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IN THIS ISSUE

Upcoming ITAA-EATA Webinar With Nicole Lenner 2

April *TAJ* Published 3

Leaving Scholar One 3

New Free-Access *TAJ* Article by Bill Cornell 4

Successful Examinees and IBOC News 5

Singapore TA Association Event 7

Mayan Fire Ceremony and TA 9

2024 AGM and Proxy Form 12

"Exploring Legacy, Legitimacy, and Identity: Transactional Analysis in a Changing World"

8–10 August 2025
Montpellier, France

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

We are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to the upcoming World Transactional Analysis Conference, where we will delve into the captivating theme of "Legacy, Legitimacy, and Identity: Transactional Analysis in a Changing World."

With 121 participants already registered from many countries spanning the globe—including Austria, Belgium, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, and more—the WTAC 2025 promises to be a truly international gathering of minds.

Our Organizing and Program Committees are meticulously curating an enriching program, featuring **over 80 workshops, enlightening keynote speakers, engaging conference debates, and numerous social events** designed for networking and collaboration. And let's not forget an unforgettable gala party on Saturday night, promising an evening of celebration and camaraderie "à la française."

For a deeper dive into our conference theme, click here for more information.

We invite you to explore the beautiful city of Montpellier, where our conference will take place. With its rich history, vibrant culture, and stunning Mediterranean charm, Montpellier offers the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable conference experience: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbWqpDj7AWg%0A

REGISTRATION IS BOOMING AND PROPOSALS ARE NEEDED!

SEND PROPOSALS BY 31 May 2024: https://www.ifat-asso.org/wtac-2025/

The WTAC ticketing system is now open:
https://my.weezevent.com/world-ta-conference-france-2025

itaa
INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS ASSOCIATION

Are you eager to be part of this extraordinary event? Secure your ticket now at the best rate available .

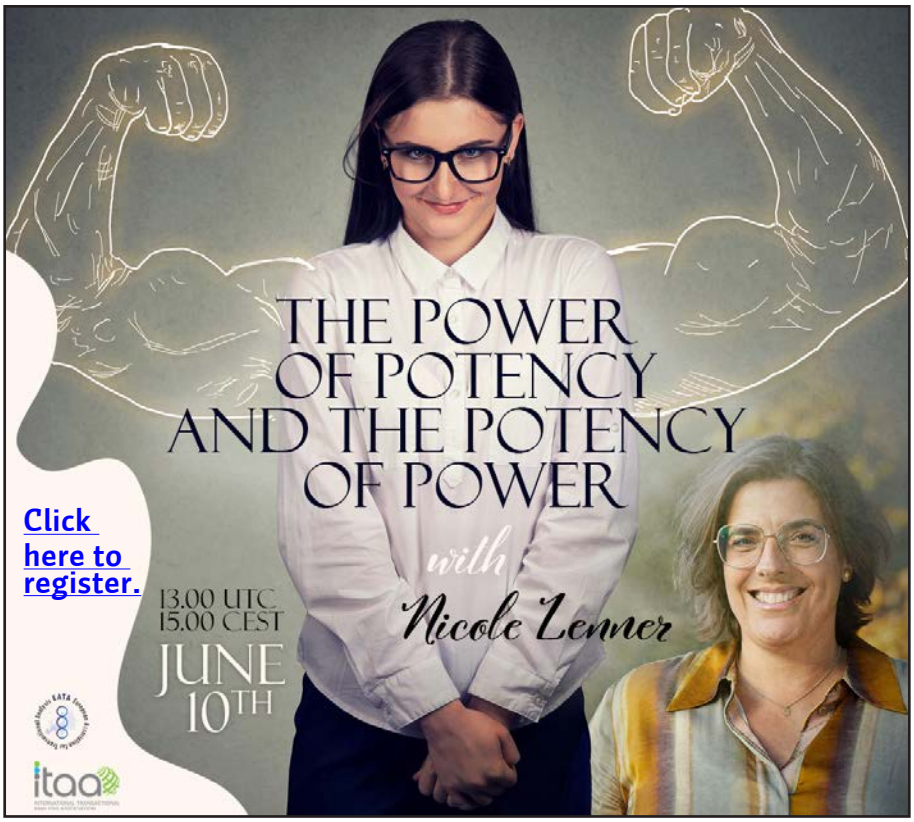
Would you like to share your expertise and insights with fellow members of the worldwide transactional analysis community? Whether it's practical applications, theoretical advancements, or innovative workshop ideas, we welcome your workshop proposals via our dedicated WTAC workshop platform .

If you're new to the WTAC/IFAT platform, simply click on "Create Account" to get started and join our vibrant presenter team by submitting your workshop proposal.

