The Philadelphia Association
50 years - a celebration
25th September - 4th October 2015
Tickets are free of charge, donations accepted for the PA Therapy Aid Fund.

To book a place at any of the above events please contact our administrator on 0300 123 1708 or via email office@philadelphia-association.org.uk

Please note that entrance on the night will be on a first come, first served basis so it is important that to guarantee a place you book your ticket in advance – if you do not book you risk not getting a seat due to space being limited at these events.

For directions to Marty's Yard please go to our website: www.philadelphia-association.org.uk and click on 'Contact Us'.

The Philadelphia Association
4 Marty's Yard, 17 Hampstead High Street, London NW3 1QW
Registered charity 242475
**Friday 25th September**

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<tr>
<td>6.30pm</td>
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<td>We are Many</td>
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<td>&quot;Not in My Name!&quot; Pro-Vocations and Gift-ings</td>
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<td>Leon Redler</td>
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<td>6.45pm</td>
<td>Sharing memories and reflections</td>
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<td>PA Film Club, The Dark Horse</td>
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<td>The Violinist is Present</td>
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<td>'Would R.D. Laing be practicing Open Dialogue if he was with us today?'</td>
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<td>Nick Putman</td>
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<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Do You Love Me? Closing event</td>
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**Saturday 3rd October**

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Thank you to all the Trustees who have served the Philadelphia Association over the years and a special thanks to the current Chair of Trustees, Dan Sofer, for his dedication and hard work.

Cover photographs by Lenny Davidson
Design by Alex Widdowson
7.00pm

Do You Love Me?

Catherine Alexander, Fliss Cadbury, Andreas Constandinos, Mimi Dobrin, Amanda Ferozha, Chrysanthi Nigianni, Emma Stroker

“I could have done with other loves perhaps. But there it is, either you love or you don’t”.

(Samuel Beckett)

A performance evening that will reflect, question, narrate and re-articulate notions of love through music, prose, texts, poetry, literature and performance. Once a significant philosophical concept (Plato’s eros, Aristotle’s philia, Augustine’s caritas).

Love is now largely avoided and suspected for its naïveté, clichés, stereotypes and religious connotations. Nevertheless, in our clinical encounters, sitting opposite each other, while we are trying to make sense, see what is going on, the question of love comes back: it is always, repeatedly, necessary to return to it, to see what it lacked or promised. Inspired by R.D. Laing’s collection “Do You Love Me?” the PA community (members and trainees) is organizing an evening about love’s demands, impossibilities, failures and repetitions in its clinical, aesthetic, philosophical and political expressions and forms.
2.00pm

"The Old Ways": a possible rediscovery of phenomenology for psychiatry and other psyche disciplines
Dr Miles Clapham

One can never return to one’s starting point exactly, although we often have to start something again. I argue that psychiatry and related disciplines need to start again with phenomenology, in order to see, or perhaps glimpse, the person in front of us.

Dr Miles Clapham is a child and adolescent psychiatrist. He trained in phenomenological psychotherapy at the Philadelphia Association, and teaches on the training programme.

3.30pm

‘Would R.D. Laing be practicing Open Dialogue if he was with us today?’
Nick Putman

Nick Putman will introduce the Open Dialogue approach from Western Lapland, and then will be in conversation with friends, colleagues and relatives of R. D. Laing, to explore whether they consider Laing would have taken to the Open Dialogue approach, and would be practicing it if he was with us today.

Nick is a psychotherapist and certified Open Dialogue practitioner who specialises in working with people experiencing psychosis and their families. He has spent the last 12 years living and working in a variety of community based services for people experiencing psychosis and other extreme states. Over the last two years he has been working hard to develop the Open Dialogue approach in the UK, and as a result eight NHS Trusts are now involved in one of two training programmes that have been established in the UK, including a full three year training in the approach. For further details see opendialogueapproach.co.uk
7.30 - 9.30pm
50 years after the opening of Kingsley Hall in 1965 where is RD Laing, now?
Dr John Heaton and Adrian Laing in conversation

Dr John Heaton, after qualifying in medicine at Cambridge, worked in the NHS and RAF as an ophthalmologist. He then trained in psychotherapy at the Langham clinic - largely a middle group psychoanalytic clinic. He met Laing in 1960 and became friends with him and David Cooper. He was asked by them to start a training group in the PA in about 1965. He was responsible for a PA household of about 15 people for 8 years at Ascot. He still teaches at the PA and elsewhere, persevering in clarifying confusions in psychotherapy, writing books, drawing on the philosophy he began studying with Bertrand Russell at Cambridge.

