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Thermodynamic Spacetime Theory.

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Ribet Academy, Los Angeles, California, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[04.03]........Space, time and the nature of reality  
  
Abstract  
The theory proposed here presents a straightforward concept that challenges the conventional understanding of heat and energy. The current definition of heat describes it as the transfer of kinetic energy between the particles composing substances or from an energy source to an object. In other words, when we pour coffee into a coffee mug and the mug gets hot, it is allegedly because the particles in the coffee transfer their kinetic energy to the particles in the mug. This alleged transfer of kinetic energy happens at a microscopic scale so far removed from our capacity to observe that we can only analyze it by its statistical effects; but until recent years, there has been no experiment that could confirm or deny the validity of this hypothesis. According to this classical model, heat should in principle be completely independent from gravity, but based on this assumption, the corrections of general relativity predict an increase in gravity as the temperature of an object increases. According to the classical definition, energy is the capacity an object has to do work, to move another object; but what actually does the work is not energy, but the force an object exerts on another. From the classical perspective, energy was a capacity attributed to mass-bearing objects and it had no meaning without them; it was a bookkeeping mechanism to calculate work and force. It wasn’t until Max Planck used Boltzmann’s hypothesis that we started to see energy as something capable of moving mass-bearing objects all by itself, contradicting the very definition of what energy was at the moment and common sense. One of the biggest conundrums in modern physics is the medium problem for radiation. Waves are by definition a perturbation in a medium, and this perturbation is what enables energy to be transferred, but in the case of light and other forms of radiation, we don’t have a medium to be perturbed. How can this alleged perturbation in nothingness transfer energy? How can a massless photon displace a mass-bearing electron? We don’t have the answer to these questions; we just sweep them under the rug. The core assertion of this theory is that heat is not adequately defined by the conventional notion; instead, it is a relativistic effect altering the very fabric of spacetime. According to this proposal, the mechanical changes in the motion of microscopic particles associated with temperature fluctuations really correspond to spacetime alterations. This implies that changes in heat are synonymous with alterations in spacetime dimensions. Therefore, when temperature increases and substances expand, we should observe the opposite of what is predicted by general relativity, we should see an increase in the rates of time and space, a decrease in gravity. Conversely, heightened coldness implies decreased space and a dilation in time rate. This seemingly counterintuitive relationship between temperature and gravity may challenge conventional understanding, but unlike the current definition of heat, this theory is supported by experimental evidence: International Journal of Physics “Experiment on the Relationship between Gravity and Temperature.”   
  
Poster - 2 (Fri)  
  
Keywords  
Relativity, Heat, Spacetime, Heat-spacetime, String Theory, Dark Matter, Modified Gravity,

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In Quest of the Non-Sequential, the Non-Relative

Dwight Holbrook

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[03.17]........Temporal consciousness  
  
Abstract  
The abstract: In Quest of the Non-Sequential, the Non-Relative by Dwight Holbrook What if beliefs, values, knowledge itself – i.e., the presumption of an objectivity, a truth from an unbiased perspective – what if ultimately all that turns out to become relative, a notion debated in Thomas Nagel’s book The View from Nowhere? One could point to the advances in technology and scientific knowledge and wonder, in the end, how the consequences might trigger global environmental catastrophes or devastating wars. And if so, the very notion of “achievements” would seem relative. And so the question here: relative to what? Is there a perspective, a view from somewhere, that holds a stationary status, a perspective that stands on the shoreline, so to speak, an embankment, even as the sequential, the flow of time and change, pass by? This talk begins by taking a closer look at the language being used here to describe that sequential – specifically, the sequential in what respect? And so we begin with the obvious sequential of time Time in an abstract sense of number? Time in the sense we experience it? Time in the sense of change? Questions which take us to the status of memory. The analysis then proceeds to other sequentials involving ethics, changing values, or for example diverse and relative perspectives on cultural norms. We then take up the “sequential” with respect to the instant itself, the moment, so to speak. Is it in measured time or out of it, objective or subjective? If the former, how to measure it or locate it except with respect to memory? And finally, where does the sequential stand with respect to subjectivity vs. objectivity? Are there objective standards that do not change? This presentation then proceeds from the flow of change to the question of that embankment, the non-sequential. It first hypothesizes the notion that there is no embankment, no non-sequential, no foundation, and then considers whether change, the sequential, is itself an abstraction, like number. It seems crucially tied to memory, the source of which resides foremost in us. We then consider the alternative, that the notion of this embankment, the non-sequential, is real, is in fact foundational in spite of all that is relative, swept by in the flow of change. It short, what is postulated is the existence of awareness in the sense that the “now” from our human perspective is always now, not then. And after all, without the “now” would there be a sequential, a before and after? One could dub this “now” “cognition” without the “re-” of “recognition” and implied memory, although that would seemingly give it a status similar to that of a new born baby’s opaque awareness prior to the time it takes to have the memory to give it recognition capabilities. And yet, all experience comes in the form of happening now tenselessly, at this moment.   
  
Poster - 2 (Fri)  
  
Keywords  
the constant, the unchanging, the unmoving reference point, the hypothesis of a perspective that can stand outside of time and change, non-sequentiality, the now we experience

50  
  
Afterlife, Interrupted: A Catholic Priest Explores the Interrupted Death Experience.

Fr. Nathan Castle, O.P.

Dominican in Residences at St. Thomas Moore Newman Center at University Of Arizona, Tucson, Az, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.08]........Near-death and anomalous experiences  
  
Abstract  
Father Nathan Castle, O.P., has helped more than 500 “stuck” and not-so-stuck souls who died suddenly and traumatically to adjust to the afterlife. Victims of fires, automobile accidents, shootings, stabbings, drownings, and suicides come to him in his dreams seeking help to resolve their Interrupted Death Experiences. Father Nathan believes that providing such help is something the Holy Spirit has given him and his prayer partners to do. In his Afterlife, Interrupted: books, Father Nathan is quick to point out that not everyone who dies suddenly gets stuck. The Interrupted Death Experience Process: 1. Receive the dream and write it down in a dream journal. 2. Schedule time with prayer partner(s). 3. Protective prayer with the Saints and Angels. 4. Begin recording; read the dream account, and welcome the prophetic speech of the guardian angel or the person being helped. 5. Compassionate listening. 6. At the appropriate moment inquire about a guide to assist in the movement. 7. Close with a prayer of gratitude and goodbyes. 8. Debrief (if needed) and transcribe the recording. For those stories shared publicly, have one follow-up session with a prayer partner to ask permission for public sharing. Father Nathan is the author of “And Toto, Too: The Wizard of Oz as a Spiritual Adventure” and “Afterlife, Interrupted (Books 1 and 2): Helping Stuck Souls Cross Over.” His newest book: “Afterlife, Interrupted Book 3: Please Let Me Explain” will be available in December 2023. Father Nathan Castle, O.P., is from Groves, Texas. Father Nathan received MA and MDiv degrees from the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. He served in campus ministries at the University of California Riverside, Arizona State University, and Stanford and is currently in residence at the University of Arizona. Father Nathan has chaired the Executive Board of the Catholic Campus Ministry Association (CCMA). Father Nathan has presented at the last 4 International Association For Near-Death Studies (IANDS) Conferences and The Spiritual Awakening International Conference. He has a Podcast "The Joyful Friar" heard in 68 Countries.   
  
