

23-25<sup>th</sup> MAY

Expert Meeting

20 5<sup>TH</sup> 19

Nancy

---

# THE EXPERT MEETING

---

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES  
AND INTEGRATIVE AND COMPLEMENTARY  
HEALTH APPROACHES

# INTRODUCTION

In 2007 the Dutch Foundation 'Het Johan Borgman Fonds' (HJBF) started the series of 'International Expert-Meetings on Clinical Parapsychology'. The first one in 2007 was held in Naarden, The Netherlands with twenty invited participants originating from eight different countries. The outcome of this meeting was published in 2012 as a book with the title: Perspectives of Clinical Parapsychology: An Introductory Reader (Kramer, Bauer & Hövelmann, 2012). Then, three other meetings were organized (Freiburg im Breisgau, 2010; Paris, 2012; Heidelberg, 2017) and showed the relevance of this perspective.

These expert-meetings focus on clinical cases and discussion of clinical practices more than on research and theoretical models as is usually the case elsewhere. The topic of the fifth meeting will be on "exceptional experiences and integrative and complementary health approaches" to question benefits and risks of alternative care pathways for people living exceptional experiences; and also to address "clinical parapsychology's" places and roles between conventional and non-conventional offers in the mental health field. What are the aftereffects of attending readings by professional "psychics"? Which parallels could be drawn between the psychic reading and more orthodox forms of psychotherapy? Why so much people living exceptional experiences finally become paranormal practitioners themselves? How clinicians listening these experiences deal with their image or reputation as alternative therapists? And how orthodox and heterodox clinicians may collaborate? This expert-meeting will be included into the project ALTERMENTAL ("Articulations of conventional and alternative devices in the care of Lorraine's pathways", CPER 2015-2020 - ARIANE program) developed at the University of Lorraine since 2016.

The organizational committee is very happy to welcome you for this intimate moment where our various questions and answers can be crossed, in an university where the clinical approach of exceptional experiences is now a part of the training of clinical psychologists.



## Organizing committee

Drinoczi, Marianna (FR)

Evrard, Renaud (FR)

Kramer, Wim (NL)

Mutis, Maryne (FR)

Rabeyron, Thomas (FR)



# 5<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL EXPERT MEETING

MAY 23-25, 2019

NANCY, FRANCE

## PARTICIPANTS

### Speakers

Bauer, Eberhard (DL)  
Braun, Arthur (FR)  
Brostoff, Erica (UK)  
Caussié, Samuel (FR)  
Drinoczi, Marianna (FR)  
Evrard, Renaud (FR)  
Fach, Wolfgang (DL)  
Kramer, Wim (NL)  
Lucadou, Walter v. (DL)  
Mutis, Maryne (FR)  
Rabeyron, Thomas (FR)  
Yiassemides, Angeliki (CY)

### Observers

Bauer, Nicole (DL)  
Bonadio, Yvonne (FR)  
Cholez, Julie (FR)  
De Jong, Pieter (NL)  
Dollander, Marianne (FR)  
Hofmann, Liane (DL)  
Le Vaou, Pascal (FR)  
Nirenbold, Laura (FR)  
Rabeyron, Paul-Louis (FR)  
Van Wees, Ruud (NL)  
Vermeulen, Lotje (NL)  
Zwickel Annette (DL)

# PROGRAM

Thursday the 23th of May

16h00 - 17h00 : Welcomings  
(A226, Campus Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Nancy)



.....

17h00 - 19h00 : Public lecture (A226, Nancy)

« The importance of autonomy and bonding as basic needs and structural dominants of exceptional experiences in clinical practice »

**Wolfgang Fach** (IGPP, University of Bern)

.....

20h00 - 22h00 : Invited dinner

Café Foy

.....

22h00 - 22h30 : Transport to « Abbaye des Prémontrés »  
(Pont-à-Mousson)



Friday the 24th of May

# PROGRAM

## 9h00 - 9h15 : Introduction

**Renaud Evrard** (*University of Lorraine*)

.....