Adrian Laing is the second of RD Laing’s sons. He is a qualified barrister and a Solicitor-Advocate, runs his own legal practice and has been extensively published in his professional field of media and contract law in addition to publishing the satirical novel: ‘Rehab Blues’. Adrian’s study of his father ‘RD Laing: A Life’ still sets the pace as a source book for RD Laing. Adrian Laing studied in Paris with Michel Foucault and was a close friend of David Cooper.
Thursday 1st October

7.00 - 9.30 pm
Revisiting the Maternal
Seminars: Matricide and
Maternal Subjectivity
Ros Mayo & Christina Moutsou
Exhibition of works by Eti Wade - Mother
Artist, curated by Samantha Lippett.

Ros Mayo and Christina Moutsou have been co-editing a book to be published soon by Routledge based on the series of maternal seminars which took place in the PA from 2011 – 2013. The seminars attracted a number of well known speakers, and an audience outside the PA. The evening will be a celebration of the forthcoming book, the seminars, and the maternal. There will be a projection/exhibition of images, an art installation, and contributions and readings from speakers and authors in the book.

Rosalind Mayo trained at the PA and was a member for 20 years. She is a member of the College of Psychoanalysts and an Associate of Kings College. Her academic background is Theology, Philosophy and Ethics. She is currently working on a book on the medieval mystic Margery Kempe and with a women’s group for feminist creative arts and spirituality.

Dr. Christina Moutsou is a social anthropology graduate from the University of Cambridge. She has trained at the PA and was involved in various parts of the organisation for eighteen years. She is a member of the Relational School. She is involved in supervising and teaching psychotherapy research students as well as working as a therapist in private practice. She has co-edited ‘Rethinking Audit Cultures’ with Lucy King and is currently working on a final draft of a novel.
8.45pm **Addendum** - Sharon Gal

Addendum was commissioned by the PA. The piece is an imaginary, artistic collaboration with R D Laing, relating to his writings and inspired by his voice and presence online. It’s a musical dialogue across time and space. An evocative jigsaw, bringing together segments of recordings, images, fractured phrases, text and vocal expressions, creating new meanings and emerging as a rich tapestry of haunted memories, shimmering colours and sounds.

**Wednesday 30th September**

7.30 – 9.00 pm
The question of the impact of Laing, the PA and ‘anti-psychiatry’

Will Self & Darian Leader in conversation

Will Self is the author of 22 books, 10 novels, six collections of shorter fiction and six anthologies of journalism and essays. Much of his fiction has been concerned with the impact of R D Laing’s ideas on the wider society. His books have been translated into 23 languages. He is a prolific journalist in the UK and internationally, and a frequent broadcaster on the BBC. He is also Professor of Contemporary Thought at Brunel University. He lives in London.

Tuesday 29th September

6.45 - 9.15 pm
Join us for an evening of performance at the Freud Museum.
Free – advance booking essential –
Click here
Introduction from PA Chair Lucy King

6.45pm - 8.45 pm
The Violinist is Present-
Abraham Brody
Abraham Brody will create musical improvisations based on what he sees in the audiences eyes.
The energy transmitted from the public sustains the violinist in his musical creations. The longer the public remains in the space, and the more focused attention they bring to the present moment, the more they actively control the dialogue between the violinist and themselves...
www.abrahamviolin.co.uk

7.30 pm
Mental - the vacuum cleaner
www.thevacuumcleaner.co.uk
The Metropolitan Police call him a Domestic Extremist. The NHS have described him as 'highly disturbed' and labelled him with Borderline Personality Disorder. 'A real and present threat to the safe running of our lawful business' is how E.ON described him at the Royal Courts of Justice. He prefers the term Mental. After 10 years of being an outlaw and inpatient, artist activist 'the vacuum cleaner' presents an autobiographical performance told through his psychiatric records, police intelligence files and corporate injunctions collected through the Data Protection Act. This show contains material some may find challenging, and is not suitable for people under the age of 16.