C - 2  
  
Keywords  
Interrupted Death Experience, Crossing Over, International Association of Near-Death (IANDS)

55  
  
Consciousness and Reality

ABDELLATIF Abdelhamid Abujudeh

Ministry of Education, Rusaifa, Zarqa, Jordan

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.09]........Parapsychology  
  
Abstract  
Consciousness and Reality TIME to Einstein is that stubborn illusion; to some scientists and philosophers is just a calculator of MOTION, and to the rest is just a riddle. Nobody knows what time is. They presume it is going only forward. But others go more philosophical than scientific and claim that we can travel back in time! All these thoughts or even theories are just speculations or scientific fiction or anything but not pure science. Today, it's high time that there could be a sort of practical experiment that would hopefully provide us with a little bit of new information that may, if properly dealt with, help us sieze/ catch TIME itself or at least one of its components that will hopefully solve its infamous mystery. Thanks to my "EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY" which enables me to 'observe', in a certain "internal personal space-time", something like a PARTICLE moving in something like a WAVE (or you may say a wave function). In this SPIRITUAL or you may say subjective experience, I claim I can see -- now magnified – the said particle as a diameter in a circle. Or, a better description, a radius in that circle, or the best and exact analogy is a second hand of a clock. YES. This talk looks like describing something imaginary. You may say so, but you'll be stunned when you come to determine, in one measurement, both the (POSITION) and (MOMENTUM) of the second hand of the clock, (i.e, while regularly moving with its usual speed of seconds), which is placed/ hidden behind a thick barrier and find to your surprise, that the two match. The internal second hand synchronizes with my external one. If what I claim is practically and experimentally proved true by me , then you cannot do anything but congratulate the nearest person to you for this MIRACULOUS DISCOVERY that is evidence enough of CONSCIOUSNESS and REALITY. By time and motion combined 'I' could prove how the objective world (the external classical one) corresponds with the quantum world and is 'observed' on 'my' Heavenly Screen. It is very likely that such a 'successful' experiment would have some significance to some theories related to consciousness and reality.   
  
C - 16  
  
Keywords  
consciousness, reality, time, motion, internal space-time, miraculous discovery, heavenly screen, extraordinary ability.

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Using eye movement to signal the onset of self-induced out-of-body experiences (OBEs)

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.08]........Near-death and anomalous experiences  
  
Abstract  
An OBE is a phenomenon in which an individual experiences a detachment of their consciousness from their physical body. The neural mechanisms underlying OBEs remain elusive, primarily due to their unpredictable and spontaneous nature, making their study particularly challenging. Using individuals who can self-induce OBEs in a laboratory setting could be a fruitful avenue for advancing our understanding of the neural signatures and accompaniments of these experiences. However, a significant challenge associated with controlled OBEs is accurately determining the onset of the experience. In this pilot study, we investigated three participants who claimed to self-induce OBEs at will. We sought to determine whether they could report successful OBE self-induction within the confines of a laboratory environment. Furthermore, we aimed to assess the feasibility of using volitional horizontal eye movements as a marker for the onset of the OBE, using electro-oculography (EOG) measurement. Throughout the experimental sessions, we identified room arrangement and environmental factors facilitating OBE self-induction. Two participants reported successful OBE self-induction. Importantly, we found that horizontal eye movements as measured with EOG could potentially serve as a time marker of OBE occurrence, as one of the participants reported generating the instructed eye movement pattern at OBE onset in all three of her sessions, which was corroborated by EOG traces. This research method opens up new avenues for further laboratory exploration and investigation into this intriguing phenomenon.   
  
C - 2  
  
Keywords  
altered states of consciousness, EOG, EEG, eye movement signaling, lucid dreaming.

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Cracking the Consciousness Code, The Gnosis of Non-locality and Machine Personality

James Driessen

Scart Publishing, Springville, UT, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[01.06]........Machine consciousness  
  
Abstract  
Have you ever wondered why machines, like computers, calculators and scientific measuring equipment, can “sense” and “report” observations faster, more accurately, and at a higher resolution than any human, yet machines have no ability to conceptualize? Could it be that our brains do something machines do not? Is there a “mystical” or “magical” calculation? Does this have anything to do with quantum mechanics and the collapse of an intrinsically non-local wave form? Intuitively we like to think we are fundamentally connected with the universe. Perhaps, it is the other way around, where quantum mechanics fundamentally blocks that connection to the universe in a way that allows us to become something more. C·mon man! Stop inserting mysticism into nonlocality and just accept that it “is.” Knowing the nature of reality does not make it any less real. Nonlocality needs no explanation. Once you accept it, you find that the “no explanation”—is the explanation. The hard problem is not that hard. INPUT—PROBITY—PARSE—COUNTERFACTUAL—AND PAUSE  
  
Poster - 1 (Wed)  
  
Keywords  
Bell, Bell test, loophole, coincidence, monitoring, experience, action at a distance, strange loop, quantum nonlocality, Roko's Basilisk, subluminal, local hidden variables, Nobel Prize, entanglement, fringes, photons, Einstein, unspeakable

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Measuring effect of writing journal and prayer on emotions through brain waves using EEG

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.02]........Meditation and mindfulness  
  
Abstract  
This research paper investigates the impact of journal writing and prayer on human emotions, focusing on their effects on brain wave patterns detected through electroencephalogram (EEG) recordings. While various studies have explored the potential benefits of meditation in reducing negative emotions, little research has been conducted on the effects of journal writing and prayer. The paper starts by providing a glossary of brain wave types and their corresponding frequencies, namely Gamma, Beta, Alpha, Theta, and Delta. These brain waves are significant as they are associated with the transmission of emotional messages within the brain. Previous literature on brain science suggests that emotions are controlled by the brain, and emotion features can be extracted through the analysis of brain wave messages. The classification of brain wave emotions is vital, although the complexity of human emotion is influenced by environmental and cultural factors. This study employs the classification method proposed by Petrantonakis et al., using four classifiers (quadratic discriminant analysis, k-nearest neighbour, Mahalanobis distance, and Support Vector Machines) to identify six basic emotions: happiness, surprise, anger, fear, disgust, and sadness. The experimental design involves subjects aged 15 to 60, from diverse backgrounds, including both habitual journal writers and non-writers. The EEG apparatus used is the Flowtime Bio Sensing headband, capable of monitoring brainwaves through two channels. During the experiment, subjects were asked to recall an unpleasant incident, and their brain waves were recorded. They were then instructed to write about the incident in a journal, followed by another recording of brain waves. Finally, the subjects prayed for others to find peace from the incident, and their brain waves were recorded once more. The collected brain wave data was classified using the K-nearest neighbour (KNN) method based on the Petrantonakis approach. The results indicated that recalling the unpleasant incident primarily elicited emotions of anger and sadness, while writing in the journal resulted in more positive emotions. After the prayer, emotions shifted towards happiness and hope. In conclusion, journal writing and prayer appear to influence human emotions, as evident from the EEG readings. The KNN classifier achieved an accuracy of 83% in emotion classification. This study sheds light on potential strategies for emotional regulation and highlights the significance of brain wave analysis in understanding emotional responses to different activities.   
  
