



60th Annual Convention of the
Parapsychological
Association

July
20-23
2017

Titania Hotel
ATHENS
GREECE

Athens' first
international
parapsychology
meeting in 67 years

Provisional Programme

Thursday, 20 July, 2017

- 1:00pm – 6:00pm Pre-Convention Event: [Engaging the Oracle: An Introduction to Parapsychology](#)
An afternoon of free public lectures held at the City of Athens Cultural Centre
(address: Akadimias 50)
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Registration Open (Titania Hotel Mezzanine)
- 8pm – 11:00pm Welcoming Reception (Titania Olive Garden rooftop garden)

Friday, 21 July, 2017

All Convention Sessions Held in Europa Hall (Mezzanine), Titania Hotel

Registration: 8:00am to 9:00am and during coffee breaks

9:00am **Welcome & Opening Announcements**

Paper Session 1: Historical Perspectives

Session Chair: Elizabeth C. Roxburgh

9:15am Peter Mulacz – *The “Vienna Circle” and parapsychology*

9:45pm Evrard Renaud, Claudie Massicotte, Thomas Rabeyron – *Freud as psychical
researcher: The impossible Freudian legacy*

10:15am Michael Tremmel – *A brief history of Psionics* (Schmeidler Award Address)

10:45am Coffee break

Paper Session 2: Beliefs and Perspectives

Session Chair: Erika A. Pratte

11:15am Malcolm B. Schofield, Ian S. Baker, Paul Staples, David Sheffield –

The creation and validation of the belief in the supernatural scale

11:45am Leonardo Martins – *Anomalistic psychology, parapsychology, psychology of magic and psychology of religion: An integration proposal to deal with the complexity of the paranormal*

12:15pm Buffet Lunch at the Vergina Restaurant (Mezzanine), Titania Hotel

Paper Session 3: Experimental Approaches (Part 1)

Session Chair: Roger Nelson

1:45pm John Palmer – *Training anomalous cognition in a motor task with subliminal auditory feedback*

2:15pm Edwin C. May, Lory Hawley, Sonali Bhatt Marwaha – *Do changes of thermodynamic entropy at a remote site enhance the quality of anomalous cognition?*

2:45pm David Vernon – *Exploring the effect of a contingent cash based reward on the precall of arousing images*

3:15pm **Coffee break**

Paper Session 4: Experimental Approaches (Part 2)

Session Chair: Etzel Cardeña

3:30pm Christine Simmonds-Moore, Donadrian Rice, Chase O’Gwin – *Exceptional experiences under placebo God helmet conditions*

4:00pm Kate Archer, Rachel Cooper – *A test of morphic resonance using Urdu words*

4:30pm Poster Session 1 (Europa Hall, Mezzanine, Titania Hotel)

Nikolaos Koumartzis – *The Greek History of Psychical Research: A Photo-Exhibition*

Marcelo Eremián – *Medical diagnosis and death detection: A replication of reading faces through photographs*

Hideyuki Kokubo – *How do RNGs detect psychokinesis? The proposed CAW model (coupling, analog signal anomaly, and wave-like field model) as a mechanism of detecting PK*

Gerhard A. Mayer – *What about parapsychology and anomalistics? Results of a WGFP and GfA member survey*

Marco Zdrenka, Marc S. Wilson – *Individual difference correlates of psi performance in forced-choice precognition experiments: A meta-analysis (1945-2016)*

- 5:30pm Dinner Break**
- 7:00pm Presidential Address** (Hypatia Mansion, Ipeirou 2 & Patission Ave)
Introduction by Alejandro Parra
Chris A. Roe – *Withering skepticism: Inclusive criticism, or hackneyed mantras and extraordinary standards?*
- 8:00pm Presidential Reception (Hypatia Mansion)
- Nikolaoas Koumartzis, Iordanis Koumartzis, Theodore Koumartzis, George Saratsis – *Pythia: An ancient musical instrument exhibition and live performance*
- 10:00pm Closing remarks and announcements for Saturday session

Saturday, 22 July, 2017

Registration: 8:30am to 9:00am and during coffee breaks

Paper Session 5: Precognition and Psychokinesis

Session Chair: John Palmer

- 9:00pm Eric Dullin, David Jamet – *Scientific evidence of telekinetic effects on a spinning mobile – A scientific attempt to detect and study telekinetic effects even in a non-confined environment*
- 9:30pm Jacob Jolij, Dick Bierman – *Implicit psi in a stimulus detection task – Can uPK and precognition affect perceptual performance?*
- 9:50pm Mario Varvoglis, Peter Bancel, Djohar si Ahmed, Jocelyne Boban, Jean-Paul Bailly – *The Selfield: A precognitive study using an immersive display system*