We are counting the days until we can welcome you to this enriching and inspiring conference. See you soon!

Warm regards,

Jean-Luc Boyer
Conference Chair, WTAC 2025



IBOC Exam Calendar

Type	Exam Date	Location	Application Deadline
CTA	3-5 Oct 2024	ONLINE	3 Jul 2024
TSTA	3-5 Oct 2024	ONLINE	3 Apr 2024
CTA	19-20 Nov 2024	Wellington, NZ	19 Aug 2024
TSTA	19-20 Nov 2024	Wellington, NZ	19 May 2024
CTA	27 Feb-1 Mar 2025	Online	27 Nov 2024
TSTA	27 Feb-1 Mar 2025	Online	27 Aug 2024
CTA	9-11 Oct 2025	Online	9 Jul 2025
TSTA	9-11 Oct 2025	Online	9 Apr 2025

IBOC TEW Calendar

Type	TEW Date	Location	Application Deadline	TPO Deadline
TEW	24-25 Nov 2024	Wellington, NZ	24 Mar 2024	24 May 2024
TEW	25-27 Apr 2025	ONLINE	25 Aug 2024	25 Oct 2024

Note: Written exams can be submitted anytime throughout the year.

Please send applications for exams and TEW to the IBOC administrator: iboc@itaaworld.org
For the EATA exam calendar, please refer to: https://eatanews.org/exams/#coc-calendar and for the EATA TEW calendar, go to: https://eatanews.org/ta-training/?highlight=TEW

the SCRIPT

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Deadlines—15th of the month prior to the month of publication (e.g., 15 May for the June issue)

Advertising: Twelfth page: $50; sixth page: $100; third page: $200; half page: $300; full page: $400.

Publication of articles and advertising in *The Script* does not imply endorsement by the newsletter, the editors, or the ITAA.

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April *TAJ* Now Available Online

As you should already be aware because of an email from Routledge about a month ago, the **April 2024 issue of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* is available online.** As usual, ITAA members can access it via the new ITAA website.

This issue is an open one, without a specific theme, so it contains a variety of interesting papers, including several that are particularly relevant to events in our world today. In her Letter From the Coeditor, Moniek Thunnissen remarked on this as follows:

> "In this issue . . . a common theme arises in four of the five articles. In different ways, they all deal with questions such as: What is the influence of the sociopolitical domain on the individual script? How do we make the translation from the individual intrapsychic world into our attitude and behavior in the larger world? How do we make ethical choices from a broader, more inclusive, collective perspective? And how can we expand Berne's ideas of individual agency and autonomy into a broader vision that includes connectedness and sociopolitical context?"

The articles is the April issue include:

"In These Dark Times: Exploring Our Values as Transactional Analysts" by William F. Cornell

"The Personal and the Political" by Karen Minikin

"From Assessing to Exploring: Less Parent, More Adult in Ethical Reasoning?" by Anne de Graaf

"Recognizing Invisible Oppression With the Drama Pyramid: Adding the Bystander Role and the Cultural Parent to the Drama Triangle" by Aruna Gopakumar and Aparna Vaidik

"Satisfaction With Life and Psychological Well-Being in TA Trainees" by Seema Pradhan

Book Review

The Six Personality Types That Hold the Key to Success in Your Life and Relationships by Vann Joines

Reviewed by Moniek Thunnissen

We hope you enjoy this issue and would love to hear your comments. Send them to *TAJ* Managing Editor Robin Fryer (robinfryer@aol.com).

HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR 2023 HARD COPY *TAJ*?

If not, please write to Steff Oates at lcfan@me.com . She will arrange for one to be sent to you with tracking information that will allow us to follow up.

Important Change to *TAJ* Submission Process

After a year of working hard to use the Submission Portal/Scholar One, it has become clear that the system is not a good fit for the *TAJ*. Therefore, after careful consideration by the editorial team and in consultation with Routledge, we have decided not to use that system any longer. Instead, **we will revert to direct contact with authors and reviewers.** As a result, please send all future submissions and questions to *TAJ* Managing Editor Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com .

April *TAJ* Free-Access Article on "In These Dark Times"

For the April 2024 *TAJ* issue, the free-access article is "In These Dark Times: Exploring Our Values as Transactional Analysts" by William Cornell. This essay addresses personal and professional values underlying (but not necessarily consciously articulated) how we practice and what we define as healthy outcomes for our efforts as transactional analysts. It is an invitation to consider the importance of a professional culture of curiosity and respect, one that can welcome and make use of difference and conflict, stressing the need for the elaboration of theories and values that actively attend to social and political forces that shape beliefs and behaviors. Central to this essay is a critique of the incorporation of "I'm OK, You're OK" as a central value of transactional analysis.

