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About our contributors

Philippe L. Gross

S. I. Shapiro

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About Our Contributors

Marshal Arisman's paintings and drawings have been widely exhibited in the USA and internationally over the past twenty years. One-man shows in America, Europe, and the Far East have brought him recognition as an artist whose work evokes strong emotional responses. In the USA, his work may be seen in the permanent painting and drawing collection of the Brooklyn Museum, the National Museum of American Art, and the Smithsonian collections. Arisman's original visual essay "Heaven Departed"—paintings and drawings describing the emotional and spiritual impact of nuclear war on society—was published in book form by Vision Publishers (Tokyo, 1988).

Frozen Images, a classic visual book on violence—personal, environmental, and media driven—was published by Visual Arts Press (New York, 1974). The artist's political drawings are regularly seen in the Op-Ed page of *The New York Times, The Nation*, and *Time* magazine as well as other publications. He is the Chairman of the M.F.A. degree program, "Illustration as Visual Essay," at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Arisman was invited to exhibit his Sacred Monkeys series at the Guang Dong Museum of Art in Mainland China in April, 1999—the first American invited to exhibit there.

Author's address: School of Visual Arts, 209 East 23rd Street, New York, New York 10010-3994, USA. E-mail: arisman@adm.schoolofvisualarts.edu

Asa Baber, M.F.A., is a full-time freelance writer and Contributing Editor at *Playboy* magazine. He has been publishing fiction, nonfiction, and essays there for more than 30 years. In 1982 he originated the MEN column, which he still writes. Baber has taught English, theatre, and journalism at several colleges and universities. His short stories have appeared in periodicals such as *Iowa Review, Chicago Magazine, Transatlantic Review, Playboy,* and *TriQuarterly*. His novel, *The Land*



Monk

of a Million Elephants, was published by William Morrow and serialized in *Playboy*. A book of essays, *Naked at Gender Gap*, was published by Birch Lane Press. A selection of Baber's short stories, including "The Hundred Gibbons," was published in *Tranquility Base and Other Stories* by Fiction International. He has received several awards for his writing and his work has appeared in various anthologies.

Author's address: Playboy, 680 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60611, USA.

Don Diespecker, Ph.D., writes that he is a recovering neo-Luddite who, having taken early retirement in 1984, seeks ways to retire from that retirement, now being busier than ever. He sometimes runs shrieking into the rainforest to escape phones, faxsqueals and an imperious electronic voice scolding him from inside a smart computer. In rare sane moments on the sunny riverbank he chortles through G. G. Marquez, mistyeyes through E. Hemingway, and inspires through L. Durrell. Sometimes passersby spot him giddily sipping wine and scribbling while also straining to hear tiny voices.

Author's address: P.O. Box 297, Bellingen, New South Wales 2454, Australia.

James Fadiman, Ph.D., wrote his first novel in 1960 living in Paris and recovering from his undergraduate studies. Urged by his draft board to enter graduate school or join the army, he returned to the United States and went on to a career in transpersonal psychology. Some years ago he returned to writing fiction. More recently, he is teaching fiction at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology (USA) and Esalen Institute (USA). He has authored a textbook, Personality and Personal Growth, a self-help book, Unlimit Your Life, and edited collections on holistic health, madness, and Sufism. His short stories have appeared in Sufi Magazine, Green Egg, and PanGaia. He is currently writing occasional short stories while working on a psychospiritual novel set in twelfth-century France. You can read selections from his work in progress as well as other stories when his forthcoming website (Fadiman.com) is operational.

Author's address: Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, 744 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, California 94303, USA. E-mail: JFadiman@aol.com

Herbert Guenther, Ph.D., D.Litt., was born in Bremen, Germany, received his Ph.D. in Indian languages, philosophy, and literature from Munich University in 1939, and his Dr. phil. habil. from Vienna University (Austria) in 1943. In 1950 he moved to India to teach at the University of Lucknow and the Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya, where he was instrumental in introducing Tibetan studies on a nonsectarian basis. In 1964 he was invited to Canada to chair the newly established (now defunct) Department of Far Eastern Studies at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. In 1984 he retired as professor emeritus with the honorary degree of D.Litt. Recently, the International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England, selected him to be the International Man of the Millennium as well as listing him in its forthcoming publication, *Outstanding People of the 20th Century*. He continues research in his chosen fields of interest. He is married and has two married daughters.

Author's address: 1320 13th Street East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7H 0C6, Canada.

Marc L. Joslyn, Ph.D., entered the California Institute of Technology in 1945 intending to become an engineer, but with the bombing of Hiroshima lost faith that science would solve all problems of existence. In 1959, he began Jungian analysis and in 1961 switched to Gestalt therapy with Fritz Perls. In 1967 he received his M.A. in psychology. Since then Marc has been practicing psychotherapy privately and with various clinics and hospitals. In 1964 he began training with Japanese Zen Master Joshu Kyozan, was ordained a Zen monk in 1972, and ordained Osho (Zen priest/teacher) in 1982. Wanting to further clarify the relation of Zen and Western psychology, he returned to school and spent several years completing a long dissertation on the subject and received his Ph.D. in 1993. Joslyn has semiretired as a psychotherapist and now he and his wife conduct Zen meditation sessions.

Author's address: 8842 Mandus Olson Road NE, Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110, USA. E-mail: MarcJoslyn@aol.com

Stanley Krippner, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology at Saybrook Graduate School in San Francisco. A member of the Association for Transpersonal Psychology, Krippner wrote the foreword to *Ken Wilber in Dialogue* (Quest Books, 1998), is the coauthor of *The Mythic Path*, coeditor of *Broken Images, Broken Selves* (in which some sections of the present article appeared earlier), and the editor of eight volumes of *Advances in Parapsychological Research*. He is a

Fellow in the American Psychological Association, the American Psychological Society, the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, and the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, and is a past president of the Association for the Study of Dreams and of the Association for Humanistic Psychology.

