



THE C.G. JUNG INSTITUTE OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

# 2024 Presidency Conference

Politics in a Traumatized World:  
Dystopia and the Creative Imagination

*Statue of Liberty by Millie Kutz*

Friday, October 18th  
7pm - 9pm

Saturday, October 19th  
9am - 5pm

Sunday, October 20th  
9am - 1:30pm

In-Person at the C.G. Jung  
Institute of San Francisco  
and Virtually on Zoom

2610 Mission Street



## Featuring:

Robert Jay Lifton, Carolyn Bates, Ipek Burnett, QiRe Ching, Patricia Damery, Betty Sue Flowers, Sharon Heath, Donald Kalsched, Monica Luci, Andrew Samuels, Thomas Singer, Betty P. Teng, Robert Tyminski, and Alan Vaughan

Register online at [jungsf.learningexpressce.com](https://jungsf.learningexpressce.com)

Fee: \$300

The C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco is presenting its seventh consecutive Presidency conference that has occurred every four year election cycle since 2000. The conferences have explored the psychological dimensions of our political landscape (psyche and polis) as expressed in the major arena of US presidential elections.

The past several election cycles have been more about cultural conflicts than policy debates. Deep polarization expresses itself in the clothing of political positions on issues such as immigration and the Southern border, abortion and bodily autonomy, women's and LGBTQ rights, racial, ethnic and economic divides, foreign affairs, the climate crisis, and, ultimately, the kind of leadership America wants for the future.

Is it an exaggeration to say that this year's presidential election may well determine the fate of democracy in the world's future? Are the fears of a fascist takeover of America realistic? Does raising the fears of chaos, mayhem and death pave the royal road to the White House? How can we imagine a better future when the political world is in the grips of a perpetual foul mood?

Lynn Alicia Franco, LCSW  
Shoshana Fershtman, JD, PhD  
Thomas Singer MD  
*Conference Coordinators*

## Special Guest of Honor



**ROBERT JAY LIFTON** is a psychiatrist and author whose subject has been holocaust, mass violence, and renewal in the 20th and 21st centuries. His most recent books are *Losing Reality: On Cults, Cultism, and the Mindset of Political and Religious Zealotry*, and *Surviving Our Catastrophes: Resilience and Renewal from Hiroshima to the Covid-19 Pandemic*. Dr. Lifton is currently Lecturer in Psychiatry at Columbia University and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry and Psychology at the City University of New York. [Read Robert's New Yorker interview here.](#)

### The Appeal of Truth

"I will argue that, though we suffer in our society from widespread falsehood, truth retains a particular attraction. I refer here not to ideological or religious truth, which is always a matter of conviction and bias but to what we can call factual truth, that of actual behavior and events. Untruth, in contrast, can only be sustained by additional, virtually endless untruth. We are not a post-truth society but must seek always to create a truth-based one."

## Presentations

### There's Something About Uvalde: American Patriarchy and the Slaughter of Innocents



**CAROLYN BATES, PhD** is a Jungian analyst (I-RSJA, US) practicing in Austin, Texas. She serves as North American Editor-in-Chief for the *Journal of Analytical Psychology* and as President of the Texas Seminar of the I-RSJA. Over the last three decades she has offered multiple workshops and lectures on ethics, technology's influence within the collective, the phenomenon of synchronicity and collective trauma, and the reconsideration of myth through the lens of feminist politics.

### Politics of American Innocence: A Paradox



**IPEK S. BURNETT, PhD** is the author of *A Jungian Inquiry into the American Psyche: The Violence of Innocence* (Routledge, 2020), the editor of *Re-Visioning the American Psyche: Jungian, Archetypal, and Mythological Reflections* (2024), and a novelist. Based in San Francisco, she works with human rights and social justice organizations.

### Re-Collecting the Masculine in a World of Impossible Choices



**QIRE CHING, LCSW** is a member-analyst of the C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco. He has advocated for mental health services to the Asian/Pacific Islander community particularly, during the onset of the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s. He has been in private practice and teaches regularly at the C.G. Jung Institute.

### Earth over Wealth: Napa Citizens Take on Big Money



**PATRICIA DAMERY**, retired Jungian analyst and biodynamic organic farmer, has been deeply involved in ecological and conservation work in Napa County since the early 1990s. Her book, *Fruits of Eden: Field Notes, Napa Valley 1991-2021* (Dancing Raven Press, August 2022), tells the story of how her love for her ranch catapulted her into political action.

### Age and Rage: Performative Energy in Presidential Politics



**BETTY SUE FLOWERS, PhD** is an author, professor emeritus (UT-Austin), and former director of the Johnson Presidential Library. She has moderated executive seminars at the Aspen Institute, consulted for NASA, CIA, and the US Navy, and edited scenarios for Shell International, the OAS, the OECD, the WEC, and the WBCSD, among others, and was series consultant for *The Power of Myth*.

