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IN COLLECTIVE MEMORY

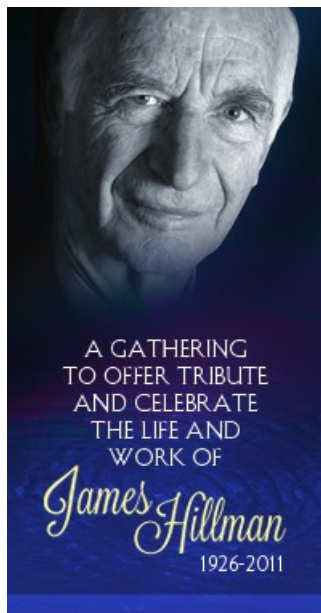


**April 12, 1926 - October 27, 2011**

A **Gathering to Offer Tribute and Celebrate the Life and Work of James Hillman** convened at the Ladera campus of Pacifica Graduate Institute over the weekend of March 2-4, 2012. This gathering -- sponsored by

Pacifica Graduate Institute, Opus Archives and Research Center, and the Alumni Association of Pacifica Graduate Institute -- brought together a circle of thinkers, scholars, artists, poets, depth psychology practitioners, and soul-tenders, all who wished to remember the elder of Pacifica who extended the work of Carl Jung and founded the field of Archetypal Psychology.

This special section of the website is presented as a virtual companion to the real-time tribute, and remains dedicated to the memory of James Hillman and to all who keep memories of this remarkable Pacifica elder. Explore this special section for highlights and remembrances from the gathering. The weekend has passed but the tribute continues. The Alumni Association of Pacifica Graduate Institute invites any and all who feel so compelled to share your reflection about James Hillman in the public reflection stream located below.



The tribute was held at Pacifica Graduate Institute on the weekend of March 2-4, 2012. To explore highlights from the tribute, click on the links below.

TRIBUTE EVENT RECAPS



MARCH 2 HIGHLIGHTS

**Opus Archives and Research Center reception and exhibition**

James Hillman: The Roots of Archetypal Psychology and the Blossoming of Soul's Imagination

MARCH 3 HIGHLIGHTS

**Film montage**

Russ Spencer

**Remembering James**

Steve Aizenstat

**Welcome**

Carol Pearson

**From Attic to Basement, and In Between**

Safron Rossi

**Concurrent Sessions**

SUBMIT YOUR REFLECTION

Share your reflection on how James Hillman's life and work has influenced you. Submit writing, a link, anything you wish. Submissions are moderated and curated. Items with images and links may be added to the story constellation grid above. Items without images and links may be added to the reflection stream below. Include your email address if you wish an email alert when your reflection is published to the collective. If you are a Pacifica graduate, you are welcome to indicate your degree and year of graduation. Blessings.

submit reflection

Thursday, April 12, 2012 at 12:34PM Pacifica time



**Alexa Singer-Telles**  
MA Counseling Psychology 1996

Hi Dianne,  
My husband and I attended the Hillman event and were touched in a profound way. It was my first visit back to Pacifica since my graduation in 1996. I was surprised to feel such affinity to the place and the people and it reminded me of how Pacifica continues to live in me and my work. You had a long conversation with my husband, Mark, and he was excited by your enthusiasm. Coming home, we decided to gather the alumni of Pacifica that I know and have a salon in Hillman's honor. It is planned for this Saturday evening. Mark was sure you would want to know about this so I am writing to share it. I live in Redding, California. I have contacted people I know from Yreka, Chico, and Weaverville.  
I will be happy to share information about the alumni organization if you let me know what would be appropriate to say.  
Blessings on the journey,  
Alexa Singer-Telles, MFT

Thursday, April 12, 2012 at 8:40AM Pacifica time

**Website visitor**

I had the opportunity to have James Hillman instruct our Depth Psych class around 2002-2003. I asked him about Baruch Spinoza practicing alchemy; Hillman said it didn't happen. I was sure Spinoza must have done so and began my research that day. That catalyzed my work in alchemy, focused my dissertation, and led me to my current work identifying women alchemists. I always meant to tell him how much I appreciated his small but very meaningful time as a maggid for me.

Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 7:32AM Pacifica time | [via Pacifica Alumni Facebook](#)

**Marshall Chrostowski**  
Land Manager

### Opus Archives and Research Center tours

**James Hillman: Three Memories and a Poem**  
Dennis Patrick Slattery

**Economics and the Repression of the Work Instinct**  
Michael Sipiora

**Shipwreck and Revolution: The Occupy Movement from the Perspective of James Hillman's Work**  
Mary Watkins

**The Image of the Living Fence: Seeing Through the Boundaries of the Field**  
Joe Coppin

**Befriending Ideas**  
Glen Slater

**Death and Aesthetics: The Play of Language in the Gap Between the Underworld and the Beauty of the World**  
Robert Romanyshyn

**Taking One's Time in a Lasting Life**  
Ed Casey

**Lasting, Leaving, Left: Ars Moriendi**  
Ginette Paris

**Closing Remarks**  
Stephen Aizenstat

**The Thought of the Heart**  
Michael Meade

#### MARCH 4 HIGHLIGHTS

**Invocation**  
Maren Hansen

**"Devar 'Aher: On the Other Handle"**  
David Miller

**Student and Alumni Sparks** 🗨️  
[Jason Butler](#), [Matthew Green](#), [Elizabeth Robinson](#), [Jennifer Sandoval](#), and [Gustavo Beck](#)

