

The Irish Forum for Child and Adolescent  
Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Presents

***A CLINICAL CONFERENCE WITH***  
**Dr Anne Alvarez**



**A Psychoanalytic Perspective on Working with  
Autistic, Borderline, and Hard to Reach Children**

Saturday 28 January 2012 @ 9.00 am-5.00 pm

*Pearse Hotel*  
*99-107 Pearse Street*  
*Dublin 2*

**This conference has been awarded 6 CPD points by the Psychoanalytic  
Psychotherapy section of the Irish Council for Psychotherapy (ICP)**

## CONFERENCE DESCRIPTION

This is a multidisciplinary conference relevant to practitioners in psychoanalytic psychotherapy, psychology, psychiatry, psychotherapy, social work, the creative arts therapies and childcare teams working with autistic, borderline and hard to reach children and adults. Anne Alvarez is a Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist in the Child and Family Department, Tavistock Clinic, London. Her keynote lecture will address technique and different levels of work/engagement with autistic and hard to reach children.

## KEYNOTE LECTURE

### ***Levels of Analytic Work and Levels of Pathology: The Work of Calibration***

This attempt to formulate a schema of three levels of analytic work arose from the failure to reach extremely damaged children or adolescents with the more usual explanatory (Freud 1893-95) or locating (Klein 1946) interpretations. These patients seemed not to be able to manage spatial, temporal and causal 'two-tracked thinking'. (Bruner 1968). Ego weakness led them to be easily overwhelmed by 'why-because' or 'who-you' interpretations. Historical developments in levels of interpretation from Freud on may thus need to be reversed to take psychopathological and developmental priorities into account. A second, lower, level, that of containment or empathic description of the simple 'whatness' or 'isness' of experience (Winnicott 1953; Bion 1962; Joseph 1978; Stern 1985) may be needed with fragmented, under-integrated, or overwhelmed patients. In even more severe cases, where the sense of both self and the other is very weak, a third — more intensified — level of work may be necessary. This level — which makes use of a counter-transference sense of urgency with patients in states of severe chronic dissociation, despairing apathy, or a certain 'undrawn' sub-type of autism — may serve to recall the cut-off person to himself and to life, via a sort of 'Hey there'.

## PLENARY SPEAKER

Anne Alvarez Ph.D., M.A.C.P is a Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, and retired Co-Convener of the Autism Service, Child and Family Department, Tavistock Clinic, London). She is the author of *Live Company: Psychotherapy with Autistic, Borderline, Deprived and Abused Children*, and has edited with Susan Reid *Autism and Personality: Findings from the Tavistock Autism Workshop*. A book in her honour, edited by Judith Edwards, entitled *Being Alive: Building on the Work of Anne Alvarez* was published in 2002. She was Visiting Professor at the San Francisco Psychoanalytic Society in November 2005 and a new book, *The Thinking Heart: Three Levels of Psychoanalytic Work in Psychotherapy with Children and Adolescents*, is in press with Routledge.

## SCHEDULE

9.00 am	<b>Registration</b>
9.30 am	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>
9.45 am	<b>Lecture by Dr Anne Alvarez: <i>Levels of Analytic Work and Levels of Pathology: The Work of Calibration</i></b>
10.40 am	<b>Questions and Brief Discussion</b>

11.00 am	<b>Tea and Coffee Break</b>
11.20 am	<b>Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion</b>
12.20 pm	<b>Plenary Discussion</b>
1.00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
2.00 pm	<b>Case Presentation: Pauline McMahon</b> , Child Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist, The Family Trauma Centre, Belfast
3.30 pm	<b>Tea and Coffee Break</b>
3.50 pm	<b>Multidisciplinary Reflective Discussion Groups</b> (Facilitators include practitioners from psychoanalytic psychotherapy, psychology the creative arts and other disciplines)
4.30 pm	<b>Feedback from Groups and Final Words from Anne Alvarez</b>
4.55 pm	<b>Thanks and Closing Remarks: Dr Aoife Twohig</b> , Chairperson, Irish Forum for Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

### **RECOMMENDED READING**

Links to recommended reading will be provided on receipt of registration fee

### **REGISTRATION AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

The registration fee for this event is:

€85 general admission

€50 students/trainees

### **TEA & COFFEE AND LUNCH**

Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be provided free of charge in the morning and afternoon breaks. Snack lunch is available in the hotel otherwise there are some cafes nearby.

### **REGISTRATION**

Please complete the registration overleaf and send with your payment. Cheques, postal orders or bank drafts should be made payable to 'The Irish Forum for Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy', and posted to Ann Daly, IFCAPP Conference, 73 Quinn's Road, Shankill, County Dublin. Payment of the registration fee secures a place at the conference. Include your name and email address as receipt of payment will be confirmed by email. ***Please note early registration is advised.***

### **VENUE**

The Pearse Hotel is located at 99-107 Pearse St near the Grand Canal Dock. For directions, see <http://www.pearsehotel.com/location.html>

### **PARKING**

There is no parking available at the Pearse Hotel but adequate parking is available for reasonable all day rates at a number of car parks within easy walking distance.

### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Luas: The Spencer Dock stop is 7-minutes walk. DART: The hotel lies mid-way between Grand Canal Dock and Pearse Street dart stations.

**BOOKING FORM**  
**Clinical Conference with Anne Alvarez**

Please complete this form and return to:  
Ann Daly, 73 Quinn's Road, Shankill, County Dublin  
Tel: 01-2722105  
Fax: 01-2722111

*The appropriate fee must complete this form. Thank you.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque/postal order/bank draft for € \_\_\_\_\_ to be made payable to 'IFCAPP' for:

(please tick one)

Full or Associate Member (IFCAPP or IFPP)/General Admission: €85 \_\_\_\_\_

Reduced Fee (Student/Trainee): €50 \_\_\_\_\_

**Bookings will not be accepted without payment**