Poster - 1 (Wed)  
  
Keywords  
Brain Waves, EEG, Artificial Intelligence, Mental Health

125  
  
The Consciousness Teachings of Rumi

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.02]........Meditation and mindfulness  
  
Abstract  
1-A meditation wellness guided in-person experience and presentation on either Wed, 4/24/24 or Thurs, 4/25/24 from 7:15am-8am in a ballroom.   My presentation(s) will be centered around the love frequency teachings of Rumi, first by giving a brief description of how the love frequency energy manifests and generates, then by demonstrating it through a guided meditation.  In the description overview, I will elucidate how Rumi’s teachings validate in the heart space what Hameroff and Penrose’s teachings validate in the intellectual space, namely that consciousness is a vast mystery beyond the realm of computational calculations, which are linear and bit-focused by nature.  In this presentation, we will be reciting from Rumi’s masterpiece, the Divan of Shams, in both English and also briefly in the original Persian, with a short recitation by Persian poetry master reciter Mojdeh Habibi, to communicate the energetic power of Rumi’s words.  Then I will lead the audience in a guided meditation to honor the Eastern mysticism teachings of Rumi in a heart-centered way to help activate the heart chakra, generate the love frequency energy and cultivate the container of consciousness for the remainder of the conference.  Tools used will include connecting participants to their breath and their senses, allowing people to feel into their own innate wisdom and intuitive guidance. The presentation will allow people to connect to how the love frequency teachings of Rumi are aimed specifically at cultivating and expanding consciousness within the human being.   2-Breakout session presentation along with 4-5 other presenters.  In this presentation, I will elucidate teachings of Rumi, leveraging examples from his masterful stories to show his understanding of consciousness from his experiences, to demonstrate how his teachings complement the work of Hameroff and Penrose, and are aimed at transferring emotional and spiritual intelligence waves of energy from the heart to the intellect via microtubules.  We will look at connecting Rumi’s Eastern mysticism teachings with the contemporary quantum physics understanding of the universe of the Orch OR theory and showing how ancient mystical teachings are aligned with modern scientific discoveries of Hameroff and Penrose, which recognize the limitations of computational intelligence or logical-rational intelligence, as termed by Howard Gardner in his theory of multiple intelligences.  This presentation will also allow people to connect to how the love frequency teachings of Rumi are aimed at cultivating and expanding consciousness within the human being, with an emphasis here on more theoretical discourse about Rumi and Consciousness, as this will be part of the workshop material alongside other academics.   
  
Existential Clinic 1  
  
Keywords  
Consciousness, Love Frequency, Heart Chakra Teachings, Eastern Mysticism, Rumi, Jalaluddin Rumi, Sufism, Sufi Teachings, Wisdom Teachings, Meditation, Guided Meditation, Awareness, Awareness of Breath

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Exploring how ASMR relates to anomalous interactions with objects (psychometry)

Christine A Simmonds-Moore

University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.09]........Parapsychology  
  
Abstract  
Psychometry has been defined as “the practice of using an object from a person, such as a piece of jewelry or clothing, to obtain information about the person” (Roll, 2003, p. 201). Early studies by psychical researchers tended to explore the claims of self-proclaimed sensitives or mediums and tended to focus on case studies rather than group experiments (cf. Barrington, 2016; Hettinger, 1941; 1948; LeShan, 1967; Pagenstecher, 1924; Smythies, 1987). In many cases, evidence was found in support of psychometry. The topic has been relatively neglected until recently. One recent study explored performance at psychometry tasks among members of the general population, but found better performance in the control group (cf. Baker, Montague & Booth, 2017). This presentation discusses the results of a survey that explored individual difference correlates of subjective psychometry experiences as well as a thematic analysis of descriptions of the nature of the experience. The presentation will also discuss results of an in-progress study that seeks to explore how differences in tendencies to experience the Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response (or ASMR) relate to performance on a psychometry task. Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response (ASMR) is “the experience of tingling sensations in the crown of the head, in response to a range of audio-visual triggers such as whispering, tapping, and hand movements” (Poerio, Blakey, Hostler &, Veltri, 2018, p. 1). ASMR has yet to be explored in relation to psi, but seems to be promising as an anomaly-prone variable, given its association with traits that are associated with increased connectivity and tendencies to report exceptional experiences.   
  
C - 11  
  
Keywords  
psychometry, ASMR, mixed methods survey, experiment

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Tempognosis: Presence and the PsychoCosmology of Time

Joel Bennett

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[03.17]........Temporal consciousness  
  
Abstract  
Studies in the philosophy and science of time often begin by making a fundamental distinction between clock time (as fabricated and measured) and any one of a variety of other "types" of time (e.g., from hard sciences, spiritual source texts, psychology, cosmology). Extensive studies have documented how "clock time" has led to a degradation of consciousness and that a new view of time is essential for growth in consciousness. Many self-help and current psychospiritual guides have also treated the actual, personal, and direct experience of time (e.g., timeshifting, what is happening, "be here now," The Holy Instant, The Power of Now). Quantum physics also offers new insights into the nature of time (cf. entropy; quantum gravity; Carlo Rovelli). Taken together, these and other approaches (e.g., The Sociology of Time) represent an extraordinary amount of scholarship and insight into a broad transdisciplinary field of temporality. The presenter has synthesized some of these approaches into a new model that focuses on helping individuals cultivate a healthy, transpersonal, soul-informed understanding of personal time as a source of spiritual growth and well-being. This model is put forth in a primer ("The Connoisseur of Time," published in 2022) and five books in the "Quest for Presence" collection: The Map and Radiant Forces (2022), The Soulful Capacities (2022), The Attractions (2023), The Trajectories (2023), and The Treasures (2023). All books provide a series of "Contemplations" (and poetry and biography) that guide readers (individually and in groups) to practice an understanding of "Whole Time" as a source for growth. The model marries the mandala principle ('khilkyor') from Tibetan Buddhism along with the conception of time as a "precious weave," as discerned in various mystic writings (e.g., Kabir), and trialectics (Ichazo), core laws from modern physics, and research in positive psychology (e.g., Keltner, Csikszentmihalyi) TEMPOGNOSIS, a core feature of the model, is defined as the process of having knowledge (gnosis) of time (temp) in one's personal life and for nurturing the journey of the soul in this life. Tempgnosis can arise in many ways, each of which will be described in this session, along with experiential practices. These include contemplating four "Radiant Forces" (cause-and-effect, gravity, entropy, emergence), cultivating "Soulful Capacities (acceptance, presence, flow, and synchronicity), understanding one's attraction to the Radiant Forces, being mindful of the ways that the Radiant Forces emerge in day-to-day life (e.g., routines, schedules, pacing), and noticing life's Treasures (e.g., savoring, awe, preciousness, coherence, effortlessness, poignance). This workshop will consist of a brief lecture, guided meditations, and paired and group discussions. The primary objective is to assist participants in seeing themselves as "time weavers" -- empowered experiences of a new vision of time -- as they return from the workshop into their lives. For more information, please visit www.presencequest.life for free readings, tools, and podcasts.  
  
C - 16  
  
Keywords  
temporality, cosmology, positive psychology, self help, mysticism, mandala, physics, new thought

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Consciousness Science, Psychological Safety and Humanization of Business

Milena Braticevic

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.12]........Miscellaneous  
  
Abstract  
Psychological safety is becoming increasingly important in workplaces and communities as it helps build a culture of trust, belonging, and common purpose. This presentation will address the key role of consciousness science and nondual awareness in promoting a new, visceral model of safety, and how this can contribute to improving authenticity, creativity, and collaboration, thereby enabling individuals to work together at the highest level of diversity and inclusion to solve complex challenges. The presentation will outline how awareness of nondual consciousness and an integral approach to safety can be used to improve mental wellbeing and psychological safety, the key determinants of ‘Total Worker Health’ and the social component of the ESG model. The presentation will also address the role of consciousness education in humanization of business and Industry 5.0, which shifts the focus of industry to building societal value, specifically putting research an innovation at the service of the transition to a sustainable, human-centric and resilient economy. An active engagement and collaboration in the consciousness community is crucial in furthering research and science on psychological safety and establishing a sustainable model for building resilient societal structures and improving the future of work.   
  