**Closing Spiral Council**  
Mary Watkins

**The Tree of Memory**  
Michael Meade and Marshall Chrostowski

**Opus Archives and Research Center tours**



Pacifica Graduate Institute

Memorial events for James Hillman's life and scholarship were broadly and deeply satisfying. I was honored to have played a part in the concluding ceremonial planting of oaks in honor of Hillman. I wish to acknowledge the help of Matt Buckmaster and his dad in collecting the sea shells from the Goleta Slough Chumash midden. Matt was "stoked" to make that contribution to the Institute as a former student and still supporter of the Institute and its work. These approximately 200-year-old shells were included in the pouches the memorial participants placed around the Hillman Oak for me to inter after the ceremony. Thank you Matt and all the attendees.

Friday, March 09, 2012 at 10:59PM Pacifica time

I'm a graduate of the Mythology program and feel fortunate to have experienced James Hillman in the classroom on numerous occasions where he has surely voiced many a wise and provocative thought -- but what comes to mind today are a few simple words from a Master Class that I attended in 2010. Hillman knew he was ill during this time.

As the small group of about 35 people was settling in, Hillman asked us to disrupt our orderly rows of chairs and form some chaos. "Come closer," he said. "Closer!" And when we had created our ragged circle around him (or "the round thing" as the Irish would call it) Hillman was more insistent still. "CLOSER! Come closer!" He urged -- and was so intensely passionate about this detail. He had something important to share and he wanted us to draw near.

Then, on Sunday, when the oak tree was being planted at the Hillman memorial, Michael Meade's words echoed as we all gathered in a circle around the tree. "Closer! Come closer!" Michael said, and then repeated again as he encouraged us to draw nearer: "Closer!"

Closer, James.

Friday, March 09, 2012 at 7:19AM Pacifica time

I am currently working on my dissertation in Mythological Studies and James Hillman is the fourth member of my committee -- the "Imaginal Reader." My methodology is based on his insistence on always returning to the image, which he called, variously, re-version, epistrophe, and "mythical thinking." So as I write, I imagine him reviewing my work and calling me strictly to account whenever I slide into reductionism and theory.

Thursday, March 08, 2012 at 3:44PM Pacifica time



Kathee Miller

Student and Alumni Sparks after presenting reflections on Sunday: [Matthew Green](#) (PHD Depth Psychology 2007); [Jennifer Sandoval](#), (PHDc Clinical Psychology);

[Elizabeth Robinson](#) (PHD Mythological Studies 2011); Dianne Travis-Teague, Associate Director of the Office of Alumni Affairs; [Gustavo Beck](#), (MA Mythological Studies 2009); and [Jason Butler](#) (PHDc Clinical Psychology).

Tuesday, March 06, 2012 at 10:16AM Pacifica time



**Gina Belton**  
MA Depth Psychology 2011

I am left with a taxonomy of scatological phrases and a dream to guide me through the threshold of dissertation, my journey of research as ceremony:

"See invisibly the invisible"

"Nature is dying because culture is dying"

"The psychic house has many rooms and this house does not belong to us"

"Why must we OWN it?!"

"Notice, listen, appreciate, something is ALWAYS speaking"

"The vision of soul given by anima is more than one perspective . . . Anima attaches and involves"

Dream in the threshold between Sunday night and Monday morning: visited in dream by James. He walked through the doorway, perspiration clinging to his face -- he was grinning from ear to ear. He said to me, "It has been a long walk so far, I can't wait to see what is around the bend!" As respite, I offer him a bowl of soup, he gratefully accepts. He sits on top of the table with his legs crossed enjoying the meal, still grinning. I sit in front of him on the red tile floor that is warmed by the sun streaming through the window and say, "Yes James, tell me all about it". He commences a great story telling.

I was awakened from this very moment in the dream by a 4.0 earthquake as we lay sleeping in our daughter's home in the Oakland hills.

What an incredible weekend in tender Temenos, honoring "the elder's transition to ancestor" ... punctuated by "the living fence" (thanks for this one Joe Coppin) of landscape speaking: WAKE UP!

Monday, March 05, 2012 at 5:27PM Pacifica time



**Kathee Miller**

Blessing the Tree of Memory on Sunday.

Monday, March 05, 2012 at 5:26PM Pacifica time



Kathee Miller

Dr. Steve Aizenstat offers tribute to James Hillman.

Monday, March 05, 2012 at 5:21PM Pacifica time



Kathee Miller

James Hillman's tap dancing shoes.

Sunday, March 04, 2012 at 10:55PM Pacifica time | [via Pacifica Alumni Facebook](#)



**Alexa Singer-Telles**  
MA Counseling Psychology 1996

The weekend tribute of James Hillman was a profound experience of how deeply rooted his teachings, his spirit, and his ideas have permeated the Pacifica culture. The event was vibrant with the energy of imagination and love. May his memory be a blessing!

Sunday, March 04, 2012 at 4:06PM Pacifica time

















