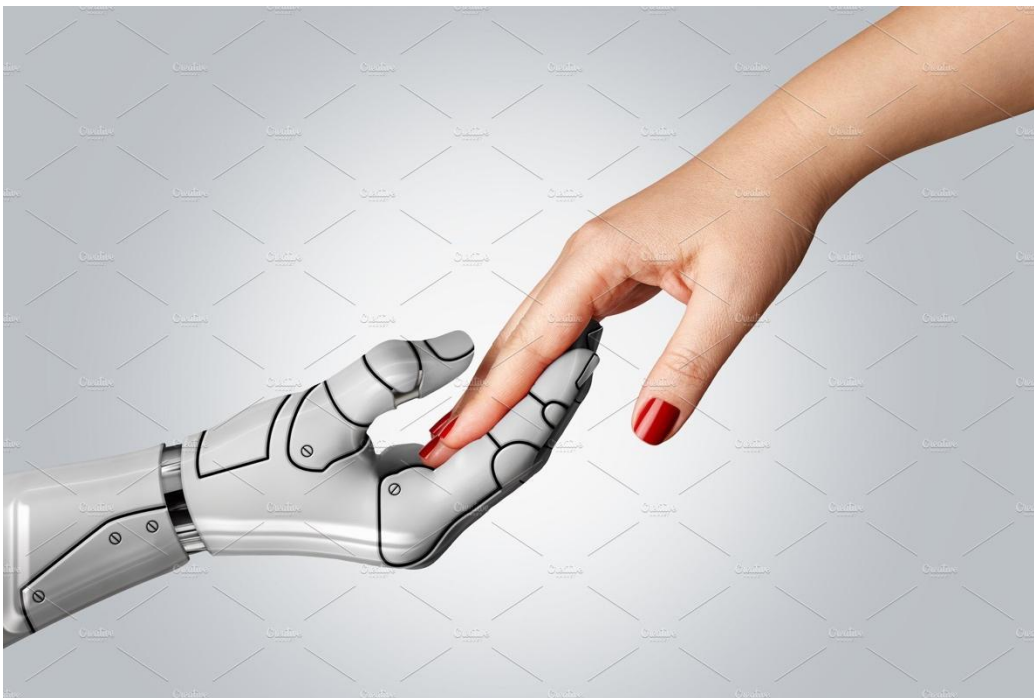


**2023 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
CREATIVITY, SEXUALITY, AND TECHNOLOGY**

*PLEASE JOIN US FOR A HALF-DAY PRE-CONFERENCE BY ZOOM
AND SCIENTIFIC MEETING IN-PERSON AT THE BURLINGTON HILTON!*



Dr. Danielle, Knafo, PhD, Presenter

Pre-conference Zoom Webinar

SOLITUDE IN THE CREATIVE PROCESS AND IN ANALYSIS

Danielle Knafo, Ph.D.

Friday, November 3, 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Annual Scientific Meeting in person

EROS IN THE AGE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Danielle Knafo, Ph.D.

Saturday, November 4, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sign up for one or both events at www.vapsvt.org

ABOUT THE PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINAR

Solitude in the Creative Process and in Analysis

November 3, 2023, 1:30 to 5:00 pm via Zoom

In this pre-conference seminar sponsored by the VAPS Applied Psychoanalysis Committee, Dr. Knafo will lecture on artists' solitude and the creative process. Dr. Knafo will examine aspects of solitude in relation to creativity and personal transformation, especially as it pertains to artists and their objects. Knafo argues that solitude is a core feature of the human condition and that it is inseparable from relatedness. Both solitude and relationship are layered and dynamically interactive states. The lecture also considers the relational needs that art objects serve for their creators. It will specifically address the uniqueness of women's creative solitude. Finally, this lecture will speak of the solitude inherent in our profession as analysts.

This conference is sponsored by the VAPS Applied Psychoanalysis Committee, and is designed for social workers, psychologists, psychoanalysts, mental health professionals, and psychiatrists, targeting intermediate to advanced level clinicians.

Learning Objectives: Participants at this workshop will be able to:

1. Identify how solitude is a core feature that underlies human relationships.
2. Describe how solitude and relatedness are inseparable from one another.
3. Describe how art objects are representations of the uniqueness of the creator's relationship with solitude.
4. Assume a therapeutic stance that allows the unfolding of a creative process for the client to depict their relationship with both solitude and intimacy.

