

Quest programme 2023

A lecture series given by Dr. Alan Mulhern, Jungian analyst, author and podcaster.

Reading list to follow registration. Cost of programme £150.

Jan 28. Is the West really in decline?

Has the West lost its belief and hegemony? Can democracy be measured and is the world becoming more or less democratic? Is the West imploding from within and what are the major signs of this? Will the West rejuvenate? Are there any signs of this also? Can it meet the challenges of our time?

Feb 25. Is Jungian psychology trapped in the mind of Jung? What does it offer our age?

Is Jungian psychology removed from sociology politics, and economics? What are the unconscious forces of our time that are gripping humanity? Can they be explained as a crisis in the identity of the Self as understood by Jungians?

March 25. What are the main threats to humanity in the 21 century?

Multiple interacting and accelerating crises are dominating the contemporary world landscape. They are all the product of global business civilization. They are anthropogenic and no one can escape them. This meeting will outline these megathreats.

May 27. When did the modern mind arrive? Exploration of ice age art and cave paintings.

Although Homo sapiens evolved over 200,000 years ago in Africa. It was not until around 60,000 years ago that we have evidence in utensils and weapons that indicate a behaviourally modern human. It is between 40-16,000 years ago that we can observe in Europe the astounding cave art that clearly demonstrated the arrival of the modern mind. What is so distinctively and lastingly human in this art?

June 24. Climate catastrophe. Is it all hot air?

The climate crisis is upon us. We talk. It's totally clear that it's real and immensely urgent. We hardly understand how it's going to evolve: 2 degrees centigrade above pre-industrial levels? 3 degrees centigrade? Why should it stop there? Are we really going to trash this planet? What is to stop it happening? What might be the consequences of this? Is it more than just carbon dioxide poisoning? Is it a general environmental and life destruction? And is this an example of the evil in humanity? Or is it just an unfortunate mistake and remiss behaviour. Is there something deadly, even Satanic in the human psyche that is capable of world-destruction?

Sept 30. Culture wars, wokery, and political correctness.

Is the wokery and political correctness of the West a genuine political development or a symptom of something? If so, what? Does archetypal and transpersonal psychology have anything to say on these issues? Does it have a critique of the culture wars for example?

Oct 28. What is the problem with China?

China has achieved more economically and in a shorter period of time than anyone thought possible. Has it reached a limit in its phenomenal economic expansion? Is it an Orwellian state? And could this be the future of humanity if China achieves global hegemony?

Nov 25. Is a global spiritual vision the crucial ingredient to save humanity?

When the hurlyburly's done, when the battle's lost or won, at the setting of the sun what is fundamentally required of humanity to save itself and the earth? Is it a spiritual vision that is needed? And how could this come about in an epoch of decline of spiritual belief? Will it only be in the intensity of the unfolding crises that this might emerge?