C - 11  
  
Keywords  
nondual awareness, consciousness science, consciousness education, psychological safety, mental wellbeing, humanization of business, societal value, authenticity, creativity, collaboration

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Altered States Art as a Meditative & Restorative Tool - Painting Colour and Sound with Gestures in Virtual Reality

Leslie Deere

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[06.15]........Miscellaneous  
  
Abstract  
Array Infinitive is a practice-based PhD research project that investigates the ways in which audiovisuals in virtual reality (VR) aﬀect and impact participants. This studio-led work draws upon ambient audio and colourful VR visuals, which correspond to the chakra system, that are generated, processed, and ‘played’ via gesture. Acting as researcher, lead artist, composer, and healer, I encourage participants to use improvised hand gestures and bodily movements to create amplified soundscapes and VR particle trails, which are projected onto a wall for those not in VR to view, creating a colour-sound bath and immersive art installation at the same time. One aim of this project was to create an altered state of consciousness (ASC) experience through ambient music making and mesmeric VR visuals. Methodologically, to understand audience experience in the context of this project, I undertook case studies, research studies, and field work to investigate audience response, as well as to gain feedback on the impact of VR audiovisuals, ASC reaction, and gestural performance as a form of instrumentation in VR. The outcomes of this research contribute to the field of art and therapy by way of exploring and expanding the definition of VR experience and of improvised live sound & image-making as a form of meditation. The development of gesture-controlled VR audiovisual content for participatory experiences has been established and tested in a variety of settings through this research, including both public-facing interactions and controlled research studies. Discoveries revolve around participant experience and aﬀective response to sensory contact through VR, as well as demonstrating the ability of this work to evoke a genuine ASC. The ASC research for this project was advised by Dr David Luke (Greenwich University) who is a founder of Breaking Convention, Europe’s largest conference on psychedelic research. Array Infinitive as been presented twice at Breaking Convention and also ALPs Conference on psychedelic research in Geneva, Switzerland (2023). The PhD builds upon the notion of 'enchantment' presented by Erika Fischer-Lichte, regarding live action in art and theatre as a spatial, embodied event: something that has energy and sensation (Carlson, 2008). As well as Fischer-Lichte’s exploration of ‘enlivening’ a room into a performance space, she argues that live action extends possibilities of perception and expands the relationship between participants. The cybernetic is present in this artwork, through a corporeal, tangible, biological conduit. This work does not employ algorithms or artificial intelligence (AI) to generate content. Other referenced research and material includes Maaike Bleeker’s ‘Corporeal Literacy’ and ‘Bodymind' concepts (Bleeker, 2022) and Jonathan Weinel's Inner Sound, Altered States of Consciousness in Electronic Music and Audio-Visual Media (2018) In addition, essays and published papers such as Seigworth and Gregg’s 'An inventory of shimmers’ (2010) and Dr David Glowacki’s research into group VR ASC experience were also reference material for the thesis. Array Infinitive takes inspiration and points of reference from many artists, therapeutic techniques and composers who work with a variety of media, and produce work that is less about what it ‘means’ and more about what it ‘does’.   
  
Xhibitor-Demo 2  
  
Keywords  
VR Art, VR Experience, Altered States Art, Gestural Audiovisuals, Audiovisual Art, Colour Therapy, Sound Therapy, Coloursound Bath, Meditation, Movement as Meditation

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Conflict REVOLUTION® and the New Operating System

Barbara L With

Synergy Alliance, Minneapolis, MN, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[01.01]........The concept of consciousness  
  
Abstract  
"Conflict REVOLUTION® and the New Operating System" refers to the philosophy and metaphysical theories that have been espoused in my award-winning books, including "Einstein et al: Manifestation, Conflict REVOLUTION® and the New Operating System" (Synergy Alliance LLC, 2016). These theories were first delivered beginning in the 1990s, and then researched and tested by me and my associates for over 30 years. Conflict REVOLUTION® is an original method to resolve conflict first within self using our revolutionary Map of Human Consciousness. These resources assist the willing in transforming themselves into Compassion-based decision makers, committed to bringing peace to all areas of their individual lives as a way to contribute to their own health and well being, as well as global peace. What makes "Con REV" so unique is this revolutionary process that allows each individual to approach conflict first within themselves. Before negotiating in a resolution mediation, each participant revolves their perspective back onto their Domain to resolve the conflicts within as per the Map of Human Consciousness that Con REV® provides. The Map of Human Consciousness is part of a bigger Unified Field Theory that we have developed over decades of research. In this thesis, we explore the possibilities, much like Einstein did in his thought experiments: What if there is an Afterlife? What if we can speak to Einstein "from beyond the grave?" What would he tell us about the nature of reality, the real root of war, and how humanity can save itself from its own demise? Einstein once said that imagination is more important than knowledge. This work is the product of imagination, intuition, and research into the mysterious world of quantum physics and M-theory. I closed my eyes and imagined I was talking to Einstein, looking much like he did in 1904, before his miracle year: young, wide eyed, without pretense, just an ordinary man imagining extraordinary things. Then I listened and took notes.The messages were so divinely elegant and brilliantly visionary that one truly could imagine Einstein conspiring to get these messages back from Afterlife about a unified field theory and how to create world peace, each individual starting with the self. Most magnificent are his scientific, quantifiable definition of Compassion as the 5th Fundamental Force of the universe, as well as proof of an Afterlife. Leave it to Einstein to find a way to do such a thing! Our Unified Field and Map of Human Consciousness prove his theory that if we resolve conflicts first within the non-physical energy of the psyche, we can and do naturally and significantly affect what is being created around us. Therefore, if we identify the “Us. vs Them” mentality within ourselves and eradicate it there first, it will (should) have an unexpected and monumental impact on how that plays out in physical reality. All one needs is to be willing to try. This abstract is more timely than ever, what with the world in the state it is in. I would be honored to present it to you.  
  
Poster - 2 (Fri)  
  
Keywords  
evolution of consciousness, unified field theory, map of human consciousness, Conflict REVOLUTION, peacemaking,

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Virtual Reality and Neuromodulation inInducing Out-of-Body-Experience (VR-NIOBE):Proof of concept of a new paradigm for Psychological & Neuroscientific Study of an Altered State of Consciousness

Gratiana Chen, Zhongjie Bao, Mathias Babin, Paul A Frewen

Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.08]........Near-death and anomalous experiences  
  
Abstract  
Virtual reality (VR) has been used to induce out-of-body experience (OBE), but the construct validity of prior methods has been criticized. The current research evaluated a new VR paradigm to induce OBE that included implementation of a brain computer interface (BCI), affording a means of neuromodulation. Methods. 30 volunteers were tested in a VR paradigm that compared subjective report and EEG oscillations at frontal (AF7 and AF8) and right temporoparietal (CP6) regions, to two personalized 360-degree videos, one of which simulated an in-body-experience (IBE) and the other an OBE. Real-time analyses of frontal EEG alpha power determined the speed, brightness, and color saturation of the videos, thus providing neurofeedback as a means for invoking a sense of mental agency over perceived movement of the spatial location of consciousness without bodily movement. Results. As compared with response to the IBE in VR, participants reported that they had a greater sense of being in an elevated position above and outside of their bodies, had an experience of looking down at themselves from above, had experiences of floating and of having an invisible body, and felt greater awe during the OBE. Participants also reported that increasing EEG alpha power was not easy, implying variability in perceived control or agency during the OBE. Theta oscillations were lower during the OBE than the IBE, while the difference in alpha and beta oscillations across electrodes varied between the OBE and IBE. Conclusion. The current research provides proof of concept of a promising new paradigm that combines VR and neuromodulation in the induction of OBE (VR-NIOBE). Further psychophysiological research and dismantling studies of the paradigm is warranted.   
  
C - 9  
  
Keywords  
out of body experience (OBE), virtual reality (VR), neuroregulation, neurofeedback, electroencephalography (EEG)

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Introduction to the Samarpan Meditation Practice.

Lavanya Rajesh Kumar

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Abstract  
The aim of this presentation is to introduce Samarpan meditation, a form of 800-year-old meditation technique developed by the Himalayan Sages, as a pathway to experience ‘Self realization’. The Samarpan meditation practice is a simple thirty-minute daily meditation with focus on the crown (Sahasrara) Chakra and a genuine aspiration to let go of the body sense and to connect with Universal Consciousness. Unlike other meditation practices, Samarpan meditation does not involve any physical activity like breathing or the continuous chanting of any mantra. There are no restrictions on age, belief system, or lifestyle. I have been practicing this form of meditation for more than a year now. During the presentation, I will provide a background about this technique, the science, the benefits, and a few recordings of knowledgeable meditators sharing their experiences. This will be followed by a 15-minute meditation session.   
  