We encourage all *TAJ* readers to read this article and to use this important opportunity to encourage your colleagues and friends to learn more about contemporary transactional analysis. **You will find the free-access article** from the April issue available on the Taylor & Francis *TAJ* website (accessible via the ITAA website). Look for the green checkmark in the lower right corner.

TAJ Theme Issues

"Relationships in Love, Play, and Work"
Coeditors: Brad McLean and Helen Rowland
Deadline: 1 August 2024

"A Life of Digital (Dis)connection: The Impact on Society, Groups, and Individuals"
Coeditors: Alexandra Gheorghe and Traian Bossenmayer
Deadline: 1 February 2025

Please follow the submission requirements posted here.
Submit manuscripts to *TAJ* Managing Editor Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com

ITAA Members Now Have Free Access to *Psychodynamic Practice: Individuals, Groups and Organisations*

We are excited to announce that **ITAA members may now access the *Psychodynamic Practice: Individuals, Groups and Organisations* journal and its archive directly from the ITAA website.**

Psychodynamic Practice: Individuals, Groups and Organisations was chosen by the *TAJ* coeditors because of its interesting and wide-ranging articles and the fact that it is relevant to practitioners working in many TA fields. It publishes articles on counseling, psychotherapy, and consultancy for those who use psychodynamic thinking and explores psychodynamic ideas for occupational settings. *Psychodynamic Practice* emphasizes setting and application as well as theory and technique and **focuses on four broad areas:**

- Clinical practice
- The understanding of group and organizational processes
- The use of psychodynamic ideas and methods in different occupational settings (for example, education and training, health care, social work, pastoral care, management, and consultancy)
- The understanding of social, political, and cultural issues

The journal aims to make psychodynamic ideas accessible to a broad audience and is a home for new, as well as experienced, writers. Each issue contains an editorial, articles, short papers, and book reviews. An Open Space section contains short papers that reflect a range of themes, preoccupations, and experience, including thoughts inspired by longer articles and the relationship between psychodynamic understanding, culture, and the arts.

To access *Psychodynamic Practice*, first make sure you are signed in to your ITAA account, then click on the *TAJ* Access tab at the top of the ITAA website homepage, and then click on the RPCO tab.

We know you will enjoy reading this journal and welcome your comments.

IBOC News

This month we report back from the March exams and have a note from PSC to clarify anonymity in the written exam. We also add an update from EATA PTSC regarding mutual recognition of the TTA.

CTA & TSTA Exams

CTA and TSTA exams were held on 21 and 22 March, and 15 new CTAs and 3 new T/STAs were certified.

Congratulations go to the new CTAs:

Ceit Robinson, CTA-P, New Zealand
Tea Kneževic, CTA-P, Croatia
Kathryn Roe, CTA-P, UK
Louise Herbert, CTA-P, UK
Ania Herbut, CTA-P, UK
Aigul Moldabergenova, CTA-P, Russia
Lucie Belton, CTA-P, New Zealand
Julia Pool, CTA-P, UK
Edit Horváth, CTA-O, Hungary
Elena Shovina, CTA-P, Russia
Fortența Turlea, CTA-P, Romania
Yashodhara Lal, CTA-P, India
Mariia Sorokopud, CTA-P, Ukraine
Steffen Raebricht, CTA-O, Germany
Laura Styrker, CTA-P, Switzerland

Congratulations also to new T/STAs:

Lies de Bruijn, TSTA-O, Netherlands
Dragana Jovanovic Boka, STA-E, Serbia
Danijela Budisa Ubovic, TSTA- P, Serbia



(From left) Top row: Ceit Robinson, Tea Kneževic, Kathryn Roe, Louise Herbert; 2nd row: Ania Herbut, Aigul Moldabergenova, Lucie Belton; 3rd row: Julia Pool, Edit Horváth, Elena Shovina, Fortența Turlea; Bottom row: Yashodhara Lal, Mariia Sorokopud, Steffen Raebricht, Laura Styrker

Thanks to CTA Exam Supervisors - Haseena Abdulla and Nicole Lenner with Sarah Lowes, IBOC Administrator