## 9h15 - 9h45 : An overview of past expert-meetings

**Wim Kramer** (*HJBF*)

.....

## 9h45 - 10h00 : Break

.....

## 10h00 - 11h00 : Presentation 1

« Embodiment disorder – If paranormal experiences hurt »

**Walter von Lucadou** (*WGFP*)

.....

## 11h00 - 12h00 : Presentation 2

« Anomalous » experience of a premonition, prequels and sequels »

**Erica Brostoff** (*British Psychological Society*)

.....

## 12h00 - 13h30 : On site lunch

# PROGRAM

Friday the 24th of May

## 13h30 - 14h30 : Presentation 3

« Clinical aspects of out-of-body experiences: Trauma, reflexivity and symbolisation »  
**Thomas Rabeyron** and **Samuel Caussié** (*University of Lorraine*)

.....

## 14h30 - 15h30 : Presentation 4

« The Concept of 'Psychohygiene' (Mental Health) as Applied to Parapsychology »  
**Eberhard Bauer** (*IGPP*)

.....

## 15h30 - 16h00 : Break

.....

## 16h00 - 17h00 : Presentation 5

« Exceptional experiences and energy healing in the realms of transference »  
**Samuel Caussié** (*Université de Lorraine*)

.....

## 17h00 - 17h45 : Prospective discussion

.....

## 17h45 - 18h00 : Group picture

## 18h00 - 20h00 : Guided visit of the Abbaye

## 20h30 - 22h30 : Dinner at the Bouch'on du pont

Saturday the 25th of May

## PROGRAM

### 9h00 - 10h30 : Presentation 6

« Three doctoral researches on clinical practice with exceptional experiences »

**Arthur Braun, Marianna Drinoczi and Maryne Mutis** (*University of Lorraine*)

.....

### 10h30 - 11h00 : Break

.....

### 11h00 - 12h00 : Presentation 7

« Synchronicity and prospective dreams in clinical practice »

**Angeliki Yiassemides** (*Independent researcher*)

.....

### 12h00 - 12h15 : Conclusion

**Renaud Evrard**

.....

### 12h15 : Free lunch and departures

# PRESENTATION

## Wolfgang Fach

IGPP, Freiburg



Dipl.-Psych. Wolfgang Fach. Certified psychotherapist, counselor and research coordinator for the counseling of people with exceptional experiences at IGPP. Studied psychology and philosophy at the Universities of Trier and Freiburg. 1995 Diploma in Psychology. Since 1995 research associate at IGPP and from 1996 to 2001 at the Institute for Rehabilitation Psychology at the University of Freiburg. Currently external doctorate at the University of Bern under Prof. Dr. Franz Caspar, Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy. Lecturer at IGPP advanced training seminars on theory and practice in psychotherapy and counselling for people with special experiences. Lecturer at the C.G.-Jung-Institut, Zurich, Küsnacht.

### References:

Atmanspacher, H. & Fach, W. (2013). A Structural-Phenomenological Typology of Mind-Matter Correlations. *The Journal of analytical psychology*. 58, 219-44.

Fach, W. (2011). Phenomenological Aspects of Complementarity and Entanglement in Exceptional Human Experiences (ExE). *Axiomathes*. 21, 233-247.

Fach, W., Atmanspacher, H., Landolt, K., Wyss, T. & Rössler, W. (2013). A Comparative Study of Exceptional Experiences of Clients Seeking Advice and of Subjects in an Ordinary Population. *Frontiers in Psychology*. 4(65).

Landolt, K., Wittwer, A., Wyss, T., Unterassner, L., Fach, W., Krummenacher, P., et al. (2014). Help-seeking in people with exceptional experiences: results from a general population sample. *Frontiers in Public Health* 2(51).