C - 28  
  
Keywords  
800 years old meditation, crown chakra,

244  
  
Spontaneous Spiritual Awakenings and their Implications on Science and Society

Jessica S Corneille

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.01]........Phenomenology  
  
Abstract  
Spontaneous spiritual awakenings (SSAs) are characterised by a sudden sense of direct contact, union or communion with the universe, ‘Universal Consciousness,’ or the divine. In this ‘enlightened’ or 'nondual’ state, the experiencer transcends their ordinary sense of self, ‘knowing’ or ‘remembering’ their true essence as part of a greater, infinite truth or reality, in perceived oneness and self-realisation. The scientific community is only just beginning to acknowledge the healing potential of mystical experiences mediated by psychedelic drugs and spiritual contemplative practices, yet awakening experiences of a sudden, spontaneous nature have scarcely been explored within an empirical framework, despite a vast amount of cross-cultural anecdotal evidence pointing to their long-term impacts on perception, cognition, behaviour and well-being. To date, mainstream psychology has tended to pathologise these experiences by default, and the topic is still largely misunderstood and misinterpreted, particularly in the West. Drawing on my research on the phenomenological variances, individual differences, effects on well-being and prevalence of SSAs within the general populations, this presentation will explore what we know so far about the psychology of spontaneous awakenings and discuss the implications of such findings on science and society. The importance of integration, community support, and the de-mystification of mystical experiences within mainstream psychology will also be discussed, and I will conclude by sharing my philosophical considerations on how these experiences and the ontological shock they present might offer insight on the nature of consciousness.  
  
C - 10  
  
Keywords  
Nonduality, spiritual experiences, altered states of consciousness, phenomenology, transpersonal psychology, neuroscience, pathology, religion, contemplative practices

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A Proper Sufi Beating; The Science of Sufism

Carlton F Clark

PsychOD, LLC, Tucson, AZ, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.05]........Transpersonal and humanistic psychology  
  
Abstract  
The presentation begins with the author's background, educational and experiential, as a trained psychotherapist and then student of altered states of consciousness and transpersonal psychology. First focused on Buddhist and then Sufi stories and meditations, as encouraged by a Sufi teacher in Morocco, the author describes in some detail experiential responses to same. A discussion of 'what is consciousness' and the neurotheology of Islam and higher consciousness states is presented. The conclusion of the presentation, both from the Koran and from experience, is that 'the universe is conscious itself,' and that there are real specific efforts to be made with one's own mind and behavior to increase one's connection with same. Finally a discourse on 'the heart of the Koran,' the chapter 'Ya Sin' is presented. The author compares the literal Koran text to a transpersonal version regarding what cognitive, behavioral, and emotional efforts are being suggested in contemporary life.  
  
C - 3  
  
Keywords  
transpersonal, Buddhist, Sufi, Koran, Ya Sin, consciousness

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Bridging the Biosphere and Noosphere: ExploringTechnologically Mediated Interactions Between Plants and Human Consciousness

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.04]........Psychedelic and other altered states of consciousness  
  
Abstract  
In the realm of Vernadsky’s concept of the noosphere, wherein human consciousness catalyzes the metamorphosis of the biosphere into an emergent geological state, this study investigates the nuanced interactions between the biosphere and noosphere. A pivotal consideration arises from the acknowledgment that plants, integral components of the biosphere, share an intricate connection with humans. Grounded in the Oxford Living Dictionary’s definition of consciousness, encompassing awareness and responsiveness to surroundings, we explore the potential bidirectional transmission of information between plants and humans. To probe this connection empirically, our study introduces two innovative technologies designed to capture messages from plants, focusing specifically on marijuana with a high THC content, renowned for its psychoactive properties. One technology leverages a sound-sensitive apparatus, while the other harnesses biophotons, offering innovative means to decode and transfer plant messages. Subsequently, these technologically recorded messages are imprinted onto a neutral carrier, MCT oil, purged of any marijuana residues. Our research unfolds through the engagement of two distinct participant groups. The first cohort, comprising seasoned marijuana users, incorporates the plant message-infused oil into their smoking devices in the absence of actual marijuana, providing rich qualitative insights into their experiences. The second group, devoid of psychedelic herb use history, serves as a comparative reference. Intriguingly, the anecdotal results unveil an unexpected contrast: non-users report no effects when smoking MCT oil, while regular marijuana users attest to a heightened psychoactive experience, validating the successful transference of plant messages. Moreover, a fascinating observation emerges from the second group, who report maximal effects when exposed to a fusion of two MCT oils—one permeated with messages captured through sound and the other through biophotons. The finding suggests a possible synergy in combining different technological capture methods, highlighting the complexities of the interaction between the noosphere and biosphere. Expanding on the implications of our preliminary research, an intriguing hypothesis emerges, suggesting that omnipresent consciousness may manifest itself uniquely when interwoven into a suitable carrier within the “dense” matter. In our study, this carrier is notably the residual marijuana chemical components persisting in the bodies of regular marijuana users. The heightened psychoactive effects observed in this group when consuming technologically infused MCT oil might be attributed to the residual presence of marijuana compounds, acting as a receptive medium for the transmitted plant messages. This postulation prompts a reevaluation of the relationship between consciousness and matter, suggesting that certain substances lingering within the human body may serve as conduits for the manifestation and amplification of consciousness. Further investigations are warranted to scrutinize the intricate interplay between residual chemical components and consciousness, shedding light on the nuanced dynamics that shape altered states of consciousness and the profound connections between the human mind and the material world. This line of inquiry holds promise for potentially unlocking novel avenues for therapeutic interventions and cognitive exploration.   
  
C - 3  
  
Keywords  
Noosphere; plant consciousness; psychedelics; hemp; biophotons; technology.

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Breath and Consciousness from Sāmkhya-Yoga through Tantra to Hathayoga

Paul G. Dallaghan

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[01.09]........Philosophical theories of consciousness  
  
Abstract  
The Indian tantric tradition that developed as a system of metaphysics and mind-body practices from c. 6th century CE evolved in to the hathayoga system of practice from c. 13th century CE on. The early tantric system had its metaphysical base in Sāmkhya philosophy. This system offers and details an explanation in terms of consciousness as an "inner vehicle" with three subdivisions. Sāmkhya-Yoga thus developed a practical approach to consciousness by emphasizing awareness of the state of one's mind. The evolution of Tantric practice involved an intricate approach across aspects of a lived life to address consciousness by way of the state of mind. Both Tantra, and later Hathayoga, were based primarily on the nature of the breath and the state of mind and their interrelationship. Specifically, the hathayoga practices were centered on control over the breath to influence the state of consciousness and its subsequent arising in one’s awareness, in the so-called ‘mind’. The substrate of consciousness, termed ‘prāna’, predates these practices but was a central concept within both the theory and praxis of tantra and hathayoga. ‘Prāna’ is considered both the physical breath and the force that moves the mind, effectively representative of life. It is subtle with mental and physiological components influencing the physical. Equally, how the physical is handled influences this flow of the substrate of consciousness, ‘prāna’, revealed physiologically but more importantly as the state of the ‘mind’. The most influential hathayoga text from the 15th century CE succinctly classifies the relationship between breath and mind, echoing earlier texts: “As the breath moves, so the mind moves, as the mind moves so the breath moves.” Tantra, therefore, considered practices of the breath and techniques of visualization with mantra as the primary means to manage consciousness. Hathayoga evolving out of a reformed tantra gave the predominant focus to management of the breath. To do so it also employed skillful conditioning of the physical body via postural configuration and cleansing and fluidity of the different physiological systems. The entire approach had one primary purpose: the stilling of consciousness. Robust health, longevity, and mental wellbeing are noted as identifying markers of change or progress but are seen as secondary outcomes to the change in the state of mind.  
  
