



SOUTHERN ARIZONA FRIENDS OF JUNG presents:

Individuation in Times of Darkness, in Times of Light
A Conversation with Steven Joseph, MD, Jungian Analyst
Sat, Nov 11, 2017 • 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm
Grace St Paul's Episcopal Church (McBride Hall)
2331 E Adams St, Tucson, AZ

Members: \$15, Non-Members: \$20
Pre-register at <http://www.safoj.org>

“I am asleep, my heart-soul awakens, the call of my Beloved knocks!”
(Song of Songs 5:2)

Carl Jung's analytical psychology is engaged in helping people to awaken from collective, conventional identities and patterns of living – to connect more deeply with, and live more authentically from, our essential inner wholeness, common to us all and yet unique and precious in each individual one of us. Jung uses the word “individuation” to name this deepening process of waking up.

Jung's method represents a contemporary version of traditional wisdom teachings about the possibilities of self-work towards awakening, while living fully within the distractions, trials and tribulations of everyday human life and society. The psychologist Charles Tart, following the lead of G.I. Gurdjieff, teaches about our need to awaken from the hypnotic condition of our “consensus trance.” The Jewish philosophical mystic Maimonides invites us to attend to the call from the beyond “to wake up from our sleep within the vanities of the times.” Sufi mystics teach, “man is asleep; must he die before he wakes?”

What can the contemporary Jungian version of perennial wisdom traditions offer us for our own self-work towards growth in consciousness, conscience, and responsible, meaningful living in the world? This question feels especially urgent to many today in the current political, social and cultural climate of our communities, country, and world.

What is involved, and what might be at stake, in engaging in psychological self-work in a time and in a world that appears very dark? What functions might such self-work serve? How do we help ourselves and others?

Of course, all times are dark. Yet also light. Sometimes our awareness inclines more towards the abyss of darkness. Other times more towards the overflowing river of light. So these questions in truth really apply to all eras and human situations.

In our time together, I will draw on some key ideas of Jung's. I will also draw from Erich Fromm's understanding of the authoritarian and humanitarian personality types, Martin Buber's dialogical philosophy of I-Thou, and social psychologist Jonathan Haidt's generative hypothesis of five distinct psychical emotional foundations for the kinds of moral judgments that often deeply divide liberals and conservatives, and thus contribute to our current experience of collective darkness.

Steven M. Joseph, MD, is a Board certified psychiatrist and Jungian analyst with a private practice in Tucson, AZ and Alameda, CA. He is a training analyst at the C. J. Jung Institute of San Francisco and has also taught at venues throughout the United States, as well as in Israel and Ukraine. He has taught and written on the theory and practice of Jungian analysis, including Jung's involvement with the writings of the alchemists and his concern with the religious dimension of the psyche. In addition, Dr. Joseph has been a longtime student and sometime teacher of the inner traditions of Judaism (kabbalah, hasidut and mussar).



[Image: Josh Goldberg, *Tilting Back the Light*, 2012, acrylic on canvas]