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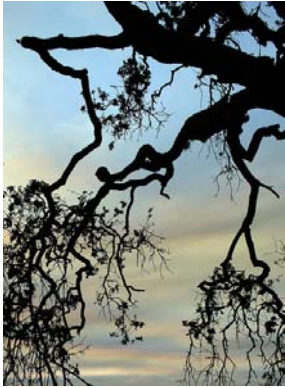
BEYOND GREEN GUILT

with

Rinda West, Ph.D.

Friday, January 16th, 2009 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

A huge shadow menaces our planet. Human greed, carelessness, self-importance, and recklessness have produced policy decisions that make living badly on the land almost unavoidable for most people, not just those of us in the industrialized world. These are usually referred to as 'environmental issues' – as though humans were separate from the web of life, surrounded by an 'environment' of less important stuff.



In this talk, West will explain how the reification of nature that has dominated western thinking since the time of Bacon. The savage practices of explorers, armies, missionaries, and even settlers became normalized as responses to the 'threats' they faced. In consequence, western culture has developed an ego, particularly in its form as instrumental reason, which is divorced from the rest of psyche and therefore estranged from the wisdom and energy contained in dream, fantasy, imagination, ritual, and myth.

She will explore literary texts from both the colonial enterprise and from American Indian writers to examine the dynamics of shadow projection and retrieval in the context of the human relationship to nature. When women and men reconnect with the natural world, they also gain access to psychological richness, and when they struggle with their own shadow issues, specifically, with issues having to do with themselves as part of an instinctual, physical planet, they may find a capacity for the transcendent function that enables them to find meaning outside the values of the collective culture.

LOCATION

Loyola University Water Tower Campus, 25 E. Pearson, Chicago IL

DISCUSSION FEE

\$35

\$25 pre-registration

\$20 for students

For all registrations visit www.jungchicago.org

Suggested Reading:

West, Rinda; *Out of the Shadow: Ecopsychology, Story and Encounters with the Land*



Rinda West, Ph.D., professor Emerita of English at Oakton Community College, is a landscape designer specializing in native plants for city gardens. She earned a Ph.D. in English at the University of Leeds, England, and has taught at the University of Chicago, Oakton Community College, and Christ church University, Canterbury. West blogs about gardening for Eons.com.

The C. G. Jung Institute of Chicago is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists and by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation to provide continuing education (CE) credit for social workers, professional counselors and marriage and family therapists. The Institute maintains responsibility for this program and its contents.