Thanks to all the CTA examiners involved as examiners, observers, and process facilitators: Cholena Mountain, Sylva Jolliffe, Kate Hardy, Beren Aldridge, Susanna Scutt, Adri van den Brand, Debi Davidson, James Longwell, Frouk Willering, Nathalie Goursolas Bogren, Seema Pradhan, Manon Bongers, Alina Brigitte Rus, Rosemary Kurian, Anca David, Jr-Earn Lam, Roxana Draghici, Gerry Pyves, Rosario Chavez, Rakhima Kuandykova, Keiko Hoshino, Annette Terry, Joy Roshan, Sudha Thimmaiah, Piyush Dixit, Miek Hehenkamp, Sabine-Inken Schmidt, Raguraman K, Norma Mckinnon Fathi, Tin Vanderhoeven, Gunjan Zutshi, Linda Gillham, Jacobien Geuze, Elena Gamova, Marina Rajan Joseph, Ioana Cupsa, Patrick Odendaal, Moniek Thunnissen, Diana Deaconu, Evelyne Papaux, Marguerite Sacco, Hiroko Hikita, Elvin Aydin Keles, Sili Zhou, and Michelle Hyams Ssekasi

TSTA Exam Supervisors were Sue Eusden and Tess Elliott.

continued on page 6



Top left: Lies de Bruijn; top right: Dragana Jovanovic Boka; bottom: Danijela Budisa Ubovic

Thanks to all TSTA examiners involved as examiners, observers, and process facilitators: Anne Huschens, Boris Volodin, Eleonore Lind, Elly Voorend, Emma Haynes, Enid Welford, Gemma Mason, Giles Barrow, José Manuel Martínez Rodríguez, Karen Pratt, Marina Rajan Joseph, Matti Sannen, Michele D'Errico, Mo Felton, Olivier Montadat, Patrick Brook, Piet van Haaster, Sandra Wilson, Sashi Chandran, Susie Hewitt, Tatiana Sizikova, Tomoko Abe, and Vladimir Goussakovski

Thanks to all those who volunteered as supervisees/audience members: Sylva Jolliffe, Beren Aldridge, Nathalie Goursolas Bogren, Seema Pradhan, Alina Brigitte Rus, Rosemary Kurian, Jr-Earn Lam, Gerry Pyves, Rosario Chavez, Keiko Hoshino, Annette Terry, Piyush Dixit, Raguraman K, Hiroko Hikita, Elvin Aydin Keles, Sili Zhou, Vanessa Williams, Gunjan Zutshi, and Frouk Willering

Thanks to Zoom assistants: Keiko Hoshino, Tin Vanderhoeven

Thanks to Volunteers organizers: Sudha Thimmaiah, Haseena Abdulla, and Tess Elliott

Please note the **dates for the next exams – 3, 4 & 5 October 2024**. We will be sending out the call for examiners soon.

Written Exam: Anonymity

Following recent discussions about the written examination, **we want to offer a clarification about anonymizing the text.** The general principle is that the exam does not identify the individual candidate. The handbook states that naming details about training institutes, supervisors, trainers, client organizations—in addition to any mention of the candidate's name—is prohibited. However, we want to acknowledge that some candidates may find it necessary to refer to culturally specific factors. This might include nationality, region, language group, or other aspects of identity important to the candidate. The central point is to ensure that the anonymity of the individual identity of the candidate is maintained.

Clarification Regarding Mutual Recognition of Online TSTA Exam From EATA

The EATA Ethical Advisor asked PTSC to carry out an assessment of the validity, and the wider implications, of the previous PTSC decisions regarding the mutual recognition of online TTA exams. PTSC have now concluded their investigations, and taking new information into account, and in respect of the statement of mutual recognition published in 2023, has decided that the requirement to state TTA ITAA after an IBOC online teaching examination is not necessary and is withdrawn with immediate effect.

Sue Eusden and Haseena Abdulla, Cochairs IBOC

Transactional Analysis Bulletin Available Online

We are happy to report that the *Transactional Analysis Bulletin* is available and searchable online through the Eric Berne Archive at the University of California San Francisco. These publications, from 1962-1969, were the precursor to the *Transactional Analysis Journal* and offer a fascinating look into the early days of transactional analysis. They include reports from Berne's early San Francisco Social Psychiatry Seminars; articles by Berne, Steiner, Karpman, and other TA luminaries; news of training and early certification; and much more. This invaluable collection is accessed via one of these links: https://archive.org/details/transactionalana00chen (Internet Archive) or https://calisphere.org/collections/26221/ (Calisphere).

An Evening with Members of the TA Association Singapore

by Chitra Ravi

On 25 March 2024, some members of the TA Association Singapore (TAAS) met with me on Zoom. Most of them were psychotherapists or counselors from various other modalities, with some exposure to transactional analysis (TA). Reena Goenka, the TAAS Past President, had invited me to facilitate a workshop on "Working with Unconscious Processes Emerging in the Therapeutic Dyad."

