

Desy Safán-Gerard, Ph.D.
desy@desy.com www.desy.com

POSITIONS

- 2019-Present Chair of International Psychoanalytic Association (IPA) sponsored Art Discussion Group
First meeting held in July, 2019, at the London IPA
- 2001-Present Supervising and Training Analyst
Psychoanalytic Center of California, Los Angeles, CA
- 1998-2001 Senior Faculty
Psychoanalytic Center of California, Los Angeles, CA
- 1996-1998 Assistant Faculty
Psychoanalytic Center of California, Los Angeles, CA

EDUCATION

- 1989-1995 Psychoanalyst
Psychoanalytic Center of California, Los Angeles, CA
- 1969-1974 Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology
University of California, Los Angeles, CA
- 1966-1967 Masters
University of California, Berkeley, CA
- 1958-1962 Bachelor of Arts
University of Chile, Santiago

ORGANIZATIONS

International Psychoanalytic Association
Psychoanalytic Center of California
The Confederation of Independent Psychoanalytic Societies
Group Psychotherapy Association of Southern California

BOOK AND PAPERS

Chaos and Control: A Psychoanalytic Perspective on Unfolding Creative Minds. Routledge,
London, 2018.

"Victims of Envy." *The Psychoanalytic Review*, Vol 106, 3, June 2019.

"Is Creativity Dangerous?" *International Psychoanalytic Association*, blog, 2017.

"Turmoil and Freedom." Published in Phoenix Rising, newsletter of the Psychoanalytic
Center of California, pages 6 - 7, January 2011.

"Art and Madness." Presented in response to documentary on the Prinzhorn Collection,

- Southern California Annual Psychiatric Convention, Dana Point, California, October 9, 2009. Presented again at the Psychoanalytic Center of California, February 5, 2011.
- "Is Creativity Dangerous?" Contribution to Phoenix Rising, PCC Newsletter, 2009.
- "Why Bother?: From Indifference to Passion." Presented at the New Center of Psychoanalysis, Los Angeles, October 2006.
- "Creativity: From the Painting Studio to the Consulting Room." Presented at the New Center of Psychoanalysis, Los Angeles, 2005.
- "Who is Projecting?: The Self-Portraits of Lucien Freud." Presented at the Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, February 28, 2003.
- "As in the Flesh." Paper and slide presentation at the Southern California Psychoanalytic Institute in Los Angeles, 2003.
- "What About Me?: Dreams in Response to the Weekend Break." Paper presented at the all-day conference on Dream Interpretation in Clinical Practice, LAPSI, October 19, 2002.
- "On Not Knowing: Discerning the Mental and Emotional Requirements of Creative Work." Presented at the Bion 2002 International Conference in Los Angeles, 2002.
- "Discussion of Dr. Harold Blum's Paper on "Picasso and his Models." New Center of Psychoanalysis, Los Angeles, April 2002.
- "How Could You!: Self-Righteousness Under Scrutiny in a Therapy Group." Paper presented at the Tavistock Clinic, London, March 18, 2002.
- "For No Apparent Reason: Allergies and Projective Identification." Presented at the Spring meeting of APA Division 39, San Francisco, April 2000.
- "Control of the Mother's Body and Mind." Presented at the Annual meeting of the Eastern Group Psychotherapy Society, New York, 2000.
- "Destructiveness and Reparation in the Creative Process: A Retrospective." Paper and slide presentation given at the Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Institute, October 1998 and at the 41st IPA Congress in Santiago, Chile, in July 1999. Presented again in Paris and Zurich in March 2000 (Spanish and French).
- "Destruction as the Cause of Coming into Being." Workshop on Sabina Spielrein's 1912 paper, given at the Psychoanalytic Center of California (PCC), Los Angeles, March 1998.
- "Psychoanalysis and Behavior Therapy in the 90s: A Tale From Two Cities." Discussion of Jonathan Slavin's presentation on the Psychoanalytic Perspective, at the Society for the Exploration of Psychotherapy Integration (SEPI).
- "The Use of Countertransference in Response to Narcissistic Defenses of Group Members." Published in the *Journal of Melanie Klein and Object Relations*, Volume 15, Number 2, June 1997.
- "A Kleinian Approach to Group Psychotherapy." Published in the *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*, 46 (2), 1996.
- "Envy of the Woman in the Work of Max Beckmann." Presented at the New Center of Psychoanalysis, Los Angeles, June 1992.
- "Discussion of Two Kinds of Envy" by Elizabeth Bott Spillius, Ph.D., at the Melanie Klein Memorial Lecture, Los Angeles, October 24, 1991.
- "Discussion of Clinical Applications of Projective Identification" by Elizabeth Bott Spillius, Ph.D., at the Melanie Klein Memorial Lecture, Los Angeles, October 24, 1991.
- "Victims of Envy." Paper presented at the American Academy of Psychoanalysis, 35th Annual Meeting, The Darker Passions, New Orleans, May 1991.
- "Discussion of Max Beckman's Eyes and the Temptation of the Breast," by Thomas Brod, M.D. Presented at the Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, May 3, 1991.
- "Dealing with Paranoid and Depressive Anxieties in Psychoanalytic Group Psychotherapy." Presented at the Division 39 of the APA, 11th Annual Spring Meeting, Chicago, April 1991.
- "From A to B and Back to A: Emotional Development in Groups." *Group*, 15; 213-218, 1990.

- "Working with Envy and Its Manifestations." Unpublished paper, c. 1990.
- "The Role of Omnipotence in Creativity." Presented at the Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, 1990.
- "An Alternative to Interpretation During an Analytic Impasse." Paper presented at the Spring Meeting of Division 39 of the American Psychological Association, Boston, April 1989.
- "Conditions that Derail the True Self during Creative Work." Paper presented at the Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, February 1989.
- "Creativity: Trait or Quest." Paper presented at the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Psychological Association's Division of Psychoanalysis, 1986.
- "Chaos and Control in the Creative Process." *Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis*, 1985, vol 13, N 1, pp 129-138.
- "The Psychodynamics of Creative Blocks." Paper presented at the Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, 1985.
- "Destruction et Création," Published in *Psychanalyse à l' Université*, Vol 9, 483-490, Paris 1984.
- "Assimilation in Art and Psychotherapy." Paper presented at the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Psychological Association's Division of Psychoanalysis, 1984.
- "The Evolution of a Painting." Paper presented to the 27th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis, New York, 1983.
- "Creativity at Risk in the Patient/Analyst Dialogue." Presented at LAPSI, 1983.
- "The Use of the Object: From Omnipotence to Symbolization." Presented at the Psychoanalytic Center of California (PCC), Los Angeles, April 1983.
- "The Role of the Accident in the Creative Act." Paper presented at a Conference on Creativity and Madness, Maui, Hawaii, 1982.
- "Talent and Creativity: a Discussion of Jerome Oremlan's Paper." Presented at the Los Angeles Institute for Psychoanalytic Studies, 1981.
- "Creativity as Communication." Presented at the Psychology Forums, sponsored by the Ziff Corporation, New York, 1979.
- "How to Unblock." (originally titled "Creativity as Communication") Published in *Psychology Today*, January 1978.
- "La Personalidad Creadora." Presented at the Jornadas Nacionales sobre las Artes, U. de Chile, 1970.
- "Personality Correlates of Music Preferences." Unpublished Master's Thesis, UC Berkeley, 1967.
- "Ritmo y personalidad: estudio experimental." Unpublished dissertation, U. of Chile, 1962.