C - 28  
  
Keywords  
Sāmkhya-Yoga, Tantra, Hathayoga, consciousness, mind, breath, prāna, practice

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Unveiling the Ontological Landscape of Spiritual Experiences: An AI-Driven Analysis

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.08]........Near-death and anomalous experiences  
  
Abstract  
In this study, we utilized artificial intelligence to extract ontological insights from a diverse collection of approximately 500 narratives recounting various spiritual experiences. These narratives spanned several categories of experience, including Near-death, mystical, mediumistic, and other spiritual experiences.The statements extracted from these narratives were systematically correlated with a set of 18 axioms, originating from prior research, forming the foundation of our quest to derive a standardized framework for understanding consciousness and reality that includes spiritual experiences. Our analysis revealed a substantial correlation between the ontological statements generated by the AI and the hypothesized axioms. This correlation underscores the significance of the 18 axioms, hinting at a profound interconnection between the narratives of spiritual experiences and fundamental principles governing consciousness and reality. This research represents a significant step forward in our exploration of spiritual experiences, offering fresh perspectives on the common themes that permeate narratives across diverse cultural and experiential backgrounds. By adopting an AI-driven approach, we transcend traditional qualitative research boundaries, providing an objective and data-driven lens through which to examine these seemingly disconnected experiences. From these analyses we propose an emergent view of reality, the Continuum of Existence, which includes both ordinary and spiritual reality. Our research not only contributes to the ongoing study of consciousness but also challenges conventional notions of mystical or spiritual experiences as hallucinogenic and/or delusional, and enriches our understanding of this state of experience within the intricate tapestry of human experience.   
  
C - 2  
  
Keywords  
Near-death experience, spirituality, Ontological Statements, AI, Cognitive City

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Exploring Consciousness with the Feldenkrais Method® - Moving and the Sense of Self

Roger Russell

Feldenkraiszentrum-Heidelberg, Heidelberg, xx, Germany

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.01]........Phenomenology  
  
Abstract  
This presentation will explore how the movement lessons of the Feldenkrais Method® can provide an unexpected, and largely unexplored, resource for the science of human consciousness. The presentation will offer four chapters: A meta-theoretical frame distinguishing linguistic descriptions of consciousness as a noun or as a verb, that is, an embodied, biological activity. An epistemological frame concerning what we can know about the biology of moving. This includes evolutionary, anatomical-biomechanical, neurological and developmental perspectives of human movement in relation to consciousness and the sense of self. A methodological frame. The core of the Feldenkrais Method is the phenomenological bracketing of moving in Feldenkrais Awareness through Movement® lessons. The process and structure of these lessons will be outlined, with examples. Beyond expanding our knowledge of how humans can move, the lessons also provide insights about how embodied consciousness functions. Therefore, making Feldenkrais lessons a research opportunity. A pragmatic frame which considers how Feldenkrais® lessons make a difference in each person’s capacity for a more satisfying way of living. Examples will be offered from the teaching practice of the presenter.   
  
C - 3  
  
Keywords  
Feldenkrais Method®, Awareness, Movement Coordination, Phenomenology, Self-development

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We Think About What Our Emotional System Feels Is Important: A Phenomenological Demonstration of Childhood Conditioning On Self Perception and Efficacy.

Dr Douglas J Tataryn

EBIQ Integral, Selkirk, Manitoba, Canada

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[01.12]........Free will and agency  
  
Abstract  
Kahneman's work illustrating the often divergent conclusions reached between fast and slow thinking has done much to popularize the complexity of the neural structures giving rise to human conscious experience. This work however is only the most recent framework suggesting that human consciousness is not a unitary process but is composed of many parts. Mahayana Buddhism speaks of the Trikaya or the three bodies of a being. Gurdjieff's Forth Way speaks of humans as "Three brained beings", which is consistent with Freud's Id, Ego, and Super-ego delineation of human consciousness. All of these frames are consistent with the thesis of MacLean’s 1990 tome entitled The Triune Brain in Evolution. Richard Schwartz's Internal Family Systems is a powerful clinical intervention that takes this multiple parts proposal further and names the many roles various internal "parts" of us play in many normal and mental health challenges. In the first years of his clinical practice the author collected data using a variation of Gendlin's Focusing process, targeted at "finding the word that resonated with the essence of the client's pain and tears". After three years, no new words were found and the resultant list was referred to as the "nine core feeling dimensions". According to the Bio-Emotive Framework, which grew out of this research, activation of any one of these feelings will elicit one of four primary emotions and behavioral states, depending on the inter-personal context in which it is invoked. While not explicitly researched and tested, the author's clinical experience is that these core feelings are at the basis of Bowlby and Ainsworth's different attachment patterns as well as the various negative schemas and cognitive distortions often encountered and worked with in therapy. It is the authors working hypothesis that human's are: 1) hard-wired to absorb impressions as to their relational status and relative capacities early in life, relative to our primary group/ family. 2) These impressions are very difficult to update, even after changing groups in which our relational status and capacities may be very different. Participants will be paired into dyads and guided through a short experiential exercise designed to access the "fast cognition" programming of their childhood, in spite of what their slow rational cognition may (want to) believe. This will produce a personal psychograph illustrating how this foundational part of them is configured on the nine core feeling dimensions. Participants can expect deep insights and understandings about unconscious patterns of thoughts, feelings, and behaviours over their life as well as opportunities to feel and articulate these experiences in emotionally vulnerable ways (or not, depending on their levels of comfort). Implications of the core feelings for meditation may also be discussed.  
  
Existential Clinic 4  
  
Keywords  
emotions, free will, Buddhism, spirituality, Kahneman, fast and slow thinking, triune brain, bio-Emotive Framework, core feelings, experiential, IFS

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Post Psychedelic Integration with the Feldenkrais Method®, a Case Study

Jeff Haller

Inside Moves, Bellevue, WA, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[02.19]........Psychedelics and psychopharmacology  
  
Abstract  
A client with an extensive history of psychedelic use and practical Feldenkrais experience told me: “Psychedelics, blow your perceptions wide open, you are disoriented in a physical sense. The veil between what is internal and external gets ripped apart. Playing with how you perceive the room versus how you perceive yourself. You lose your ego. After some of those higher-level ego loss experiences getting thrust back into your ego gets disorienting. With psychedelics the experience is faster, artificial. With the Feldenkrais Method, it is natural. Feldenkrais lessons give you a grounded place for your ego to be and process some of those experiences. You learn to can slow down, and integrate the feeling of oneness with all things in a much more grounded and practical way, while functioning in your daily life.” The Feldenkrais Method is uniquely suited for helping people integrate their post psychedelic experiences into daily life functioning. The entire premise of the Feldenkrais Method centers on the integration of the experience of thinking, sensing, feeling, and moving in a cohesive way to meet and thrive in a changing world. As noted above, the psychedelic experience distorts the cohesive process a person utilizes to organize their sense of self. Spatial/temporal relationships and one’s sense of dimension are altered. Changes in ego dominance and one’s sense of reality occur. Feldenkrais lessons utilize movement processes for enhancing one’s awareness of the foundations of the core sense of self; our coordination of sensing and moving. Feldenkrais lessons tap into prefrontal capacities for clarifying one’s intention, directing our attention, to gain a greater sense of physical integrity, emotional dignity, and the experience of wholeness. In this presentation you will experience a brief Feldenkrais exploration that will foster your insight and support our dialogue about the process and outcomes of my meeting with this remarkable man.   
  