# PRESENTATION

## **" The importance of autonomy and bonding as basic needs and structural dominants of exceptional experiences in clinical practice "**

The Institute for Frontier Areas of Psychology and Mental Health (IGPP) in Freiburg offers professional counseling for people with exceptional experiences (EE). On the basis of some key postulates of Metzinger's theory of mental representations, a phenomenological classification of EE has been proposed. Under the assumption that human mental systems produce a phenomenal reality model within a self-model and a world-model as basic components, two pairs of complementary phenomenon classes are provided as possible deviations from corresponding notions of reality. External phenomena are perceived as deviations in the world and internal phenomena are deviations localized in the self. The other two classes are based on relational deviations: Coincidence phenomena are extraordinary connections between ordinarily separate elements of self and world, while dissociation phenomena are extraordinary separations from ordinarily connected elements.

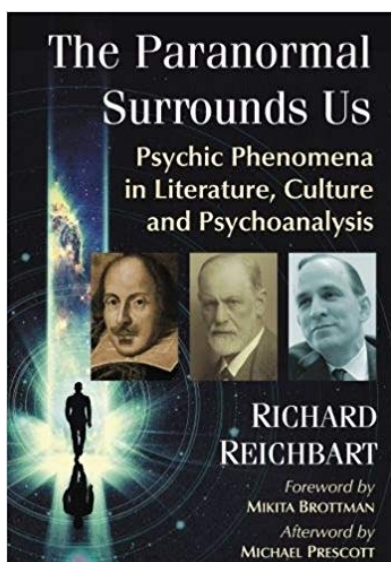
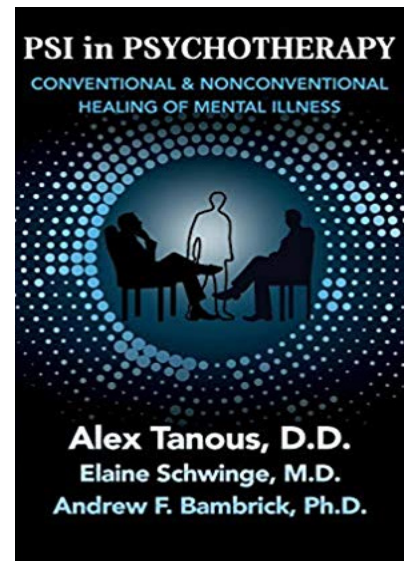
Factor analyses based on studies with the revised "Questionnaire for the Assessment of the Phenomenology of Exceptional Experiences" (PAGE-R), developed at IGPP, confirm the theoretical expectation that all EE constituent phenomena can be assigned to these four phenomenon classes. Statistical and qualitative analyses of around 2500 IGPP counseling cases provided six typical EE patterns derived from the basic classes: poltergeist/apparitions, internal presence/influence, extrasensory perceptions, meaningful coincidences, automatisms/mediumship, and external presence/nightmare.

Empirical results suggest that these patterns are significantly correlated with a number of socially and clinically relevant variables, particularly with different levels of satisfaction and integration of social bonding and autonomy as basic human needs. Autonomy and bonding can be seen as fundamental complementary conditions of existence for any life system. The six EE patterns have specific phenomenological characteristics that refer to an exceptional localization of autonomy in the world, for instance in poltergeist cases, or to bonding in the self, for example when someone feels connected to other people through telepathy.

Counseling practice shows that these deviations in the allocation of autonomy or bonding are usually accompanied by an overemphasis on one basic need by blocking the other. It seems that the specific patterns of EE are responses to fundamental conflicts regarding the natural tension between autonomy and bonding. These findings are very helpful for counseling and therapeutic work with people who are exposed to stressful EEs. Implications and practical applications will be illustrated by case studies.