Seminar Schedule:

1:00 to 1:30 p.m.	Early Log-in by Zoom. (technical assistance available)
1:30 to 1:40 p.m.	Welcome and Introduction: Elizabeth Goldstein, Ph.D.
1:40 to 2:40 p.m.	Solitude in the Creative Process and in Analysis: Danielle Knafo, Ph.D.
2:40 to 3:00 p.m.	Questions and Discussion
3:00 to 3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 to 4:00 p.m.	Clinical Vignette #1: Presentation and discussion
4:00 to 4:30 p.m.	Clinical Vignette #2: Presentation and Discussion
4:30 to 5:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks and Pre-conference Evaluation

Relevant References:

- Knafo, D. & R. Lo Bosco (2017). *The age of perversion: Desire and technology in psychoanalysis and culture*. London: Routledge.
- Knafo, D. (2009) *In her own image: Women's self-representation in twentieth-century art*. Associated Universities Press.
- Knafo, D. (2005) *Unconscious fantasies and the relational world*. Hillsdale, NJ: Analytic Press.
- Knafo, D. (1993) *Egon Schiele: A self in creation: A psychoanalytic study of the artist's self-portraits*. Madison, N.J: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.

ABOUT THE SCIENTIFIC MEETING

EROS IN THE AGE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

November 4, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In-person at the Burlington Hilton

The first lecture, "Fifty Shades of Upgrade: The Existential Escapades of Sex-Tech," will emphasize the ways sex and technology have always partnered for pleasure, novelty, transcendence, and perversion. The tech enterprise is rooted in original anxiety about limitation and how it might be transcended. Tools and machines help us with our battle against threat while making possible new modes of pleasure. The internet and associated technologies (AI) have enabled the creation of an alternative adult world of sex dolls and sex robots, cybersex, teledidonics, sexting, catfishing, internet porn, sexbots, and more in the widespread deployment of omnipotent fantasy. This first presentation will explore the intimate connection between sex and technology, discuss the massive sea change in the new sexual landscape, and offer several clinical vignettes, including one of a man who loved a synthetic doll, to illustrate this connection. The second lecture, titled "The Sexual Illusionist," will explore how every therapy is a love relationship of a sort and that the analytic work can be viewed as an act of love. But how is this accomplished in the case of perversions, since they are essentially the antithesis of love and intimacy? Among the greatest challenges such patients present for the analyst are how to humanize those who dehumanize and how to teach them to love. This lecture presents the case of Cain, a man who learned to love in his analysis, but whose very love resulted in the need to flee.

This conference is sponsored by the VAPS Education Committee, and is designed for social workers, psychologists, psychoanalysts, mental health professionals, and psychiatrists, targeting intermediate to advanced level clinicians.

Learning objectives:

1. Attendees will learn about the intimate relationship that exists between technology and sexuality.
2. Attendees will understand the existential and psychoanalytic explanations for some of the technological advances.
3. Attendees will become conversant with novel technological advancements that are driven by sexual desire.
4. Attendees will be able to discuss the challenges in working with patients who dehumanize others.
5. Attendees will understand how to humanize clients who dehumanize others and teach them how to experience love.
6. Attendees will understand the manifestations and dynamics of erotic transference.
7. Attendees will appreciate some of the challenges in working with severe erotic/sexual transference.

Conference Schedule

8:30 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions – Stella Marrie, Ph.D., VAPS President Morning Chair: Mina Levinsky-Wohl, M.D., LCMHC
9:15 to 10:15 a.m.	Lecture: Fifty Shades of Upgrade: The Existential Escapades of Sex-Tech
10:15 to 10:45 a.m.	Questions, Comments, Discussion
10:45 to 11:00 a.m.	Morning Break
11:00 to 11:45 a.m.	Case Presentation: Dustin Kahoud, Psy.D.
11:45 to 12:00 p.m.	Large Group Discussion.
12:00 to 1:30 p.m.	Lunch (provided) Afternoon Chair: Gerri Oppedisano, Ph.D.
1:30 to 2:45 p.m.	Lecture: Sexual Illusionist: Erotic Transference in Analysis
2:45 p.m.	Short Break to Proceed to Small Groups Small Group Meetings and Discussion Leaders:
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Judith Lewis, M.D. and Alice Silverman, M.D.2. Polly Young-Eisendrath, Ph.D. and Jean Pieniadz, Ph.D.3. Tamara Bisbee, Psy.D. and Elizabeth Goldstein, Ph.D.4. Mina Levinsky-Wohl, MD, LCMHC and Gerri Oppedisano, Ph.D.5. Claire Dumas, Psy.D. and Stella Marrie, Psy.D.6. Devon Jersild, Ph.D. and Jake Rusczyk, Ph.D.7. Michele Reed, MSW and Sandra Howell, M.S.8. Logan Hegg, Psy.D. and Georgia DeGangi, Ph.D.
4:00 to 4:15 p.m.	Afternoon Break
4:15 to 5:00 p.m.	Integrated Session: Small Group Reports Questions, Comments, and Discussion Closing Remarks: Stella Marrie, Psy.D.
5:00 p.m.	Evaluation of the day and adjourn