## The Abortion of Democracy's Promise: Fear and Desecration of the Feminine



**SHARON HEATH, MA, MFT**, Jungian analyst and faculty member of the C.G. Jung Institute of Los Angeles, writes fiction and non-fiction exploring the interplay of science and spirit, politics and pop culture. She is the author of five published novels, including *The Fleur Trilogy* and *The Mysterious Composition of Tears*. She is a contributor to *Marked by Fire: Stories of the Jungian Way*, *Depth Psychology and the Digital Age*, and *Cultural Complexes and the Soul of America: Myth, Psyche, and Politics*.

## Inner and Outer Democracy and the Threat of Authoritarianism



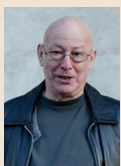
**DONALD E. KALSCHED, PhD** is a Jungian analyst and clinical psychologist. The author of many clinical and theoretical papers, he lectures internationally on the subject of early childhood trauma and its treatment. His books *The Inner World of Trauma: Archetypal Defenses of the Personal Spirit* (Routledge, 1996) and *Trauma and the Soul: A Psycho-spiritual Approach to Human Development and its Interruption* (2013) have been widely recognized and translated into many languages.

## Borders, Immigration and Asylum: A Global Psychoanalytic Perspective on the Psycho-Political Meaning of State Borders



**MONICA LUCI, PhD** is a clinical psychologist and a Jungian and relational psychoanalyst. She is Deputy Director of the Center for Trauma, Asylum and Refugees at the University of Essex. She consults with international organizations and agencies in psychotherapeutic work with refugees, especially torture survivors, women who have suffered gender based violence and unaccompanied minors. She is an author, and editor with works that include *Torture, Psychoanalysis & Human Rights* (Routledge, 2017), *Torture Survivors in Analytic Therapy: Jung, Politics, Culture* (2022).

## Good-Enough Leadership: How to Fail Better – It's Urgent!



**ANDREW SAMUELS** is known for his work at the interface of therapy and politics. He has worked as a political consultant for parties, leaders, activist groups and Britain's National Health Service. Andrew is a Jungian psychoanalyst in practice in London and a university professor. His many books are in up to 22 languages and include *The Political Psyche* and *A New Therapy for Politics?* [Videos and lectures are on [andrewsamuels.com](http://andrewsamuels.com)]

## Marketing Dystopia: Selling the Fear of Uncertainty, Murder, and Death as the Royal Road to the White House



**THOMAS SINGER, MD** is a psychiatrist, Jungian psychoanalyst, and a member of the C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco. He is author of many works, including a series of books on cultural complexes that have focused on Australia, Latin America, Europe, the United States, and East Asia, in addition to another series of books featuring *Ancient Greece, Modern Psyche*. He serves on the board of the Archive for Research into Archetypal Symbolism (ARAS) and has edited *ARAS Connections* for many years.

## The Mind of our State: How Unresolved Historical Traumas Fuel Polarization, Conspiracism and Trumpism in the U.S.



**BETTY P. TENG, LCSW, MFA** is a psychoanalyst and trauma therapist who has worked with survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and childhood molestation. She contributed to *The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump* and to *The Cure for Psychoanalysis*. She co-edited the 2023 *Mind of State: Conversations on the Psychological Conflicts Stirring US Society and Politics*.

## American Youth, Their Preoccupation with Social Media, and Their 'Belle Indifference' Toward the 2024 Presidential Election



**ROBERT TYMINSKI, DMH** is an adult and child analyst member of the C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco and a past president. He is the author of *Male Alienation at the Crossroads of Identity, Culture and Cyberspace* (Routledge, 2018), *Crooked Lines* (2016), and *The Psychology of Theft and Loss: Stolen and Fleeced* (2014). He is a 2016 winner of the Michael Fordham Prize from the *Journal of Analytical Psychology*. His newest book *The Psychological Effects of Immigrating: A Depth Psychology Perspective on Relocating to a New Place* came out in late 2022.

## The Archetype of Justice, Dystopia, and Shadow Phenomena in the U.S. Supreme Court



**ALAN G. VAUGHAN, PhD, JD** is a practicing analyst member of the C.G Jung Institute of San Francisco and a clinical psychologist. His publications are at the intersections of Analytical psychology, U.S. Constitutional Jurisprudence, and African Diaspora Studies. Published journal articles and book chapters include: Phenomenology of the Trickster Archetype in U.S. Electoral Politics and Governance; the U.S. Civil Rights Movement, U.S. Civil Rights Law, and Black Lives Matter; and Voting Rights in a Multicultural Democracy. His book on Jung in the African Diaspora, will be published in Spring 2025 by Routledge.