It was a privilege to engage with the participants from Singapore and to gain insight into their distinct approaches and work ethic. They were enthusiastic about integrating new learning into their professional practice. The focus of the workshop was on some models of unconscious processes and on participants' reflections and questions about becoming aware of and working with such processes. The lens of TA was used to apply concepts to one's own transferential experiences as well as to the therapeutic dyad.

We began by establishing that the intricate play within the therapeutic dyad—the transference and countertransference—emerge as powerful forces shaping the therapeutic relationship. Rooted in the depths of the unconscious mind, these phenomena hold profound implications for both client and therapist. Exploring these dynamics offers a window into the hidden recesses of human experience and provides a pathway toward healing and transformation.



Transactional analysis has a rich and wide range of concepts and models with which to explore unconscious processes. From the simple yet potent model of symbiosis (Schiff, 1975), participants gained entry into how it is not just the client's need for dependence that creates symbiosis in the therapeutic relationship but also the underlying unconscious needs of the therapist that surface on entering the symbiotic engagement, which is outside Adult awareness.

Often in our own lives we sometimes do more than our colleague/partner or someone else, which creates dependence. And something similar can happen with a client who wants us as therapists or counselors to do more of the work or thinking in the therapy. We then see the deeper level of how we engage with this pull from the other and respond to that need to complete the symbiotic pattern in each relationship.

Moiso's (1985) work on the P_2 transference provides a model with which to view the transference from the structural model of ego states, wherein the client projects onto a screen superimposed on the therapist's Parent ego state reenactments of the script, rackets, and games that were played with the actual parents.

Clarkson's (1991) model of transference and countertransference provides clarity on how not only the



"Working with the Unconscious" by Chitra Ravi. TA webinar organised by TA Association Singapore. 25 March 2024

client's transferences but also the therapist's transferences (historical) and countertransferences can often be either facilitative or destructive in the therapeutic dyad. Zoom participants explored how a patient can project their historical parent or their past younger self onto them as the therapist. And the therapist's/counselor's responses either from their own past or from the here-and-now surfaces their own countertransferential response. These models led to discussions regarding the complexity of client engagements that became more accessible.

The workshop concluded with sharing the importance of allowing the transference while learning to work with it and holding it in mind as practitioners, that is, noticing it and inviting awareness when it is noticed, even when that is inconvenient. Often in becoming mindful of the transferential pull, it reminds us of the need to reiterate and maintain professional boundaries and clear limits of treatment. Yet with regard to safety, interpretation of transference is possible only when the client can understand and use it. Lastly, it is important to learn its implications for ethical therapeutic practice and supervision.

During the following plenary session, there was a combination of sharing reflections and questions as well as sensitive sharing in breakout rooms. Participants were asked to discuss situations in which there were repetitive patterns that occurred in their engagement with clients. This provided a way to access aspects of the work that the therapist was perhaps not in tune with or even significant challenges that they were struggling with.

Key learning outcomes and take aways from the gathering included:

- Learn about one's own transference in key relationships
- Explore how one's countertransference can be facilitative or destructive
- By harnessing these phenomena with awareness, empathy, skill, and ethical practice, therapists can create a space for deep exploration, healing, and holding space for clients toward greater self-awareness and empowerment.

After the event, TAAS President Jessica Leong, TSTA, said, "Chitra taught a webinar for the Singapore audience comprising many tertiary counseling interns. She was engaging, interactive, and provided a map of transference and countertransference unconscious content to self-awareness with the option to apply the knowledge in personal and therapeutic settings." And a participant offered, "It was particularly helpful to hear about viewing TA with a different lens."

Many thanks to TAAS President Jessica Leong, Past President Reena Goenka, Past Honorary Secretary of TAAS Irene Toh, and many others who handled the technical and administrative aspects of the Zoom gathering.

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Webinar Recordings Online

SEC webinar:
"Avoidance & Engagement in a Disturbed World" (Professional Self) with Keith Tudor
22 April 2024

For more webinar recordings, see the ITAA YouTube channel

TA Insights in Mayan Fire Rituals

by Piotr Jusik, Rosalind Sharples, and Jo Grace

Having received various teachings from Mayan people, I (Piotr) wanted to share the opportunity to learn from non-Western practitioners. I sensed that there was something important we as transactional analysts might gain from indigenous wisdom. I contacted several TA colleagues to see who might be interested, and Rosalind Sharples and Jo Grace, both from the United Kingdom, decided to join me in Guatemala to experience Mayan fire ceremonies. We hoped to explore the boundary between Western knowing and Mayan practices to enhance our understanding of the two seemingly different systems.

