



SOUTHWEST PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY



New Biennial Series from SPS - The Enduring Legacy of Psychoanalysis: Research and Clinical Practice

Presented By:

Professor Alessandra Lemma

**Minding the Body: Body Modification, Technology
and Sexuality, Transsexual Identity**

Saturday, January 14, 2017, 9:00 am–3:00 pm

Registration from 8:30 am to 9:00 am
at Hacienda del Sol Guest Ranch Resort, Tucson, AZ

About the Program

Dr. Lemma will introduce key psychoanalytic concepts about the body and the experience of embodiment in three particular areas: body modification, the impact of technology on adolescent sexuality, and sexuality and gender. In her first talk she will examine the unconscious phantasies that drive people to compulsively modify their bodies through cosmetic surgery, piercings, and tattoos. In her second talk, she will explore the impact of technology on the development of sexuality during adolescence. At puberty, she suggests, the adolescent needs a mirror to take a 'second look' at a body whose pre-pubescent integrity has been shattered and finds the most readily available mirror to be the 'Black Mirror': the shiny screen of a monitor, tablet, or phone. In her final talk, Dr. Lemma will offer a developmental framework to contextualize the struggle of some transsexuals. This developmental account will focus on a particular feature of the transsexual experience, namely that of 'being seen' or taken in (or not) visually and mentally by the other in a state of incongruity. The presentations will be illustrated with ample clinical material from Dr. Lemma's practice and relevant research. Audience participation will be welcomed.

About the Presenter

Professor Alessandra Lemma is Professor of Psychological Therapies at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust and School of Health and Human Sciences at Essex University. She is a Fellow of the British Psychoanalytical Society and Visiting Professor, Psychoanalysis Unit, University College London where she is also the Clinical Director of the Psychological Interventions Research Centre. She is Visiting Professor, Istituto Winnicott, Sapienza University of Rome and "Centro Winnicot", Rome. She is the Editor of the *New Library of Psychoanalysis* book series (Routledge) and one of the regional Editors for the International Journal of Psychoanalysis. She has published extensively on psychoanalysis, the body and trauma.

Questions? Call Helene Barab, Ph.D. at 520-290-3606 or email hbarab@mindspring.com.

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