



Global Power of Illuminated Image: Olympic Ceremony as Psyche's Dialogue

by

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“The unconscious psyche is not only immensely old, it is also capable of growing into an equally remote future. It moulds the human species and is just as much a part of it as the human body, which, though ephemeral in the individual, is collectively of immense age.”—C.G. Jung, CW 9i, para. 518 (1959 /2014, p. 131)

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Affiliations: Pacifica Graduate Institute Alumni & current doctoral student (coursework to be completed 2019);

Psyche and the Sacred: A Contemplative Community volunteer (Jungian group dream work) (3 years);

California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) memberships: CA State, San Fernando Valley and Ventura County Chapters;

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Bio: Tara Gilmaher, MFA, MA, CHt, AMFT is an associate marriage and family therapist currently studying integrated therapies and healing practices in the doctoral depth psychology program at Pacifica Graduate Institute in Carpinteria, California. Tara's background includes almost 2 decades working in theatre, performing arts, and entertainment both locally and internationally, including work in Emmy winning Olympic Ceremony presentations in 2002 and 2004. Tara's career evolved as a doula, hypnotherapist, and she now practices depth psychotherapy. Tara is in private practice in Ventura, California. In her rare free hours, Tara listens to the ocean, reads fantasy sci-fi, advocates for earth and human rights, immerses herself in Renaissance Faire, Dicken's Fair, Kirtan festivals, and numinous-studies workshops. She is available to facilitate workshops and retreats.

Heard about Art & Psyche (organization): I had Jungian Analyst Linda Carter, MSN, CS, IAAP, for several doctoral coursework classes. Linda Carter has presented on art, art history, and image in clinical analytic work, as well as on previous Art & Psyche conference topics and purpose.

Format: Video presentation and discussion

Time Needed: 30 minutes. Scalable up to 45 minutes if desired.

Equipment Needed:

Video Projector (with sound) and Screen, Computer-Projector Connection/access/ cables, Table or Podium, Lapel Microphone and Sound amplification, IT support/ coordination.

Description:

In the 8th Century BCE, the Greek city states began a tradition of gathering to engage in socio-cultural dialogue, celebrate excellence, negotiate and mediate, and to invite and honor the Gods through the Olympic Games. In 1896, Greece revived this ancient mythic call to gather humanity in comradeship. In 1913, C. G. Jung began what is now gathered as *The Red Book: Liber Novus* (2009), his exploration of a personal approach to the unconscious, inviting and honoring archetype, image, and the transpersonal in a technique now known as active imagination.

As analytical psychology expands around the world to understand and facilitate individuation in diverse cultures and languages, image can create connections of heart, mind, and spirit-soul-being that transcend barriers and facilitate dialogue.

This presentation will examine selected imagery of modern Olympic opening ceremonies as an ancient and future-oriented worldwide active imaginal dialogue among nations. Those who join will be invited to be present with images from Olympic opening ceremonies as an expression of psyche. Presenter and participants will briefly discuss how global images might deepen and open our understanding of relationship as part of the global collective to revitalize interpersonal and global perspectives of the future of life together.

My sincerest thanks to the members reviewing proposals for the 2019 *Art & Psyche IV Conference: The Illuminated Imagination*,
Tara Gilmaher

References

Jung, C. G. (1959/ 2014). Two Essays in Analytical Psychology. Gerhard Adler & R. F. C. Hull (Eds.). In R. F. C. Hull (Trans.), *The collected works of C. G. Jung* (Vol. 9i, para 518, p. 131). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Retrieved from: ProQuest Ebook Central, <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/pacgradins-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1573480>.