Piotr's Invitation to Adventure

What are the boundaries of TA? Can our method help us to make meaning of every cultural context, and to what extent is the meaning imposed or cocreated? These were some of our musings as we started our immersive research on the role of ritual in the process of psychological growth.

Recent developments in eco TA (Barrow & Marshall, 2023) have highlighted our interconnected relationship to land and culture. Thus, this opportunity responded to our deep-seated respect for nature and openness to other ways of knowing. The most important piece of the endeavor for us was about changing perspectives. Could we understand TA through the lens of the Mayan Cosmovision and vice versa? What happens when we change perspectives? How can this illuminate our practice and a commitment to OKness on a global scale? How can we respond as practitioners to clients from an inclusive place and what does that mean in the context of cultural and epistemic diversity?

At the same time, we were aware of a certain level of hypocrisy in our venture: How could we talk about the human connection to Mother Earth while flying across the world? Additionally, as outsiders with economic privilege, we had the choice to come and learn alongside Mayan therapists and counselors while it would have been more difficult for them to travel to receive pricey TA training. We voiced these concerns, and Anny suggested consulting the spirits to ask for permission from Mother Earth and the respective energies (Nahuales) that govern human life. The answer was positive, although we still kept wondering about our positional authority as TA practitioners and researchers in that context.



Anny in one of the online rituals

Strangely enough, following the pandemic, even spiritual guides started to work via Zoom, so I set up three online fire ceremonies with Anny, our spiritual guide (Ajq'ij), before departure to work with her in person in Guatemala. She is a diverse Quiché young woman, a political scientist, and a social activist, all in one, who generously and patiently educated us in the symbolism of the Mayan Cosmovision.



Rosalind having her feminine energy reactivated with hot obsidian

Rosalind on the Chicken Bus

We participated in several online rituals to prepare us for our journey and then met Anny face to face at a sacred site in Chichicastenango, Guatemala. My experience of this meeting was intense and disorienting. Retrospectively, I have reflected on how the online medium felt more cocreative as we mastered the limitations of language and the internet, because I did not have to fully surrender to Anny's work. Face to face, I was challenged to exist within Anny's world—with her contracting and logic so different from my own. We gathered around the fire drinking very sweetened ceremonial cacao (my first surrender as I do not eat sugar) and participated in activities such as undoing maize bundles as we focused on our intentions.

Online Anny had spoken in English and Spanish, adapting to our cultural needs. On her own territory, her identity seemed to become ageless, powerful, and full of mystery. She spoke in her own tongue, Quiché, which felt both absolutely appropriate and also somewhat excluding. At some point, Anny asked me to lie down and then she undid my jeans, placing what felt like burning pieces of obsidian on my exposed skin. She then lifted me up and shook me in each direction, spitting sacred liquor that she had gathered in her mouth onto me.

After we left, I had an extraordinary experience on the "chicken bus" we took to arrive at Lake Atitlan. There was no room to sit or stand, the conductor aggressively piled more and more people on as the driver hurtled around steep bends of a mountain range. I was already overheated from the fire and felt quite nauseous. To distract myself, I looked around at the other passengers. Most seemed to have gone into a daze, lying against each other with their eyes closed. Once we reached our destination, I started to shiver violently despite the warmth of the evening. It took the physical contact of my traveling companions and piles of blankets to return to a centered place.

It has taken me some time to make sense of this experience. However, when I read Karen Minikin's (2018) article "Radical Relational Psychiatry," something slotted into place. I believe that in the fire ceremony, I experienced myself as surrendering to the culture that held me. In that moment, I also experienced myself as intruded upon (as my jeans were undone, and I was shaken and spat at without a verbal contract for that). Consequently, I became vulnerable to the oppressive shadow of violence impacting the Maya peoples, as represented by the ambiance on the bus. Minikin talked of extractive introjection, by which the oppressors take what is good and inject their excluded bad parts into the oppressed people of the conquered nation. Within that bus I believe I experienced some of this collective pain.

Jo's Rebirth

Living in Wales for 30 years, I have found some spiritual grounding in the Celtic traditions to support a lack of childhood spiritual and religious experience. This has felt more resonant than the ad hoc appropriation of Eastern and Indigenous practices I had undertaken in younger years. However, the Celtic traditions, which offer a similar vision and also reflect centuries of oppression and suffering, have not survived in the same way as the Mayan Cosmovision, which still has a strong vibrancy in Central America, with Ajq'ijs (spiritual guides) such as Anny holding respected roles in their communities.

