

PUBLIC LECTURE

PSYCHOANALYSIS: ON NARCISSISM

TIME: 20 May, 7 - 9.30 pm

VENUE: The Jubilee Building, Parnell

FEE: \$40, students \$20

This will be an opportunity to meet in person and listen together while the presenter will be on ZOOM from Melbourne. Those, who cannot come, you can still join us on ZOOM from home.

Dr Matthew McArdle is a member and Training Analyst with the Melbourne Branch of the Australian Psychoanalytical Society (APAS), working in private practice as a psychiatrist, psychotherapist and psychoanalyst.

He is actively involved in teaching for APAS, past Chair of the Melbourne Branch of APAS, currently a member of the WPSPTT (Working Party for The Specificity of Psychoanalytic Treatment Today, a research group of the European Psychoanalytical Federation, EPF, which explores the specificity of psychoanalytic treatment through inter-analytic group work) and a past participant in the EVP (Exchange Visiting Program, which explores the structure and teaching of psychoanalytic institutes).

Dr McArdle will present a paper on Narcissism from a psychoanalytic point of view. He will explore the difficult area of Pathological Narcissism, its origins in infancy, its effect in later life and he will make some comment on treating this aspect of the personality.

"The Narcissist looks at his image in the mirror every morning and tries to piece himself together. He puts on his suit and looks at the image he has created. This suit is his armour, his uniform, his identity. In his mind, he is what he sees himself to be in the mirror. He works hard to maintain this surface appearance of togetherness and completeness. Creating an image enables him to embrace a surface level identity. He looks and what he likes to see is a self-made man; successful, capable, self-sufficient and lacking for little or nothing. He imagines that others look at him and wish they were him. He imagines that others envy him and wish they had what he had. He imagines women must want to sleep with him and men must want to be around him, hoping that his charisma would rub off on them. It is only after he finishes piecing this image together that he can now feel capable of not only taking on the world outside, but beating and defeating it!"

Please book by payment to the NZIPP account: 38-9016-0052471-00 by 15 May 2022 and email the NZIPP Secretary: secretary@psychotherapy.co.nz for a Zoom link.

