



The Imaginal Institute

*"Imagination is the voyage into the land of the infinite."
Gaston Bachelard*

Come, Ye Fools!

In the spirit of the sacred fool, who knows both all and nothing, the Imaginal Institute's first public offerings will be an annual series (in April, of course!) of gatherings of fools to share, challenge, and support one another's work in imagination, myth, poesis, and archetype.

First Fools Gathering

April 21-23, 2006
The Ojai Retreat
Ojai, California

(Land of mountains, orange trees, artists, hucksters, and our very own Butterfly Lady, who dons her wings most days and dances through the park.)

Dr. David Miller

Watson-Ledden Professor of Religion, Emeritus, Syracuse University; former Pacifica Graduate Institute professor; and world-class sacred jester will be our head fomenter of foolery, rallying all silly ones with a kick-off presentation to get us in the mood. Check out his website at <http://web.syr.edu/~dlmiller/>.

This event is about dialogue and building community, and we invite anyone interested in exploring the world with imagination to participate – and we hope for a rich cross section of folks from various disciplines.

Want to Play?

For more information, to register, and to join the planning conversations, please visit www.imaginalinstitute.com. To join our mailing list, please email fools@imaginalinstitute.com. Let the foolery begin!

Co-sponsored by Spring Journal and Books.

Imaginal Institute Mission Statement

The Imaginal Institute is a cross-disciplinary conduit for imagining: celebrating and supporting the leap between ideas and action through dialogue, lifelong learning, and creative expression.





*When in doubt, make a fool of yourself.
There is a microscopically thin line between
being brilliantly creative and acting like
the most gigantic idiot on earth.
So what the hell, leap.
Cynthia Heimel*

fools dancing on the edge

The Second Gathering of Fools

the fools

In the spirit of the sacred fool, who knows both all and nothing, please join us for the second Imaginal Institute Gathering of Fools to share, challenge, and support one another's work in imagination, myth, and poesis.

We are...creators, thinkers, and wonderers of all shapes and sizes...

coming together as colleagues to

- share the brilliance and foolishness of our new ideas,
- find sustenance in community, allies, and
- indulge in fabulous food and crystalline conversation in the magically ridiculous Ojai.

the edge

Fools are challenged to dance on the edge: of your thoughts and ideas, of culture, of our work and play. The edge is a threshold and dancing upon it can invite both spectacular insights and equally spectacular pratfalls. That is its genius and its delight.

So, come, join a diverse community of Fools, and be delighted!

the dance

Fools Dancing on the Edge

October 5 -7, 2007

The Ojai Retreat

Ojai, California

for more information visit
www.imaginalinstitute.com

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Co-sponsored by the
Joseph Campbell Foundation



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www.imaginalinstitute.com



PSYCHE'S POETRY

*A weekend exploration with David Miller
into the relationship between
poetry and depth psychology.*

MAY 16 – 18, 2008
OJAI, CALIFORNIA

ONLY A POET!

Friday evening

On May 5, 1959, two years before his death, Jung, when he was 84 years old, said to Miguel Serrano, Chilean writer and diplomat: "Nobody understands what I mean, only a poet could begin to understand" This presentation will try to explore what Jung could possibly have meant by saying that only a poet can understand depth psychology.

IMAGE, METAPHOR AND SOUL

Saturday

An exploration in seminar format of the current raging debate over image and metaphor in Jungian psychology, current depth psychology, as well as the precursors of the debate in German Expressionism, Italian Futurism, and French *nouvelle roman*. What is this business over the simultaneous hatred of image and metaphor and love of image and metaphor?

POETRY'S PSYCHE

Sunday morning

Reading and discussion of poetry for its radical psychological dimensions. Examples will be drawn from Rainer Maria Rilke, Elizabeth Bishop, Wallace Stevens, Maya Angelou, Theodore Roethke, May Swenson, Delmore Schwartz, Sharon Olds, John Ashberry, Denise Levertov, A. R. Ammons, Siv Cedering, Charles Simic, Emily Dickinson, Billy Collins, Edith Sitwell, and others.

DAVID MILLER

David L. Miller, Ph.D., is the Watson-Ledden Professor of Religion, Emeritus, at Syracuse University, a retired core faculty member at Pacifica Graduate Institute in Santa Barbara, and a Founding Fellow of the Imaginal Institute. Since 1963, David has worked at the intersections of religions and mythologies, literature and literary theory, and depth psychology.

A multi-award winning teacher, David has shared his brilliance and humor with learners ranging from undergraduate students to professional psychologists as a teacher and guest speaker throughout the US, Europe, and Asia. From 1975 until 1988 he was a member of the Eranos Circle in Switzerland and he lectured at the Eranos Conference nine times during that period.



Conversations with Master Seekers Series

The Imaginal Institute
www.imaginalinstitute.com



Psyche's Poetry

An intimate exploration
with David Miller
into the relationship between
poetry and depth psychology.

May 16-18, 2008
Ojai, California

*Please join us
for a very special weekend
on a 600 acre private estate
in the mountains.*

For more information, visit
www.imaginalinstitute.com



The Imagination Institute

Conversations With Master Seekers Series

Brave New Commedia

Who's Behind Your Masks?

Dive in and explore
the mad magic of
Commedia dell'Arte
in a full-on,
full-body, full-fun
daylong workshop
with actor, director, and
teacher
Susan Kelejian
to find out!

An Imaginal Practicum
From types to archetypes,
discover the forces that shape the
comedy of our lives.

Who knew enlightenment could be this crazy?

Saturday
March 15
9 to 5 for \$95
Ojai Art Center

Call 805-754-9425
or visit our website
to register.



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IMAGINATION

IS THE VOYAGE INTO THE LAND

OF THE INFINITE.

GASTON BACHELARD

JOIN US.

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