"The Maya Cosmovision is a unified system, a science of life that includes cosmology, astronomy, philosophy, mathematics and systems of health and wellness. … The ancients say you should be happy and content in your body but you should also be content in your heart." Don Audelino, Mayan Elder



Jo going through an energetic rebirth

The invitation to Guatemala held tension between my excitement for the chance to experience a spiritual tradition still so vital and the discomfort around my own privilege. I was curious about how the conflicting oppressor/oppressed experiences within my own family and culture could coexist and be held in awareness.

The Ajq'ij is seen as a conduit between humans and the universal energies of the natural and spiritual world, inviting a symbiotic relationship in which they are a "Universal Parent" to the Child in humans, regulating and supporting, guiding and healing without real challenge. As a Western practitioner and client, I was not used to the level of surrender this relationship required. To be held so robustly, without compromise or contracting, created the experience of an extremely firm, clear, and confident parent, something I did not have as an internalized experience in my body. My personal experience of the face-to-face ceremony was not as physically intrusive, and I was left afterward in a very different heightened state.

There was something in my personal experience of surrender that offered a release and freedom in my Child, potentially C_0, definitely C_1. Anny pronounced me as a "new Jo." I felt childlike, light and blissful, receiving permissions given by this mystical Parent figure along with the spiritual entities, to "start again."

On the crowded chicken bus I interacted and played with children, sang to the loud pop music, and found the chaos enlivening. However, when we explored the extremes of our experience, through the lens of Minikin's work, I wondered whether the activation of this Free Child state took me into the extractive introjection process, that is, the privileged tourist extracting the richness of the ritual and ceremony and the open joy of the children through her experience of "leaving behind" a part of her traumatized Child/internal oppressor. This was an uncomfortable exploration, which continues to unfold as we account for both intersectionality, our own unique experiences, and the different experiences of oppression we all carry across many generations.

In Closing

Our respective experiences were clearly different, which highlights the challenges of stepping into an intersubjective space. On the one hand, we all have a longing for perfect parental figures, which when unexamined may tip into totalitarianism. On the other hand, if every meaning is coconstructed, then we need to face the fear that there is no one truth, no universal parent to guide us. However, our hearts can show us the path as we discover what "I'm OK, You're OK" feels like somatically



With Anny's family (from left): Anny, her brother Diego, her father Don Diego; (bottom) Rosalind Sharples, Jo Grace, Anny's mother Doña Carmen. and Piotr Jusik

when embracing individuals from other cultures.

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Minikin, K. (2018). Radical relational psychiatry: Toward a democracy of mind and people. *Transactional Analysis Journal*, 48(2), 111–125. https://doi.org/10.1080/03621537.2018.1429287

Piotr Jusik, PTSTA-C, can be reached at peter@iflowcoaching.com; Rosalind Sharples, CTA-P, can be reached at rosalind.sharples@icloud.com; and Jo Grace can be reached at emotionwise@hotmail.com .

Conferences & Events Calendar

10 June 2024
ITAA-EATA Webinar with Nicole Lenner (2-3:30 PM UTC)

27 July 2024
ITAA Annual General Membership (AGM) Meeting (12 pm UTC, online)

6 November 2024
ITAA-EATA Webinar with Aruna Gopakumar (10-11:30 AM UTC)

8–10 August 2025
World TA Conference, Montpellier, France

Grants and Scholarships Available

If you or your organization are in need of funding, the ITAA offers a variety of opportunities.

The Eric Berne Fund for the Future (EBFF) was established to provide financial support for projects that promote transactional analysis, build unity in the TA community, support professional standards, and for research in transactional analysis. EBFF grants are available to individuals and organizations.

The Scholarship Grant Fund (SGF) provides need-based funding for students pursuing certification in transactional analysis. SGF grants are made to individuals for training, dues, contract filing fees, exam fees, conference registration, and workshop attendance. Grants from the SGF are available to members of the ITAA and to students seeking dues assistance to join the ITAA for the first time.

EBFF and SGF grants are available as fund resources permit. If you think you or your organization could benefit from either the EBFF or the SGF, you are encouraged to apply. **To do so, or if you have questions concerning the process or applications, please email Michael Harsh**, Chair of the ITAA EBFF/SGF, at imokayurokay@me.com .