Relevant References

- Knafo, D. 2015. Guys and Dolls: Relational life in the technological era. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 25: 481-503.
- Knafo, D. (2015) For the love of death: Somnophilic and Necrophilic Acts and Fantasies. *JAPA*. 63(5): 857-886.
- Knafo, D. (2012) *Dancing with the unconscious: The art of psychoanalysis and the Psychoanalysis of Art*. Routledge.
- Knafo, D. and Lo Bosco, R.. (2020). *The new sexual landscape and contemporary psychoanalysis*. London: Confer Books.
- Knafo, D. (2004) *Living with terror, working with trauma: A clinician's handbook*. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson.
- Kahoud, D. and Knafo, D. (2018) *Sex, drugs and creativity: Searching for magic in a disenchanted world*. London & NY: Routledge.

About the presenter:



Danielle Knafo, Ph.D. is a clinical psychologist and a psychoanalyst, a professor, supervisor, and an author. She is a retired professor in the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program at Long Island University's C.W. Post campus where she taught for 22 years. She is currently faculty and supervisor at NYU's Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis and Adelphi University's Postgraduate Program in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy. She has written numerous books and articles on many subjects including the psychology of art and creativity, women's self-representation in art; creativity in psychotherapy; unconscious fantasies; working with trauma, immigration, and psychosis. More recently she has turned her focus to the effects of technology on the human psyche and relational life. Dr. Knafo has extensive experience treating diverse patient populations in a number of psychiatric institutions and clinics and in the court system, and, thus, brings a wealth of knowledge to her private practice. Her own multicultural background has been an asset in working in ethnically and linguistically diverse cultural settings. She maintains her private practice in Great Neck and

Manhattan, New York, specializing in psychodynamic psychotherapy and psychoanalysis. She is also a writing coach and leads writing groups for psychoanalysts. Her recent books (with Rocco LoBosco) include: *The Age of Perversion: Desire and Technology in Psychoanalysis and Culture* and *The New Sexual Landscape in Contemporary Psychoanalysis*. Recent papers include: Guys and Dolls: Relational Life in a Technological Era and Digital Desire and the Cyber Imposter. Her forthcoming book (with Michael Selzer) is *From Breakdown to Breakthrough: Psychoanalytic Treatment of Psychosis*.

About the case presenter:

Dustin Kahoud, Psy.D. is a clinical psychologist, psychoanalyst and co-author of *Sex, Drugs & Creativity: Searching for Magic in a Disenchanted World* with Danielle Knafo. His 2023 publication, *The Rise of Oedipus Tech: Life in the Shadow of the Digital Object*, reimagines the Oedipus Complex to account for the role of technology in shifting the dynamics of human relationships in the digital age. He completed his psychoanalytic training at Derner's Postgraduate Program and hosts the Adelphi Society for Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy's *Meet the Author* series. He is currently adjunct professor and clinical supervisor at the psychology doctoral programs of Adelphi University and LIU Post, and maintains a private practice in Great Neck, NY.

PRE-CONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:

Conference registration is only available online and includes the option of paying by credit/debit card or check. To register as a member, go to www.vapsvt.org, log in using your member credentials, click the events tab and select the 2023 Pre-Conference and Scientific Meeting. To register as a non-member, simply skip the log in step and proceed directly to the event page. When you click "Register" you will be given the option to pay by credit/debit card through our secure PayPal payment processing system, or by mailing a check to our Treasurer, Kathy Schlageter, Psy.D., at P.O. Box 1607, Manchester Center, Vermont 05255. Registration payment questions may be directed to Kathy Schlageter at (Kathy@KSchlageterpsyd.com). Conference inquiries may be directed to Georgia DeGangi, Ph.D. at gdegangi@gmail.com. Students are welcome at no charge for the pre-conference and at a very reduced fee for the scientific meeting. In order to attend, students are required to register online. Please indicate an email address on the registration form for your zoom invitation for the pre-conference. For the Scientific Meeting, please indicate your preferences for which small group you would like to join.

Fee Schedule:

	<u>Before October 19th</u>	<u>After October 19th</u>
Pre-conference:		
VAPS Member	\$90	\$100
Non-Member	\$105	\$115
Student	Free	Free
Conference:		
VAPS Member	\$190	\$205
Non-member	\$215	\$230
Student	\$20	\$25
Both pre-conference and conference:		
VAPS Member	\$270	\$295
Non-member	\$300	\$325
Student	\$20	\$25

A limited number of low fee slots will be available to professionals who qualify for this discount.

Cancellation Policy: No refunds after October 21, 2023.

3 CEU's have been approved for the Pre-conference webinar and 6 CEU's for the Scientific Meeting for Psychologists, Social Workers, Psychoanalysts, and Licensed Mental Health Counselors. VAPS is an APA Division 39 continuing education sponsor.