

Public Lecture: Science and truth, the question about causation in psychoanalysis.

Presenter: Dr Gustavo Restivo, PhD

Date & time : 25 June 2021 at 7pm - 9.30 pm

Venue: The Jubilee Building, Parnell

Cost: \$ 20, students \$10



This presentation deals with Jacques Lacan's paper called "Science and truth", and builds on the results of an inquiry concerning the status of the subject in psychoanalysis. It opens the way for epistemological reflections on the origin of psychoanalytic knowledge and the nature of the psychoanalytic acts, that is interventions/interpretations. "Whenever we speak of cause [...] there is always something anti-conceptual, something indefinite. ... there is a hole, and something that oscillates in the interval. In short, there is only cause in something that doesn't work". Cause is implicated with the concept of lack. If law describes a certain mechanism, something that leads a chain or sequence to unfold in a certain way, cause refers to the essential missing element, the lack, and that makes the sequence possible in the first place. Lacan argued that the function of truth as cause within magic, religion, modern science and psychoanalysis follows one of the four causes within Aristotle's theory of causality.

Dr Gustavo Restivo is a Psychoanalyst in private practice in Auckland, New Zealand. He is a Registered Clinical Psychologist, and a Registered Psychotherapist. Dr Restivo is a founding member and current director of the centre for Lacanian Analysis of Aotearoa New Zealand, and a former Chairperson and current Chair of membership for the New Zealand Institute of Psychoanalysis psychotherapy. Dr Restivo is a member of the School of Psychoanalysis of the International Forums of the Lacanian Field. He is the author of numerous articles in the psychoanalytic field.

Wine & cheese will follow the discussion. Please book by payment on NZIPP account: 38-9016-0052471-00 by 23 June 2021.