"Raw, open, powerful... entirely devoid of a sense of self-preservation".
The Guardian
Monday 28th September

7.00 pm
Psychotherapy and the Rise of the Psychological State
Paul Atkinson and Andy Metcalf

With the prospect of enforced state therapy for welfare benefits claimants, the utilitarian violence of neoliberal narratives seems to be reaching new depths. The structural injustices and inequalities of capitalism are becoming increasingly psychologised as the individual's failure to play the only game in town - what Paul Virilio and others call mass individualism. But are we psychotherapists prepared to think about our own contribution over the last 50 years to the neoliberal capture of subjectivity? Are we prepared to take political action to reverse our contribution?

Andy Metcalf will introduce a discussion on the Free Psychotherapy Network. This is a network that is currently growing throughout the UK.

Andy is an artist, therapist and FPN founder member. His present role involves helping local FPN groups from across the country. He also sees FPN clients for free.

Paul Atkinson is a member of the Alliance for Counselling and psychotherapy, the Free Psychotherapy Network and NHS campaigns in East London. With organisations like the Mental Health Resistance Network, DPAC and Psychologists against Austerity he helped organise the action at Streatham Jobcentre last June against the Tories' plan to locate psychological therapy in 350 Jobcentres around the country.
6:45 pm
Following Pro-Vocations and Gift-ings, and before the next event, we'll share food
and wine and invite memories and reflections on 50 years of the Philadelphia
Association

7.45 pm
PA Film Club - The Dark Horse
Dir. James Napier Robertson
Introduced by Lakis Georgiou
Followed by discussion

Set in New Zealand amongst the Maori community, this inspiring and compelling
ture story centres around national chess champion Gen. When released from a
psychiatric hospital, Gen tries to find new meaning in his life despite the challenges
of hearing voices and experiencing disturbing hallucinations. Through his
relationship with his supportive brother and the community of local children,
he finds peace and connection through ordinary conversations, teaching chess
and harnessing the children's enthusiasm and talent towards entering another
national chess championship. The film received critical acclaim for mesmerising
central performances. It is a rich representation of a man's struggle for an
ordinary and thoughtful reconnection with others. The film is very fitting in
celebrating the 50th anniversary of the PA as it helps refocus one of our
charitable aims: the importance of community in human suffering.
Sunday 27th September

4.45 – 6.15 pm

“Not In My Name!”

Pro-Vocations and Gift-ings
Talk, Q & A, Discussion

Convened by Leon Redler

I arrived at Kingsley Hall in the autumn of 1965. My formal title, for a Home Office permit, was “Research Fellow in Psychotherapy and the Social Sciences.” The research turned out to be no less than a re-search (via learning and unlearning, knowing and unknowing) into who (or what) this fellow and fellow others were, and were not. It entailed an inquiry into this suchness that we, in our lost-ness and ignorance, found ourselves in... if we got that far. It wasn’t only about distressed and vulnerable others.

50 years later, I have a better ear to hear and understand that calling and for voicing what was, and is, at stake...and just how radical that research was and could continue to be, where there is the heart for it.

This re-searching requires realising and embodying singular qualities, starting with awareness and integrity. But even recognising these is obscured by habitual ways of being and relating most of us fall into.

What kinds of teaching and training, and what ambiance, could best nurture those qualities?

Pervasive corruption at all levels of human organisation drains creative energies and fuels injustice and violence. Lack of transparency commonly serves the interest of the few over the many. Saying NO to non-transparent and corrupt processes and practices that affect us; saying “Not In My Name!”, we enable a YES saying to ethical ways... and even to the possibility of celebrating, between us, a sacrament of the present moment and the wisdom of love.