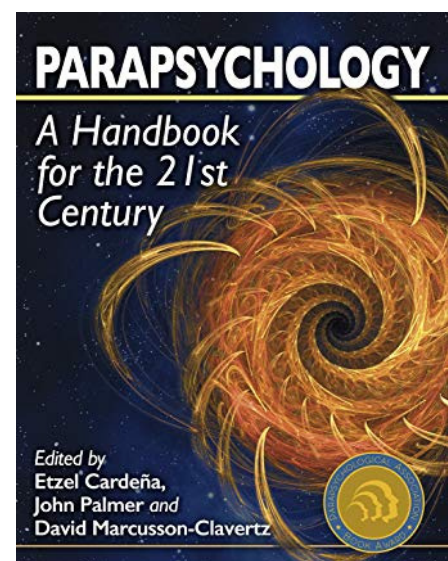
## SUGGESTION OF READINGS

**Psi in Psychotherapy: Conventional & Nonconventional Healing of Mental Illness**, Alex Tanous, Callum E. Cooper, Stanley Krippner, 2019.

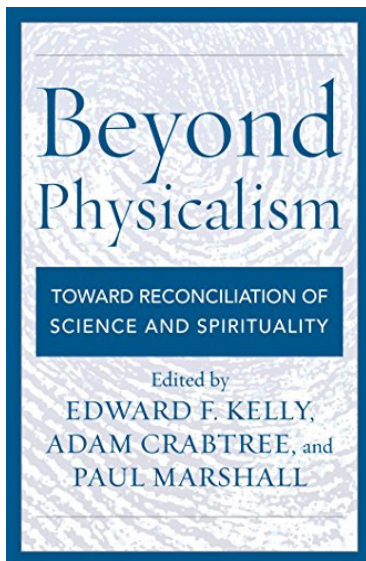


**The Paranormal Surrounds Us: Psychic Phenomena in Literature, Culture and Psychoanalysis**, Richard Reichbart, 2018.

**Parapsychology: A Handbook for the 21st Century**, Etzel Cardeña, John Palmer, David Marcusson-Clavertz, 2015.

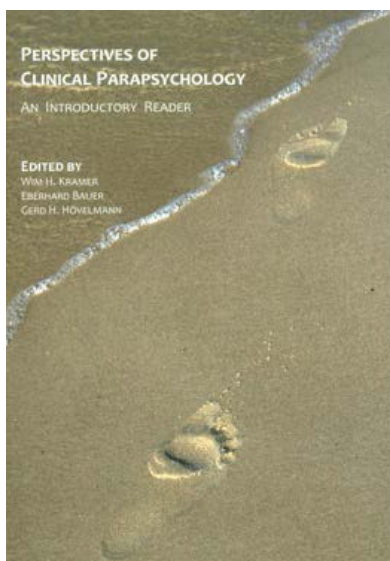


## SUGGESTION OF READINGS



**Beyond Physicalism: Toward Reconciliation of Science and Spirituality**, Edward F. Kelly, Adam Crabtree, Paul Marshall, 2015.

**Spiritualität und spirituelle Krisen: Handbuch zu Theorie, Forschung und Praxis**, von Liane Hofmann (Herausgeber), Patrizia Heise (Herausgeber), 2016.



**Perspectives of Clinical Parapsychology: An Introductory Reader**, Wim H. Kramer, Eberhard Bauer, Gerd H. Hövelmann Stichting Het Johan Borgman Fonds, Bunnik, 2012.





