

Following **Stefano Bolognini (Italy)**,
Alessandra Lemma (UK), and
Leopold Nosek (Brazil), we present:

THE FOURTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM

MARILIA AISENSTEIN (FRANCE)



**SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH &
SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH**

The Birth of Desire

Saturday, April 27th
12:00 PM- 2:00 PM EDT
2 CE/CME'S
Virtual Zoom

Fiction and Clinical Fiction

Sunday, April 28th
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT
2 CE/CME'S
Virtual Zoom

The Birth of Desire

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH - 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT

VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Marilia Aisenstein will lead us on a journey inside the mind of the newborn infant to demonstrate how human beings develop the capacity for waiting, a state that involves a pleasurable experience that paves the way for desire. Referencing Freud's concept of "primary masochism" Ms. Aisenstein shows that having a "good enough mother"-- who through words and actions signals to the infant that she is nearby and will be gratifying her soon--- promotes the formation of healthy, internalized mental representations in the infant. It is these internalized structures that allow the infant to integrate the capacity for waiting. Ms. Aisenstein will also discuss what happens when inadequate maternal provisions derail this process. Using clinical vignettes, she describes the nature of this impairment in patients with borderline organization: "[their] anti-cathexis is so drastic that it paralyzes the preconscious and isolates the unconscious", thus thwarting the infant being able to tolerate delayed gratification, and ultimately impedes the development of the capacity for desire. Ms. Aisenstein will discuss ways that the analyst facilitates the repair of these ruptures through intensive treatment.

Fiction and Clinical Fiction

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Marilia Aisenstein will show how the psychoanalytical approach and the writing of fiction share the power to transform human psychological experience, to change the very essence of our being in the world. By referencing masterpieces of literature and presenting clinical vignettes, Ms. Aisenstein will demonstrate the intersubjective processes that are based in the unconscious. She will explore how clinical experiences and the experience of reading fiction rely on creative mentalization and transform an individual's personal understanding of their inner life. In her discussion of clinical case material, she will show how the analyst can transform "lifeless discourses" and "reanimate them" using metaphoric language.

FOURTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM - BIOGRAPHIES

MARILIA AISENSTEIN

Marilia Aisenstein is based in Paris, France where she is a Training Analyst with the Paris Psychoanalytical Society and Hellenic Psychoanalytical Society and a Distinguished Fellow of the British Association. Ms. Aisenstein served as President of the Paris Society for two terms, between 1993 and 1997. She has also served as President of the Scientific Council of the Paris Society, Director of the Research Unit at the Paris Psychosomatic Institute, Chair of the Board of the Paris Psychosomatic Institute (I.P.S.O.), Editor and Co-Founder of the "Revue Française de Psychosomatique," and European Chair for the Programme Committee (Barcelona IPA Congress 1997), European Chair on the IPA's Committee on Psychoanalysis and Society (CPS), European Representative on the IPA Board and member of the Executive Committee. Ms. Aisenstein also has served as Chair of the IPA's International New Groups Committee and Co-Chair of the French-speaking congress CPLF.

Ms. Aisenstein has taught at the Institutes of the Paris Society and in universities for over 20 years. She has authored numerous papers in international reviews and books in French and English, including translations into Spanish, Greek, Portuguese, and Romanian. In 1992, she received the *Prix Maurice Bouvet Award*. Her most recent publication in 2023, titled *Desire, Pain and Thought*, was published by Routledge.

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.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES - THE BIRTH OF DESIRE - SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH

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

1. Explain how “psychic work” allows for the transition from need to desire in the relationship between the infant and mother.
2. Describe how the mother is instrumental in helping the infant develop the capacity to tolerate waiting and thus to experience desire.
3. Analyze the evolution of ideas based on Freud’s original text with Aisenstein’s theory of the birth of desire.
4. Apply Aisenstein’s ideas to work in the transference with patients who show borderline and narcissistic features.
5. Discuss the structural deficiencies that certain patients have that leads to a paralysis of the preconscious and isolates the unconscious.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES - FICTION AND CLINICAL FICTION - SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH

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

1. Explain how both a clinical account of a treatment and a literary account of a fictional experience are derived from a creative process that is based in the unconscious and becomes accessible through preconscious and conscious psychic work.
2. Discuss three ways that the psychoanalytical approach is similar to and different from the writing of fiction.
3. Apply literary tools, such as the use of metaphor, to psychoanalytic practice can facilitate treatment by loosening defenses and helping the patient build internal pathways toward affective change.

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 4 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.