

Past Speakers include:  
Stefano Bolognini (Italy),  
Alessandra Lemma (UK),  
Leopold Nosek (Brazil),  
Marilia Aisenstein (France)

# THE FIFTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM

WITH OLGA SANTA MARIA, PHD,  
FROM MEXICO CITY, MEXICO



**SATURDAY, MAY 17TH &  
SUNDAY, MAY 18TH**

## *The Case of the Manufactured Child*

Saturday, May 17th

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM EDT

2 CE/CME'S

In-Person at Rockland & Virtual Zoom

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## *What Makes Us Human? Can Artificial Intelligence Play a Role in the Conservation of the Subjective?*

Sunday, May 18th

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

2 CE/CME'S

In-Person at Rockland & Virtual Zoom

## ***The Case of the Manufactured Child***

**SATURDAY, MAY 17TH - 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT**

**IN-PERSON AT ROCKLAND &  
VIRTUAL ZOOM**

**CLICK HERE TO  
REGISTER FOR  
IN-PERSON  
ATTENDANCE**

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Dr. Santa Maria will present *The Case of the Manufactured Child* in which she will consider how being the product of assisted reproductive technology -- when there is a solo parent—in this case, the father—can impact the child’s development of a sense of self. Specifically, she will bring us through her experience of working with a 12 year old boy, whose father sought to create a perfect child with selected DNA characteristics tailored to his liking. Dr. Santa Maria will share with us the nuanced intricacies of her work with this boy and will also consider her work theoretically with references to the work of several psychoanalysts including Ferenczi, Recalcati, Roussillon, and Winnicott. Her discussion will address several questions that may emerge uniquely with children conceived in a more complex manner, including, 1) the impact of the father’s personality on the relationship he establishes with his son when he is preoccupied with perfection; 2) the impact that “other mothers” -- termed “self-matryoshka” by Dr. Santa Maria --can have on the development of a child raised by a solo father -- with no identifiable mother, 3) the meaning of the father’s having sought to manufacture his child across culture and countries; and 4) how psychoanalytic psychotherapy can help a child adjust psychologically when experiencing a complex convergence of dynamic challenges from conception onward. Regarding the latter, Dr. Santa Maria will explore how the psychotherapeutic process can be an anchor at any age, in the context of a therapeutic relationship that provides a shared mental space in which the internal and the external can interplay and support the development of basic trust necessary for unconscious communication.

## ***What Makes Us Human? Can Artificial Intelligence Play a Role in the Conservation of the Subjective?***

**SUNDAY, MAY 18TH - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT**

**IN-PERSON AT ROCKLAND & VIRTUAL ZOOM**

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ONLINE ACCESS  
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Dr. Santa Maria will consider how technology has contributed to the subjective experience of living with AI and how it may be changing our relationship to the experience of otherness. Toward this end, she will discuss the film, “Ex Machina” (2014) through a psychoanalytic lens (the audience will be asked to screen this film independently prior to the program). In this film, one of the protagonists, Caleb, is recruited to take the ‘Turing Test’ -- a test that aims to prove the intelligence of a computer by tricking or convincing a person that they are talking to another human being. In the film, Caleb meets Ava, an AI machine, who is portrayed as a woman in a woman’s body. The film explores the evolution of their relationship. Dr. Santa Maria will discuss how Ava “embodies” the question: what makes us human? She will explore how Ava becomes and represents humanity, because according to the ‘Turing Test,’ a machine can be seen as human in relation to its intelligence and its capacity to show deeper levels of consciousness like self-awareness, imagination, manipulation, intuition, sexuality and empathy. Dr. Santa Maria will also consider the integration and working through of various vicissitudes, i.e., encounters/discounters that occur between technology/virtuality and the human mind. This presentation will seek to generate discussion among the attendees about our emerging technological world and how AI may be impacting the conservation of our subjectivation and experience of time, both past and future.

## FIFTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM – BIOGRAPHIES

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### OLGA SANTA MARIA, PHD – SPEAKER

**Dr. Santa Maria** received her doctorate degree in clinical psychology from the UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico) . She also received her master's degree in Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist from the APM (Mexican Psychoanalytic Association). She hold a bachelor's degree in Clinical Psychology from Universidad Anáhuac. She is a supervising and training analyst and a child and adolescent psychoanalyst of the APM and IPA. She has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the IPA (2023-2025), Director of the Scientific Commission APM (2016-2018), Secretary of the Board of Directors of the APM (2018-2020, President of the Mexican Psychoanalytic Association APM: 2020-2022, APM Treasurer 2022-2024) and APM Institute Professor. She is a Collaborator of IRED by IPA: Interregional Encyclopedic Dictionary: Entry: Ego Psychology - Delegate of the Commission of Children and Adolescents FEPAL. She has been a Collaborator of the Community and Culture Commission FEPAL. Dr. Santa Maria is in private practice and is the founder and director of the Psicoavance group since 1981. She has many publications, chapters in books, compiler of a book and papers presented in Congresses and Webinars.

### SALMAN AKHTAR, MD – DISCUSSANT

**Salman Akhtar, MD**, is a Professor of Psychiatry at Jefferson Medical College and a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. He has served on the editorial boards of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis, the Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association, and the Psychoanalytic Quarterly. He has more than 400 publications, including 110 books, of which 41 are solo-authored. His most recently published books include *Silent Virtues* (2019), *Leaps and Bounds* (2022), and *In Short* (2024).

### ANN EICHEN, PHD – MODERATOR

**Ann Eichen, PhD**, is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Adult Psychoanalyst. She received her PhD from the Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies, and she completed her analytic training at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. Dr. Eichen is on the Faculty at PCOP, where she teaches classes in adult and female development and also serves as the PCOP Programming Director. She has a private practice in Wynnewood, where she provides individual, couples, and group psychotherapy. Dr. Eichen has recently completed a book entitled, *Marriage and its discontents* with Dr. Salman Akhtar and Dr. Andrew Smolar that will be released this June

## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES - MAY 17TH (2 CE/CMES)

At the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Participants will be able to identify ways to consider how artificial reproductive strategies impact the ways that humans make meaning of their origins and how this impacts psychological development, particularly for an adolescent conceived in this manner. In the case presented, a particularly complex one involving three carriers of the child, a sperm donor, an egg donor, and a surrogate, and a single parent, discussion will consider how this multiply determined inception may influence identity formation.
2. Participants will be able to identify a range of conflicts that characterize adolescent identity development for children born from assisted reproductive technology, particularly when these children are raised in a solo father household. with the support of the father's extended female family members. The influence of the father's conflicts on his son-- in the context of his receiving support from his extended female family members childhood will be considered and participants will understand how a father's own voids, desires and narcissism can impact his son's dynamic experience of himself.
3. Participants will be able to identify ways that growing up in a rapidly paced technologically driven society -marked by uncertainty and immediacy - can impact the developmental task of identity formation for the adolescent boy.

## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES - SUNDAY, MAY 18TH (2 CE/CMES)

At the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the impact of technology on development of self and other, with a particular emphasis on the impact it has on subjectivity.
2. Demonstrate common emotional challenges faced by humans regardless of their generational position, in adapting to the increasing presence of AI in our discourse.
3. Predict the different ways technology is having an impact, and help clinicians develop new ways to convey this to their patients in a manner that can facilitate a more beneficial relationship with technology in the practice of psychotherapy. Examine how cultivating an analytic attitude toward the role AI may play in development, relationships, and identity, so that it can be used effectively in helping preserve the attributes of human experience that are unique.

## CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION/CONTINUING EDUCATION

Continuing Medical Education (CME):

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of American Psychoanalytic Association and the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. The American Psychoanalytic Association is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American Psychoanalytic Association designates these Live Activities for a maximum of 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE INFORMATION FOR ALL LEARNERS:** None of the planners and presenters of this CME program have any relevant financial relationships to disclose.



### Continuing Education for Psychologists (CE):

The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Every session of this program offers CE credit for psychologists.

**Continuing Education for Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors (CE):** In accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth of PA dated 12/23/06 [PA Code: Title 49, Ch. 47-49], The State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors recognizes the American Psychological Association (APA) as a preapproved provider of continuing education programs for social workers and clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, and professional counselors in the State of Pennsylvania. The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education programs.

**For more information, please contact the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia:**

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The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is committed to reasonable accommodations for any member or program attendee with a disability unless doing so would cause significant hardship to the organization. Advance written notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs. To request accommodations for this program, please [click here](#) to complete an Accommodation Request Form.