



*****Registration online *****

<https://www.vermontpsychoanalytic.org/events.html>

VPSG 15th ANNIVERSARY SOIRÉE
Wine/Beverage of choice and Cheese Reception

Sponsored by the VPSG Outreach Education Committee

Featuring: Avgi Saketopoulou, Psy.D.



***Gender through the resource of traumatophilia:
Psychoanalytic ethics and intergenerational trauma***

Saturday, March 16, 2024

This will be an in-person event!

Location: The Essex Resort & Spa • 70 Essex Way Essex, VT 05452

At a time of unprecedented legislative attacks on LGBTQ+ people, with gender-affirmative care for trans youth being outright banned in a growing number of states, many psychoanalysts and mental health professionals are left confused as to how to think about trans and gender non-conforming youth. In this presentation, Dr. Avgi Saketopoulou leans on the metapsychology of Jean Laplanche, to discuss the importance of abandoning the Ptolemaic fiction of “core gender identity” and of relinquishing the fantasy that there is such a thing as a “true” or “authentic” gender. Gender, rather, is something all subjects (not just trans and queer subjects) acquire, and trauma may have a share in this acquisition. To illustrate these points, Dr. Saketopoulou will present the clinical case of a 12-year-old child to show that

considering trauma vis-a-vis gender does not necessarily invalidate queerness but stands to illuminate its texture. The case shows the ethical urgency of recognizing that wounding experiences and traumatic legacies may be spun into the subject. Such “spinning” involves self-theorizations that do not proceed from a centered self but are nevertheless critical to psychic autonomy. This workshop will offer clinical resources for working with gender complexity and for complexifying (what is seen as) gender normativity.

Dr. Avgi Saketopoulou is a psychoanalyst on faculty at the NYU Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis, where she also trained. Her work has received numerous awards including APsA’s Ralph Roughton award, the Ruth Stein Prize and she is twice the recipient of The Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association’s annual essay prize. Her interview on psychoanalysis is in the collection of the Freud Museum in Vienna and in 2021 she was co-chair of the first US-based conference on the work of Jean Laplanche. In 2021 she was co-recipient of the first Tiresias Prize from the IPA’s Sexual and Gender Diversities Committee, which appears in an expanded form in her volume, *Gender Without Identity*, co-authored with Dr. Ann Pellegrini (The Unconscious in Translation Press, 2023). Her monograph, *Sexuality Beyond Consent: Risk, Race, Traumatophilia* (NYU press, 2023), braids psychoanalytic theory with philosophy, Black feminisms, and queer of color critique to explore aesthetics and the ethics of care. Her conversational duets with Dominique Scarfone punctuate his essays in their recently published book *The Reality of the Message: Psychoanalysis in the Wake of Jean Laplanche* (The Unconscious in Translation Press, 2023).

Early afternoon Program:

2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

4:00 P.M – 4:30 P.M. **Break** *Wine/Beverage and Cheese reception*

Late afternoon Program:

4:30 P.M.– 6:30 P.M.

4 CEU’s under application for Psychologists, Social Workers, and Mental Health Practitioners

<i>Pre-registration Fees</i>	<i>\$120</i>	<i>Fees at the Door</i>	<i>\$130</i>
<i>OYPSS Student members</i>	<i>\$90</i>		<i>\$100</i>
<i>Students (graduate programs)</i>	<i>\$70</i>		<i>\$80</i>

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VPSG Outreach Education Committee:

Emma Burrous and Mina Levinsky-Wohl, VPSG Soirée Coordinators

Alberto Fergusson and Brita Klein, Members