Welcome to New Members

MARCH 2024

David Allen, United Kingdom
Rolindes Arroyo, France
Shannon Bell, India
Alice Bertrand-Hardy, France
Simonetta Caldarone, Italy
Rachel Curtis, United Kingdom
Saskia de Boer, Netherlands
Sangeetha Dilipkumar, India
Remus Dumitrescu, Romania
Kirsty England, United Kingdom
Gregor Findlay, United Kingdom
Claudia Garza, Mexico
Helena Goode, United Kingdom
Bianca Goujon-Bora, Romania
Helen Groth, United Kingdom
Catalina Elena Horodinca, Romania
Chris Horton, United Kingdom
Helen Kent, United Kingdom
Alenka Kralj, Croatia
Surita Lawes, United Kingdom
Natasa Milijanovic Todorovic, Serbia
Serhii Mordiushenko, Ukraine
Deri Morgan, United Kingdom
Mina Morrgan, Slovenia
Sevil Olgun, Turkey
Shaligram Pokharel, United Kingdom
Mathew Procter, New Zealand
Akila Raju, India
Agata Ribay Staszewska, Poland
Irina Runceanu, Romania
Uma Saravanan, India
Julien Segeren, Netherlands
Nilay Senturk Dikici, Austria
Deepak Sharma, India
Jayden Smith, New Zealand
Varsha Sundar, India
Ramya Sundaram, India
Anna Emanuela Tangolo, Italy
Joanne Thomas, United Kingdom
Henk Tigchelaar, Netherlands
Niki Titi Andreadou, Greece
Anya Tovey, New Zealand
Ipek Ünlü, Turkey
Bethany Walters, New Zealand
Christopher White, United Kingdom
Joanna Williams, United Kingdom
Holly Young, United Kingdom
Sheheena Yousuf, India

Annual General Membership Meeting—Save the Date!

This year we will again conduct the ITAA Annual General Membership meeting (AGM) via Zoom. The date is Saturday, 27 July at 12 pm UTC. This gathering will also include the celebration of the 2024 ITAA awards. The ITAA Board of Trustees urges members to attend this meeting online.

Agenda

- Welcome to members and visitors
- Honoring and remembering people who passed this year
- Adoption of the minutes of the 2023 AGM
- Adoption of accounts for 2023
- Reports from the president and members of the board of trustees (BOT)
- Farewell and thanks to those leaving the BOT
- Introduction of new BOT members
- Any other business
- Questions and answers
- Notice of 2025 AGM
- Presentation of the 2024 Awards: Service Award to Chitra Ravi

Registration: For us to plan the event, we need you to register for it. Watch for an ITAA email in the next few weeks with a link to register on Eventbrite. You will receive a Zoom invitation link closer to the date.

Logistics: We will use the Zoom online meeting platform for hosting this event. You can download the application free from the website: https://www.zoom.us

To participate in the Zoom meeting: You must have a signed "Consent to Electronic Transmissions" form on file with the ITAA. Individuals with consent forms on file and who are ITAA members in good standing as of 30 June 2024 (the "Record Date") are entitled to vote.

An alternative in-person AGM will be held at the same time by ITAA President Thorsten Geck at Ohlsdorfer Str 3a, Zip Code: 22299, Hamburg, Germany, for anyone without internet access, who does not have a signed "Consent to Electronic Transmissions" form on file with the ITAA, or who is unable to phone in to a Zoom meeting. Please RSVP to Thorsten Geck at president-itaa@use.startmail.com by 30 June 2024 for details.

Proxy Vote Form: If you cannot attend the 2024 AGM online or in person, please fill out the proxy form here. The ITAA Bylaws state that the quorum for holding the membership meeting is 50 voting members or 5% of the qualified voting membership, whichever is smaller.

Please fill out, sign, and send the proxy vote to ITAA Secretary Rema K Giridhar by email to rema.k.giridhar@gmail.com if you have a signed "Consent to Electronic Transmissions" form on file with the ITAA. If you have not signed and returned such a consent form, return your proxy form by postal mail to Rema K. Giridhar, A402, Palm Court, Thasami Park Residency, Opp Ulavar Sandhai, Singanallur, Coimbatore - 641 005, Tamil Nadu, India. The deadline for receipt of proxy forms sent to Rema K. Giridhar is 1 July 2024, or you can download, print, sign, scan, and transmit the form online to her at least 2 hours before the scheduled start time of the AGM. A "Consent to Electronic Transmissions" form to and from the ITAA is located on the ITAA website under "About"/"Governance Documents." This may be printed, signed, and returned to Rema K. Giridhar to expedite return of your proxy vote form by email.

Proxy Vote Form

I (please print) _____ am a member in good standing of the International Transactional Analysis Association and herewith assign my proxy vote to the secretary of the ITAA or to (print name) _____ ("my agent") to be used to establish a quorum at the membership meeting of the International Transactional Analysis Association, convening on 27 July 2024 at 12:00 UTC online via Zoom, and to cast my vote as my agent believes appropriate in the circumstances. This proxy will expire on the date that is 11 months following the date given below.

Signature:_____

Date:_____