, PhD is a psychoanalytic group and individual psychotherapist in private practice and conducts psychotherapy groups with adolescents and young adults. He consults to a number of Victorian Government departments and health and welfare agencies on recovery from trauma and disasters.

Rob is President of the Australasian Confederation of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapies and Director of Training for the Australian Association of Group Psychotherapists.

www.freudconference.com

FREUD CONFERENCE BLOG

Between now and the conference, we will be posting articles and media relevant to the conference as they arise. The blog allows you to engage in the conversation by posting comments or a reply: we look forward to your input.

The Freud Conference blog also provides detailed CVs and publication lists of the speakers, with links to their publications and sources.

<http://freudconference.blog>

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

cut-off date: **Wednesday March 27, 2024**

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Christine Hill (AAGP)
Roslyn Glickfeld (APAS)
Maryana Podreka (AAGP)
Gurli Hughes (Administrative Manager)
Damien Pierce (Media & Design)

BOOKING ENQUIRIES

click here to book online:
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CONFERENCE ENQUIRIES

Christine Hill:
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Please note: The Melbourne Brain Centre has a maximum seating capacity of 260.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Refunds (less \$50.00 administration fee) will only be given for cancellations received by Wednesday April 24, 2024. No refunds after this date.

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2024 FREUD CONFERENCE

human goodness

THEORETICAL BASIS AND
TECHNICAL APPLICATIONS

WITH

salman akhtar

VIA VIDEO LINK

Saturday 18th May, 2024

The Melbourne Brain Centre
Kenneth Myer Building
30 Royal Parade, Parkville

**2024
FREUD
CONFERENCE**
www.freudconference.com

CHECK-IN

08.30 Registration & Coffee/Tea

09.00– 9.10 Introduction and Welcome:
Dr **CHRISTINE HILL**

MORNING SESSIONS

09.15– 10.45 Chair: EVE STEEL

Dr SALMAN AKHTAR

HUMAN GOODNESS: THEORETICAL BASIS

Appearing to be totally free from moral anchors, psychoanalytic theory does contain scattered views on human goodness.

Surveying the writings of Sigmund Freud, Melanie Klein, Donald Winnicott, Erik Erikson, and Wilfred Bion reveals that the psychoanalytic portrayal of '*goodness*' consists of

- i. rationality, restraint, epistemic enthusiasm, and striving for syntheses;
- ii. humility, gratitude, empathy, and reparation;
- iii. authenticity, concern for others, and playfulness,
- iv. trust, generativity, and care; and
- v. truthfulness and faith.

Such '*goodness*' seems to have a multifaceted impact upon the day-to-day work of the psychoanalyst.

10.45 – 11.15 Morning tea

MIDDAY SESSIONS

11.15 – 12.45 Chair: EVE STEEL

Dr SALMAN AKHTAR

HUMAN GOODNESS: TECHNICAL APPLICATIONS

This session will elucidate eight different ways in which this is evident including the therapist's

1. providing goodness to the patient;
2. behaving with good manners;
3. seeing goodness in the patient;
4. accepting patient's goodness;
5. diagnosing and analysing false goodness;
6. interpreting patient's defences against the analyst's goodness;
7. interpreting patient's defences against his own goodness; and,
8. exploring the history and meanings of the word 'good' for the patient.

These measures will be discussed utilizing illustrations from movies, popular literature, poetry, and clinical work.

Learning Objectives

As a result of listening to this presentation, the attendee will be able to:

1. Enumerate the components of human goodness;
2. List the various ways in which the concept of goodness effects therapeutic technique;
3. Empathize better with patients struggling with recognising goodness in others and in their own selves.

12.45 – 14.00 Lunch

Readings Bookstall will be available at the Conference

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

14.00 – 15.30 Chair: PAUL MCEVOY

Dr ROB GORDON

WHAT IS THE ESSENCE OF THE PSYCHOANALYTIC RELATIONSHIP?

When Freud and Breuer's patient fell in love with them, Breuer retired from the field, whereas Freud analysed the relationship, opening up the field of transference which became central to psychoanalytic work. Working with transference enables change which would not otherwise be possible. There is an extensive body of theory about transference, yet it is activated by an existing relationship that takes on a symbolic meaning, to become the receptacle for the client's fantasy. What evokes transference in a relationship? Is it automatic or are there conditions that provoke it? What holds the relationship in place while transference is worked through? How do we recognise the other relationship when transference is present? This presentation explores the non-transference relationship which lacks a similar theoretical development as transference. Though we still adhere to the fundamental condition that Freud discovered to make therapy possible: non-judgement. Beginning with this idea, a framework to define the non-transference relationship will be explored in work with adolescents, adults and groups.

15.30 – 15.50 Afternoon break

15.50 – 17.00 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Dr PETER SMITH will discuss, and then lead, an open forum on issues raised from all three presentations.

17.00 – 18.00 Drinks & finger food