

**American College of Psychoanalysts Program  
May 5, 1012  
Courtyard by Marriott  
21 N Juniper St,  
Philadelphia, PA 19107**

### **Plenary Presentations**

**9:00 -10:30 am**

**Ira Brenner, MD will present:**

**INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF TRAUMA –AN  
ENDURING LEGACY OF THE HOLOCAUST**

**Dr. Brenner will explore the phenomenon of intergenerational transmission of trauma which has been most extensively studied in the Holocaust. The first reports of problems of children of survivors were pessimistic and predicted a poor prognosis for this group. Subsequent research, more clinical experience, and the creation of a social movement led to different conclusions, as hidden ego strengths and resilience were recognized in many. After a review of these phenomena and the evolution of thinking about how this transmission might occur, clinical examples are presented. Transmitted unresolved grief, survivor guilt, and the capacity for integration seem to be important factors. Applications of such models to other traumatic situations may be discussed also.**

**Dr. Brenner is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia, where he is Co-Director of the Adult Psychotherapy Training Program. He has a special interest in the area of psychological trauma and is the author of over 75 publications, including four books: Injured Men: Trauma, Healing, and the Masculine Self (2009), winner of the 2010 Gradiva Award; Psychic Trauma: Dynamics, Symptoms, and Treatment (2004); Dissociation of Trauma: Theory, Phenomenology and Technique (2001); and The Last Witness – The Child Survivor of the Holocaust (co-author Judith Kestenberg) (1996).**

**10:45-12:15 am**

**Salman Achtar, MD will present:**

**SILENCE: TYPES, TRANSLATIONS AND TECHNIQUES**

**This presentation will address the elusive but important subject of silence in the clinical situation. Eight types of silences (structural, unmentalized, defensive, enactive, symbolic, contemplative, regenerative, and blank) will be described. A brief digression will be made into the sociocultural realm (silences of the oppressed, the dislocated). After this, silences in the clinical situation will be addressed including the patient's silences, the analyst's silence, their concurrent but unrelated silences, and the silences of their mutuality.**

**Dr. Akhtar is Professor of Psychiatry at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. Dr. Akhtar has authored and edited over 25 books, including; Broken Structures: Severe Personality Disorders and Their Treatment; Immigration and Identity: Turmoil, Treatment, and Transformation; and Inner Torment: Living Between Conflict and Fragmentation.**

**Afternoon Colloquia**

**2:00-3:30 pm**

**Dr. William Singletary will present:**

**THROUGH THEIR OWN EYES: NEUROBIOLOGY, EXPERIENCE AND AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER**

**In Dr. Singletary's view understanding the inner life of the child with ASD can be quite useful in treatment. After a briefly discussing the neurobiology of ASD, neuroplasticity and models of ASD, he will present material from the psychotherapy of school-aged children and a young adult with Asperger's Syndrome. This will include drawings and songs as well as published autobiographical accounts, and will be used to provide insight into the child's inner world. These works eloquently describe the children's experience of autistic symptoms as efforts to**

**protect themselves from painful emotions including paradoxical fears brought on by the experience of connectedness and positive emotions.**

**Dr. Singletary is an adult and child psychiatrist and psychoanalyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. Dr. Singletary has written and presented on the neurobiology and psychodynamics of autism and autistic spectrum disorders.**

**3:45-5:15 pm**

**Dr. Gabriele Ast will present:**

**A CLINICAL CASE PRESENTATION ILLUSTRATING THE INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF TRAUMA**

**She will present clinical material from the psychoanalysis of a patient who grew up in Germany in the wake of World War II. Dr. Vamik Volkan will serve as a discussant.**

**Dr. Ast is a psychoanalyst and family practice physician from Munich, Germany. Dr. Ast has co-authored three books, on borderline personality organization, narcissistic conditions, and sibling relationships.**