10:20am Coffee break

- 11:00am Panel Discussion – *A Tribute to Gerd Hövelmann (1956-2017)*
Organisers: Renaud Evrard (Chair Person)
Panellists: Eberhard Bauer, Peter Mulacz, Renaud Evrard

12:30pm Group photo (location to be announced)

1:00pm Buffet Lunch at the Vergina Restaurant (Mezzanine), Titania Hotel

Paper Session 6: Spontaneous/Exceptional Experiences Research

Session Chair: Callum E. Cooper

- 2:30pm Alejandro Parra – *Descriptive analyses of various anomalous experiences of nurses and carers: Personality, perceptual and cognitive factors associated with anomalous/paranormal experiences reported by nurses*

- 3:00pm Gerhard Mayer – *The Bélmez faces – An investigation of a supposedly strong case*
- 3:30pm Lesley-Ann Smith, Johnny T. Ryan, Rachel E. Evenden – “*Logic is only half the equation*”: *Exploring psychedelic drug usage and transformations of identity, spiritual awakening, the transcending of ordinary states of consciousness and enlightenment experiences following LSD consumption*
- 3:50pm Chris A. Roe, Rebecca Linnett – *Content analysis of spontaneous cases of psi included in the Alister Hardy religious experiences research centre database*
- 4:10pm Poster Session 2 (Europa Hall, Mezzanine, Titania Hotel)**
- Nikolaos Koumartzis – *The Greek History of Psychical Research: A Photo-Exhibition*
- Miruna M. Bara, Callum E. Cooper – *An interpretative phenomenological analysis of after-death communication in the bereavement process of professed sceptics*
- Callum E. Cooper, Chris A. Roe, Graham Mitchell – *Spontaneous post-death phenomena and their positive impact on experiencers*
- Callum E. Cooper, David T. Saunders – *A pilot study of floatation tanks and sensory isolation in producing psi conducive imagery*
- Erika A. Pratte – *Therapeutic approaches towards integrating near-death experiences*
- Johnny T. Ryan, Chris A. Roe, Lesley-Ann Smith – *Exploring the parapsychological and transpersonal dimensions of the psychedelic drug experience: A mixed methods analysis*
- 5:10pm Break Time**
- 6:30pm Banquet (Olive Garden Bar & Restaurant, Rooftop, Titania Hotel)**
- 8:00pm 2017 Parapsychological Association Awards**
Session Chair: Chris A. Roe
- 8:30pm J.B. Rhine Address**
 Introduction of Speaker by Chris A. Roe
 Efstratios Theodosiou – *Invisible world and modern astrophysics*
- 9:30pm Closing and announcements for Sunday**

Sunday, 23 July, 2017

Registration: 8:30am to 9:00am and during coffee breaks

Paper Session 7: Altered States of Consciousness

Session Chair: Renaud Evrard

- 9:00pm Etzel Cardeña, David Marcusson-Clavertz – *The relation of psi and alterations of consciousness in Ganzfeld and hypnosis contexts*

- 9:30pm Louise N. King, Chris A. Roe, Elizabeth C. Roxburgh – *Dreamy states and cosmic wanderings: An autoethnographic narrative of spiritual experiences in epilepsy*
- 10:00pm Johnny T. Ryan, Lesley-Ann Smith, Rachel E. Evenden – *Transformative features of the psychedelic drug experience: An Interpretative phenomenological analysis of ayahuasca users in Britain*
- 10:30pm Coffee break**
- Paper Session 8: Reflections, and ‘New Directions’ in Parapsychology?**
Session Chair: Rosemarie Pilkington
- 11:00pm Sonali Bhatt Marwaha, Edwin C. May – *The Star Gate archives: Reports of the US government sponsored psi program – 1972-1995. An Overview.*
- 11:30pm Bevis Beauvais – *Exploring the model of pragmatic information: Implications for the classification and explanation of psi*
- 12:00pm Adrian Ryan – *Open Data in Parapsychology – Introducing PSI Open Data*
- 12:30pm PA Business Meeting**
Open to all PA members and convention attendees
- 1:15pm **Closing Announcements and Acknowledgements**
- 3:30pm Optional group trip to the Acropolis**