



OPUS: An Organisation for Promoting an
Understanding of Society

opus.org.uk

AN OPUS SCIENTIFIC MEETING

A SOCIAL DREAMING MATRIX

Wednesday 22 June 2016, 18.30 - 20.30

(Registration and coffee from 18.15)

**Woburn Room, Senate House, University of London, Malet Street,
London WC1E 7HU**

Convenor

Dame Ruth Silver will host the session with all attendees as participants. Ruth originally trained as a clinical psychologist and now works as a Group and Organisational Consultant. She was a Board Member of the Tavistock Institute and an Associate of the Tavistock Consultancy Services. She is the Founding Chair of the Gordon Lawrence Foundation for the promotion of Social Dreaming, holds memberships of OPUS, ISPSO and of the Public Chairs Forum at the Institute for Government and has a professional interest in the psychological and behavioural elements in Board performance. She works in Group Relations, is a visiting professor at London South Bank University and an adviser in the House of Commons where she co-chairs the Skills Commission.

Chairs: Anna Reali and Bronwen Williams, OPUS

Social Dreaming is a pioneering methodology that seeks to explore the unconscious dimensions of the social world. Developed by W. Gordon Lawrence, a group analyst and organisational consultant at the Tavistock Institute in London, it is based on the assumption that we dream not just for ourselves, but as a part of the larger context in which we live – an idea which has an ancient lineage. This perspective regards dreams as more than the private possession of the dreamer and suggests that, by exploration in a social context, the dream may help us widen our conscious understanding of the world.

The activity of social dreaming takes place in a **matrix**. Chairs are arranged in a spiral or a series of snowflakes so that the space is filled and participants are not necessarily facing each other. During the session there is a sharing of dreams, and then meaning is expanded and developed through association, amplification, and systemic thinking in an attempt to give voice to the echoes of thought that exist in the space between individual minds and the shared environment.

The focus is on the dream not the dreamer, and reports of events always relate themes with no reference to individuals. We will experience a matrix, reflect on and talk about the experience, and conclude with a Q & A about social dreaming and its relevance in the current social and political climate.

Fees: £15 OPUS Associates and full-time Students; £30 Others. Please book online at opus.org.uk or fill in the booking form below. For information please contact Anna Reali at annareali1@gmail.com or admin@opus.org.uk

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BOOKING FORM

To reserve a place please use the “Book an Event” option on the OPUS website www.opus.org.uk or complete the information below and return to The Administrator, OPUS, 10 Bramber Close, Sompting, West Sussex BN15 0JA with your cheque payable to “OPUS”.

Fees: £15 OPUS Associates and full-time Students (please bring confirmation to the event); £30 Others

NAME:

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Please Note: It is recommended that you book early in order to ensure a place.

Booking queries to admin@opus.org.uk Visit our website at www.opus.org.uk