# Pont-à-Mousson

## MAP

Abbaye des Prémontrés, 9 Rue Saint-Martin, Pont-à-Mousson

### To go to the gare:



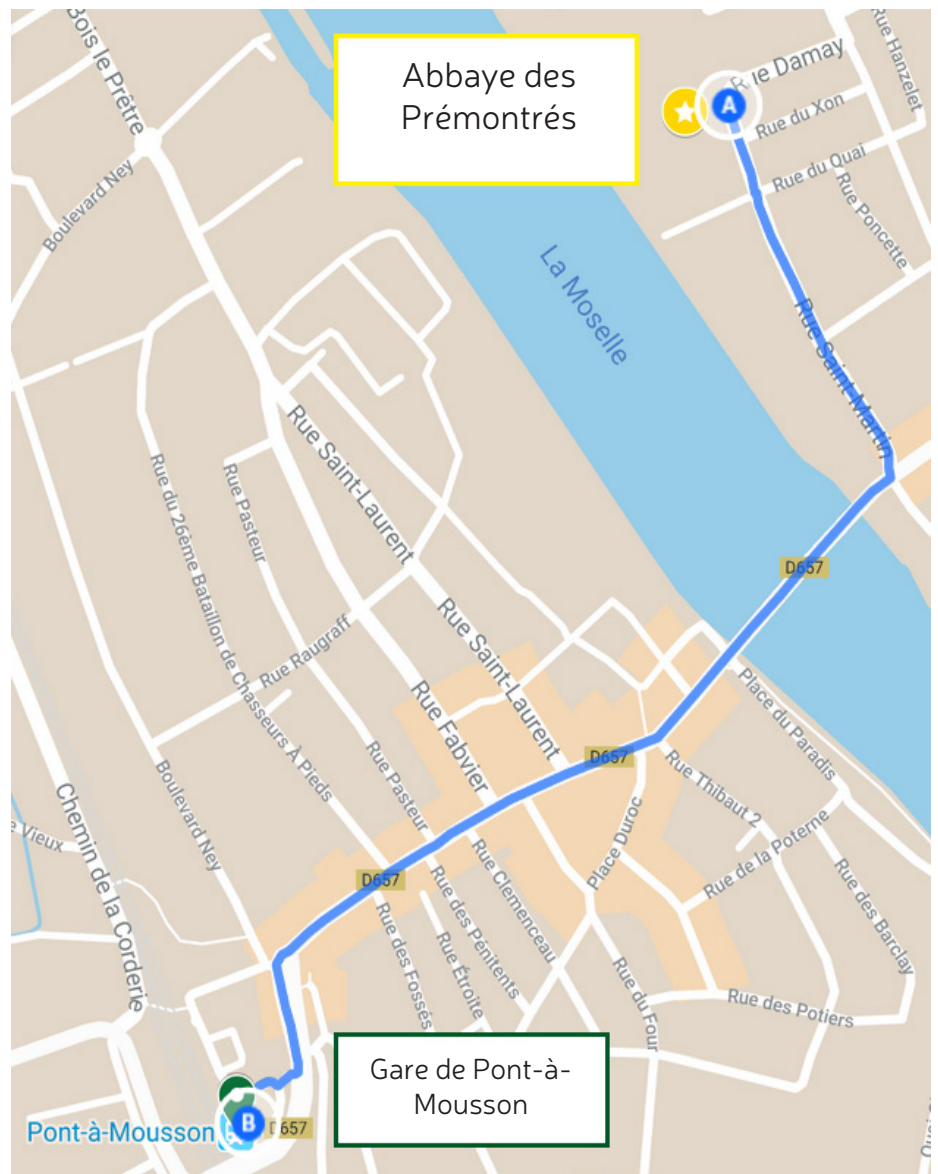
Walk - 20 minutes

Street "Saint Martin" (350m)

Right on street "Maréchal Joffre" (650m)

Left on "Place Thiers" (90m)

Right on "Place Thiers" (60m)



### From the gare, you can go to:



Gare Lorraine TGV



Gare de Nancy

WITH THE SUPPORT OF



ARIANE (Attractivité de la Région : Innovation, Aménagement du territoire, Nouveaux Effets économiques et sociaux) est cofinancée par l'Union européenne dans le cadre du programme opération FEDER-FSE Lorraine et Massif des Vosges 2014-2020



Institut für Grenzgebiete der Psychologie  
und Psychohygiene e.V. (IGPP)  
Freiburg im Breisgau



Stichting Het Johan Borgman Fonds

Expert Meeting

20 5<sup>TH</sup> 19

Nancy