C - 9  
Keywords  
Feldenkrais Method®, Psychedelics, Awareness/Movement, Integration

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Introducing Hiroshi Motoyama’s Ontological Nirvana Theory (ONT): A Superior Alternative to Perennialist Theories of Mystical Experience

Timothy M. Laporte

CIHS, Encinitas, CA, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.10]........Contemplation and mysticism  
  
Abstract  
Contemporary discourse on mysticism—both popular and academic—has largely been dominated by reactions for and against the “perennialist” hypothesis, which asserts that there is a “common core” to mystical experiences that is invariant across cultures and historical time periods. Perennialist authors—Bucke, James, Huxley, Underhill, Otto, Zaehner, Stace, Forman, and others—have proposed certain defining characteristics of these experiences, an approach which has found some favor among analytic philosophers (i.e., Yandell, Alston) and much skepticism in academic religious studies departments (i.e., Katz, Proudfoot, Bagger, Sharf). Whatever its merits, perennialism has, perhaps ironically, succeeded most clearly in demonstrating that the theory itself is a remarkably common and recurring contemporary intuition. Perennialism’s success as a popular theory of mystical experience derives at least in part from the attractive notion that it can connect traditional Eastern religious theories, such as Buddhism’s nirvana and Yoga’s kaivalya, with the extraordinary experiences of contemporary people, whether found in meditation, psychedelic altered states, or just ordinary daily living. But here the theory stumbles badly. Perennialist theories generally take a phenomenological approach, while supporters such as Yandell and Alston have pursued epistemological implications. This contrasts jarringly with Buddhist and Yogic theories, which are first and foremost ontological theories of mysticism. For instance, Buddhism’s nirvana (literally, “blowing out” or “extinguishing”) refers to the transformation from being entrapped in a cyclical existence of endless reincarnation to being released from this cycle. The being that undergoes reincarnation is thus “extinguished” via nirvana. This is much more than a mystical experience—it is a mystical event. Likewise, Yoga’s kaivalya (“isolation”) refers to a process by which consciousness (purusa) is separated or “isolated” from the physical/material matrix (prakrti). As with Buddhism’s nirvana, Yoga’s kaivalya also entails an end to the cycle of reincarnation. Whatever you think of these theories, they are sharply distinguished from perennialism. Perennialism claims to speak for Buddhism and Yoga—indeed, perennialists seem to favor these traditions to the chagrin of critics such as Katz—but an examination in this light reveals that perennialism fails to articulate an ontological approach to mysticism that would be recognizable to Buddhism or Yoga. Perennialism’s dominance of the popular and academic landscape has left little room for ontological theories of mysticism. This presentation seeks to change that status quo by introducing the ontological nirvana theory (ONT) of Hiroshi Motoyama. Motoyama—a Shinto priest, parapsychologist who studied with Rhine, and founder of the California Institute for Human Science—spent his life formulating an ontological theory of mysticism which he sought to buttress with scientific (parapsychological and psychophysiological) investigations. In so doing, Motoyama built an intellectually-coherent ontological theory of nirvana (ONT) that presents a more productive way forward for the field of mysticism studies than has been managed in over a century of debates dominated by perennialism. This presentation will introduce the core elements of the Motoyama’s ONT and outline avenues for further investigation. Progress in the field of mysticism studies is both desirable and attainable.  
  
C - 3  
  
Keywords  
mysticism, perennialism, Motoyama, nirvana, kaivalya, ontological nirvana theory

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Rethinking The Nature of Consciousness: Addressing The Hard Problem, Binding Problem & Anomalous Experiences With Zero-Point Field Theory & The Astroglia Syncytium

Nikki C. Johnson

University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.08]........Near-death and anomalous experiences  
  
Abstract  
For centuries, we as a species have struggled to wrap our heads around the ontological nature and mechanistic means of consciousness — presuming, as mainstream Western science tends to assume, that consciousness is produced by the brain and is therefore confined to this substrate. Three issues have emerged as particularly stubborn challenges from this perspective: (1) the “Hard Problem” (i.e., the explanatory gap that seems to exist in accounting for the basis of subjective experience in the context of physical matter); (2) the “Binding Problem” (i.e., the issue of how separate features somehow combine to form a unified perceptual experience); and (3) the Problem of “Anomalous Experiences” (i.e., a peculiar array of subjectively reported conscious experiences and phenomena that seem to challenge normative beliefs about what is possible, based upon their apparent inability to be explained by the prevailing paradigm). Although the latter issue receives far less attention in mainstream discussion of consciousness, it may in fact be the key factor to resolving all three problems, signaling the existence of ontological misassumptions that have tended to be applied in the search for answers about consciousness without awareness of these misconceptions. By suspending the presupposition that consciousness simply must begin and end with neuronal activity in the brain and considering that it may be a more fundamental aspect of the cosmos with both local and nonlocal properties, we do find — as Thomas Kuhn suggested in The Structure of Scientific Revolutions — that these anomalies may lead us toward a paradigm-shifting breakthrough. This presentation addresses all three of these problems simultaneously by building upon the work of experts based in many different disciplines — with a type of glial cell known as astrocytes playing a highly underrated mechanistic role. It argues in favor of Joachim Keppler’s Zero-Point Field theory as a nonlocal solution to the Hard Problem, emphasizing that all of the specific conditions identified by Keppler as necessary for quantum coherence to be formed in cortical microcolumns are regulated by astrocytes. It extends this framework with a mechanistic means of addressing the Binding Problem, recognizing that astrocytes are interlinked across the brain and spinal cord by gap junctions to form a “functional syncytium,” enabling these cells to work together as a single unit — drawing upon recent papers calling for the revival of reticular theory via astroglia and highlighting astrocytic influence in the “tripartite synapse.” Finally, it suggests that astrocytes may play a pivotal role in Anomalous Experiences. In regulating uptake and release of glutamate and GABA, astrocytes effectively manage excitation-inhibition balance and thus a vital factor linked to consciousness known as “criticality.” In shifting brain states closer to the “critical point” than typically experienced in waking state, astrocytes may thereby enable altered states of consciousness, which have been shown to correlate with a variety of Anomalous Experiences. Taken altogether, this presentation offers specific mechanisms based in physics and neurophysiology that may address three of the toughest challenges associated with consciousness all at once.   
  
C - 2  
  
Keywords  
ontology of consciousness, anomalous experiences, parapsychology, quantum field theories of consciousness, altered states of consciousness, criticality, hard problem, astrocytes

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Personifying the Act of Dreaming as a Dual-Consciousness and Delving into its Variants. From First Person Percept to Configurable Systems of Observation to comprehend experiences-events.