Pro-vocations and Gift-ings will call on us to address these matters.
Saturday 26th September

11.00 am – 1.00 pm
The Forensic Forum -
‘Sex and Crime: inner and outer worlds collide’
Pamela Stewart

The Saturday Forensic Forum was set up four years ago by Pamela Stewart with two main thoughts in mind. The first was to stand up to the frequently made assertion that psychotherapy is only for the worried well. Nearly 20 years of working in prisons convinced her that this is not the case and that if practitioners want their work to continue we have to stand up and defend it. The second idea was her sense that having a very informal forum would give interested people a place to come and share their work and struggles. September 2015 will be the start of the fifth cycle and those interested in psychotherapy in difficult settings are welcome.

6.00pm
Raging against machinic comfortableness: The Philadelphia Association communities
Dr Bruce Scott

Dr Bruce Scott completed his existential and phenomenologically informed training in psychoanalysis with the Philadelphia Association.

Bruce is the author of ‘Testimony of Experience: Docta Ignorantia and the Philadelphia Association communities (2014)’ and contributing author to ‘R.D. Laing: 50 years since the Divided Self (2012)’ both published by PCCS Books Ltd. He is a member of the Free Psychotherapy Network and the College of Psychoanalysts-UK. He is now involved in radical left Scottish politics campaigning for a Marxist/Socialist critique of contemporary dogmatic medico-scientific ideas of “mental health”

www.brucescott.org.uk
Friday 25th September

6.30 pm
Opening remarks - Welcome
by the Chair of Trustees, Dan Sofer

7.00 pm
We are Many
Amir Amirani

"The greatest stories are there right in front of us, if we only just look."
- Amir Amirani

We invite you to the screening of We are Many, a documentary film about a global day of protest against the Iraq War on 15th February 2003, described by social movement researchers as the 'largest protest event in human history'. Director Amir Amirani - who spent nine years making this film - will be joining us for discussion afterwards.

Amir Amirani is a London-based filmmaker of Iranian origin. Over the last 15 years Amir has made films for some of British television's most prestigious series, including Arena, Timewatch, Picture This, Correspondent and Newsnight. Two of his documentaries have been nominated for an Amnesty International Award and One World Broadcasting Trust Award.

wearemany.com
Introduction

The PA came into being 50 years ago to challenge and to widen the discourse around the teaching and practice of psychotherapy. So it seems wholly appropriate that we celebrate this landmark in our history with a week-long programme featuring a diverse range of performances, talks and events.

R D Laing’s work began as a psychiatrist in Glasgow, and his writing and speaking of suffering attracted considerable attention from many artists in the 1960s and 1970s.

‘Madness’ was only briefly in fashion but over the decades, the PA’s concern is with what it means to be human, with attention to all the pitfalls human beings make for themselves and to the particular social context within which individuals find themselves. It was felt that theory about distress must necessarily be part of a wide discourse, not an esoteric belief system and not a matter of expertise. Facing our confusions and the limits of what we can know of ourselves or others is as much a concern of the arts and philosophy as of psychotherapy, even if it is therapists who put in the hard work of attending to those who suffer, and struggle to find appropriate craft to be of help. So we celebrate by drawing on what the PA continues to attract, as we maintain a training, an affordable therapy service and two houses made for those seeking retreat.

Despite the challenges inherent in working together, on a largely voluntary basis and in such a small organisation, most of us value the PA enormously, grateful for what it offers to others and for what it has enabled in our own lives. We carry on determined as ever to stand up for the fragmentary nature of understanding and truth.

We very much hope that you will all find something meaningful and memorable in the events offered to mark our 50 years.

Senior PA Member, Barbara Latham and PA Chair, Lucy King

Marty’s Yard
The Philadelphia Association
50 years - a celebration
25th September - 4th October 2015

"The Philadelphia Association is a network of people, whose distinctive concern is both to cultivate skillful means of helping people whose relations with themselves and others have become an occasion of wretchedness, and to contribute to a theory of personal life that is adequate to experience. In the course of this enterprise we hope to come to a better understanding of how we occasion our suffering and joy, of the ways we may lose ourselves and each other, and find ourselves and each other again. The treatment we offer is attention to each other. for attentiveness is therapy."

'Philadephia' means brotherly or sisterly love. Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it
(Revelation 3:8)

PA original statement 1965

Ronald David Laing
(1927 - 1989)