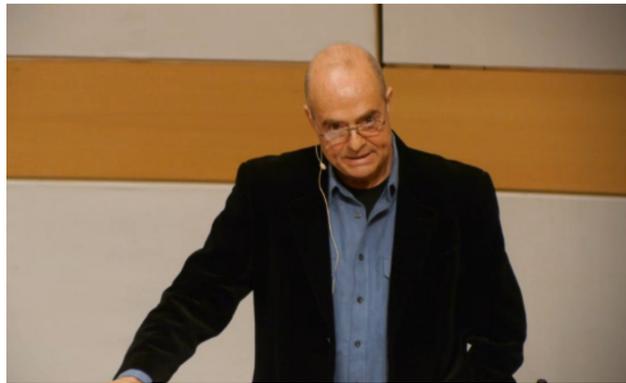


# ALCHEMY MATTERS



**ROBERT BOSNAK**

Topic	Course information
Title	Alchemy matters
Target Audience	Jungian analysts and those in training, MFTs, LCSWs, Psychologists, Psychiatrists, therapists and others wishing to gain a deeper understanding of alchemy and (embodied) imagination.
Credits	1 Continuing Education (CE) Credit
Connection to Jungian psychology and the Jung Platform	Jung has studied this field extensively and his 12 <sup>th</sup> Collected Works is Psychology and Alchemy.
Objectives	<p>This lecture is designed to help you to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Describe what Robert Bosnak considers to be ‘contemporary alchemy’</li> <li>✓ Describe and adopt different modes of perception (logical and lyrical)</li> <li>✓ Observe a demonstration of the technique embodied imagination</li> <li>✓ Describe what ‘the philosopher’s stone’ is</li> <li>✓ Apply embodied imagination to dreams of clients (or oneself)</li> </ul>
Course materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Video and/or audio lecture (1 hour 24 minutes)</li> <li>- Course Guide</li> </ul>

### About Robert Bosnak

Robert Bosnak, PsyA, is a Dutch Jungian psychoanalyst who graduated from the C.G. Jung Institute in Zurich in 1977. In the late 1970's he pioneered a radically new method of dreamwork, based on Jung's technique of active imagination and Jung's studies of Alchemy and Bosnak was especially inspired by James Hillman (Bosnak's primary training analyst).

By studying alchemical psychology one can come to understand oneself and others in surprising ways that frequently diverge sharply from the habitual understandings that one has unconsciously absorbed from the culture in which one was raised. From the point of view of the dreaming state of mind, dreams are real events in real environments. Based on this notion, Robert Bosnak developed methods to re-enter dreams by inducing a hypnagogic state—a state of consciousness between waking and sleeping—through a process of careful questioning. His techniques are now applied worldwide, by therapists, artists, actors, and others interested in the creative imagination.

His first book, *A Little Course in Dreams* was translated into 12 languages. Since then he has written *Christopher's Dreams: Dreaming and Living with AIDS*, *Tracks in the Wilderness of Dreaming*, and *Embodiment, creative imagination in medicine, art and travel*.

Robert Bosnak has also founded the Santa Barbara Healing Sanctuary and its emphasis lies on the healing potential of dreams. Dreams give individuals access to a form of intelligence originating deep inside the brainstem, where signals travel up to the cortex and down through the neuro-endocrine system to affect the body at a micro-cellular level. This activity, as natural and innate as the human heartbeat, has extraordinary therapeutic potential and is widely thought to trigger the body's own self-healing response. The Santa Barbara Healing Sanctuary has been designed to maximize these effects.

### About this short course

The Art of Alchemy was not just a precursor of science. Alchemy held that all matter has an inner life. Alchemists studied their material not as object, but as subjects with whom to communicate. This is similar to our experience with dreaming. In dreams we find ourselves in an experientially real world created by imagination where everything exists in a state of constant animation. Since alchemy studies the animation of matter Jung found it a royal entry into the study of the deep embodied imagination. We know that he continued his journey through the Deep, begun in the Red Book, in his study of alchemy culminating in his magnum opus *Mysterium Coniunctionis*.

In this talk Jungian psychoanalyst Robert Bosnak, himself an over 40 years student of alchemy and dreaming, will explore the inner microcosm of things by way of the alchemical writings of C.G. Jung and James Hillman. He will demonstrate the profound impact alchemy could have on psychotherapists, practitioners of the arts, and upon anyone interested in creative imagination. The study of alchemy quickens the senses and makes us more alive as we derive poignant inspiration from our ancestors.

This lecture is an introduction to in-depth course on Alchemy that will start on January 9th, 2014 at [www.JungPlatform.com](http://www.JungPlatform.com) and is co-developed by [Cyberdreamwork.com](http://Cyberdreamwork.com). In the study of embodied alchemical psychology as exemplified by James Hillman, Robert Bosnak's teacher and training analyst and Patricia Berry, co-founder of Archetypal Psychology with James Hillman. This in-depth course starts on January 9th, 2014.

More info can be found: on <http://www.jungplatform.com/2013/11/course-on-alchemy-embodiment-james-hillmans-chemical-psychology/>