Charles V. Davis

Independent Researcher, Pasadena, CA, USA

Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.07]........Lucid dreaming  
  
Abstract  
What was perceived as “Vivid Dreams” early in Childhood, and learned responses with self-realizations that one is in bed sleeping in "reality”. And knowing one can do whatever one wants in those Dual States of Consciousness, classically known as Lucid Dreaming. Evolving throughout a lifetime of experiences, inadvertently honing skills, progressing "abilities" to higher levels of control, awareness and resolve. Where variants advance with every cycle of effort. And possibly taking it much further than as-understood, Remote Viewing. Including Out-of-the-Body, Astro-Traveling, and Lucidity with "Interaction" of physical real-world objects. The gamut of multi-variant types, seems to correspond contiguous levels of ability, heighten awareness, and Real-World Physical relationships. The never before felt anatomic sensations, as "Tingling" up and down the spine, one gets when passing right through the front door of a home, late at night is utterly fantastic. Exploring the inside rooms within, during the quiet still of the night, sometimes pets are there. Looking directly in presence’s direction. Eyes following the slow passage by, but never barking, making a sound or even movement except as a head turn. This provides a stimulus-response test or a recognition exercise. In the realm of classic "Out-of-Body" experiences, after a number of progressive cycles of effort. Seems process is almost stable and repeatable. With Increasing autonomous control, enabling "in real (dream) time" to pose the question during Experience-Event. Qualifying to dispel notions the event is still yet, anything but just a dream. Like an in-Vitro / In-Vivo configuration where terms become secondary environments within environments. We establish a feedback test to prove or disprove phenomena, by coming up with the thought to, "Find a mirror" and look at it. Experiences advance cognitively within dream states as presence of mind, problem solving reactions and ethereal, "Wishing for tools" popping into place to use "at will". Events have a repeatability with interaction continually unfolding with an increase of depth and details. As stimuli-response dipole flips, the resultant mind-body characteristics; slow-moving/fast-motion, single/full duplex engagement, visual acuity and aural-like perception become apparent. Quantum-like environment-boundary conditions are defined-as, Sub-Local (below ground), Local, & Non-Local. Physical Real World Locality Points of Entrance/Exit transitions reveal’s Global pathway limitations. Where one cannot go farther out to the "Universe at large”. Appearing to transpire is the Universe comes to that physical point in proximity of Terra-Ferma, interacting with the Physical Known Real-World Reality. Sleep Paralysis is typically during slumber, but when it happens during fully awake states. The results are at the opposite end of the Fun scale. And on to the absolutely terrorizing levels of fear until managed. Almost gives cause for concern with "Entities" coming back as one transfers back into sole-soma. Case in examples is given. The Medical Industry’s body of knowledge is vast for Sleep Science Technology. Data mining legacy Information, fusing into development and application of H/W-S/W Engineering Instrumentation, tools, work processes and resultant datum, gleamed as mass quantified information. Enables multidimensional visualization to learn and discover, and work to understand experiences-events is presented.  
  
Poster - 2 (Fri)  
  
Keywords  
Dual States of Consciousness, Lucid Dreaming, Remote Viewing, Out-of-the-Body, Astro-Traveling, Hypnogogic State of Mind.

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The Linguistics of Unconscious and Conscious Processes

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[03.09]........Unconscious/conscious processes  
  
Abstract  
The subconscious has a linguistic process that is separate from both conscious and unconscious thought. To understand conscious processing, it is necessary to compare and contrast it with unconscious processing. An adequate description of unconscious processing is essential for advancing the study of consciousness. There has been substantial research on the range and boundaries of unconscious processing, but no consensus has yet developed. Completing the integration process successfully requires collaboration between the conscious, unconscious, and subconscious. The conscious mind, and symptoms that show up in the neurological system are the main topics of therapy. Because the change process doesn't take place where the problem is, it has no effect on unconscious behaviors, emotions, or triggers. The subconscious has a linguistic process that is separate from both conscious and unconscious thought as well as from all memories. To form memories, behavior is influenced by both internal and external stimuli. Memories come in two varieties; Memories of content, and Memories of emotions. Only memories from conscious and unconscious active experiences play a role in behavior formation. The conscious mind has power over the subconscious, yet the subconscious is capable of much more than we anticipated. Quantum theory suggests invisible forces are used to create and control us within hidden realities. These hidden realities can be accessed through hypnosis. The subconscious can be utilized to integrate, treat, and reprogram a variety of problems once it has been trained to respectfully collaborate with the unconscious to overcome barriers that are preventing healing. These memory structures, also referred to as shadows or parts, are associated with emotional suffering brought on by traumatic experiences. Memories can combine to generate complicated structures that can stop the therapy process. The subconscious needs three things in order to be an ally in the integration and reprogramming process, and they are as follows: Clear communication. Access to every memory. And agreement with the dynamics of our personality; which are the amnesic and dissociative portions of ourselves. Pre-birth amnesic elements might interfere with adult behavior and act as hurdles to any type of change work. Whenever the unconscious is stimulated to release, let go of, and consciously integrate the assets of the trigger while training on the subconscious levels to rewire the fully automated unconscious behaviors into conscious behaviors, we can transfer and empower ourselves to make the changes by becoming aware enough to merge the knowledge, wisdom, and understanding of the behavior patterns that surface. Allowing the unconscious to become conscious. By using triggers in our external reality, we may begin the process of integrating deeply ingrained ideas, unresolved emotions, and aspects of our personalities that we are unconscious of and that are affecting events in life without even realizing it. The ancient language of the subconscious uses images and metaphors to communicate. Metaphors are highly effective communication tools. By gaining access to different states of consciousness, the subconscious can be trained as a healing ally.   
  
Poster - 1 (Wed)  
  
Keywords  
subconscious, linguistic process, unconscious communication, integration process

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Soul Sickness and Soul Healing

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.01]........Phenomenology  
  
Abstract  
In this concurrent presentation, Dr. Rulin Xiu, Ph.D, quantum physicist and string theorist, will present her work of using quantum physics to define and study life, soul, soul sickness, and soul healing. She will show that soul sickness is the state of a life system that has a significant increase of negative information and/or decrease of positive information. Soul healing can address the root cause of all sickness, difficulties, and challenges in every aspect of life. It is urgently needed for everyone, our society and the world. Dr. Peter Hudoba, MD, FRCS, will present his clinical research on the soul healing techniques with more than nineteen clinical studies on more than six hundred subjects. The world-renowned spiritual healer, Dr. and Master Sha (M.D., China; DTCM, China and Canada) will teach the spiritual wisdom underlying soul healing and soul healing techniques. He will demonstrate the wisdom and power of ancient soul healing techniques and of his new Tao technologies, which are some of the most powerful soul healing techniques available today. Participants will experience soul healing first-hand and learn how to do soul healing for themselves and others. Master Zhi Gang Sha is a Tao grandmaster, world-renowned healer, spiritual teacher, humanitarian, and eleven-time New York Times bestselling author of thirty-one books in English. Dr. and Master Sha is recognized by many as one of the most powerful soul healers in the world. He has focused on offering advanced soul healing and teaching basic and advanced soul healing techniques for more than thirty years. He has created Tao technologies, his most advanced soul healing tools, to help people heal and transform their lives at the deepest level. Recently, Master Sha’s sharing the wisdom and experience of his Tao technologies has received massive public attention. One short video on his Instagram page has received more than fifty million views in five weeks.   
  
C - 28  
  
Keywords  
soul sickness, soul healing, quantum physics, mathematical definition of life

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Sound Medicine ® Binaural Beats Alpha Theta Silent Disco Experiential Elizabeth W. Krasnoff, PhD - Sound Medicine ®

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[05.11]........Virtual reality  
  
Abstract  
Bring your current practice of stillness, yoga, movement, or breathing—and take it to a deeper level with binaural beats. Participant arrives and puts on headphones; listens to audio on the headphones for a minimum of ten minutes either silent and lying down with eyes closed, sitting, or moving and stretching. These formulas are lab tested at PsyTek labs under director Dr. Gaétan Chevalier, with support from former president Thomas Brophy, PhD of CIHS, and the mentorship of Leslie “Allan” Combs, PhD. Check out the video here. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sn-guF\_CZEs The results of this pilot study, which allows my formulas to be considered qualified as evidence based, were published in Frontiers in Neuroscience. Come check it out for yourself: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnhum.2023.1138650/full - or visit me at: www.sound-medicine.com.  
  
Xhibitor-Demo 4  
  
Keywords  
binaural beats, yoga, movement, breathing, sound,

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Philosophy of science and quantum physics. Science within spirituality, converging worldviews. Psychedelics for therapy

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Categories by Discipline  
5.0 Experiential Approaches  
Primary Topic Area - TSC Taxonomy  
[03.20]........Miscellaneous  
Abstract  
Philosophies and perspectives from a paper I authored on consciousness  
Keywords  
philosophy, consciousness, quantum physics, psychedelics, spirituality