Author's address: Saybrook Graduate School, # 300, 450 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco, California 94133, USA. E-mail: skrippner@saybrook.edu

Steven W. Laycock, Ph.D., teaches philosophy at the University of Toledo. He is the author of *Mind as Mirror and the Mirroring of Mind* and *Foundations for a Phenomenological Theology*. His new book, *Nothingness and Emptiness*, will be released soon. Laycock has published extensively on issues at the interface between Western phenomenology and existentialism and Buddhist thought. He is a long-time practitioner of meditation and was ordained for a short period as a Buddhist novice. His website, LuminEscence (http://www.lumin-escence.com), offers online philosophical counseling and other services devoted to mental clarity and inner illumination.

Author's address: Department of Philosophy, 2801 Bancroft Street, University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390, USA. E-mail: service@lumin-escence.com

Axel A. Randrup, Ph.D., received his doctoral degree from Copenhagen University. He has done research in virology, lipid metabolism in disease, and psychopharmacology (specialties: stimulant drugs, psychosis). Randrup is currently president of the International Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Psychiatry, chairman of the Special Integration Group for Spirituality and Systems Science, and a board member of the Danish Society for Human Ethology. He is the editor of web pages on interdisciplinary psychiatry, spirituality, and human ethology: www.cirip.mobilixnet.dk, with links. Since his high school days, he has been interested in idealist philosophy and the mindbody problem: This interest later inspired research into psychopharmacology. Spiritual experiences have been an important part of his life since childhood, but only after many years did he find the opportunity to communicate with others about spirituality and mysticism. This, of course, has influenced his views on individuality, other minds, collective consciousness, and egoless consciousness.

Author's address: Center for Interdisciplinary Research, Byg. 24B, Svog., DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark. E-mail: arandrup@mobilixnet.dk

Tõnu R. Soidla, Ph.D., D.Sc., was born in the small town of Rakvere in Estonia. He graduated from Tartu State University and received his Ph.D. and D.Sc. in biology (genetics) from Leningrad State University. He has conducted research in molecular genetics of yeast and nucleotide sequence analysis in silico. Soidla has authored more than 80 scientific publications devoted to these areas and (since 1992) also to transpersonal studies. He has given presentations at a variety of international conferences, is Associate Editor of The International Journal of Transpersonal Studies, and is an assessing editor of The Journal of Mind and Behavior. He is a member of the European Society for the Study of Science and Theology. As the years go by, he finds himself thinking more and more often (and sometimes also writing) about the unlimited possibilities and wonders of consciousness, about the great Timeless, about the Source.

Author's address: Institute of Cytology, Tikhoretsky Avenue 4, St. Petersburg 194064, Russia. E-mail: tsoidla@link.cytspb.rssi.ru

Bud Spindt is a free-lance cartoonist and awardwinning graphic designer. He has been compulsively drawing funny pictures since he slipped on a banana peel while playing a Chuck Berry air guitar solo on a desert island in the Bermuda Triangle. His work has been widely published in numerous magazines and newspapers and on tee shirts. Spindt's most visible work in Hawai'i has been the covers that he art directed and designed for the *Honolulu Weekly* newspaper over the past four years. He has also taught workshops on expressing spiritual experiences through cartooning at the annual Eck Writers and Artists Conference. As though he weren't having enough fun already, he also has a B.F.A. degree in glassblowing from the University of Hawai'i and occasionally blows hot tuba and sings with the notorious hapa-haole music group, Wiki Waki Woo.

Author's address: 41-037 Ehukai Street, Waimanalo, Hawai'i 96795, USA. E-mail: budspindt@yahoo.com

Henri Volohonsky was born in 1936 in Russia. In his earlier life in Leningrad (St. Petersburg), Russia, he studied at the Institute of Chemistry and Pharmacy, and later pursued graduate work at the Institute of Internal Fisheries. While in Russia, he worked in various institutions and took part in expeditions to numerous seas, lakes, and rivers. Later on, Volohonsky moved to Israel, where he worked at the Kinneret Limnological Laboratory, then to Munich, Germany, where he worked at Radio Liberty. Volohonsky has authored several books of poetry and prose. Among them are translations of liturgical texts from Church-Slavonic into Russian and comments to St. John's Revelation. He has also translated parts of the book of Zohar and has written several works devoted to the topic of symmetry and harmony.

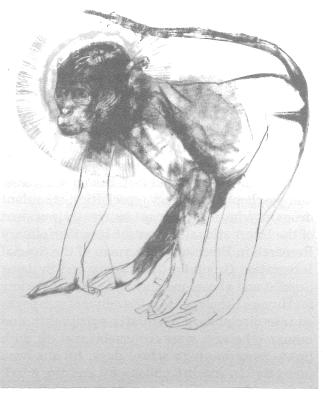
Author's address: Beim Kupferhammer 13, Tübingen 72070, Germany.

John Welwood, Ph.D., received his doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the University of Chicago in 1974, where he studied existential psychology with Eugene Gendlin. Existential and Buddhist psychology have shaped, in equal parts, his approach to East/West psychology. The former Director of the East/West psychology program at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, he is currently an Associate Editor of *The Journal of Transpersonal Psychology* and is on the Editorial Board of *The International Journal of Transpersonal Studies*.

He has published more than fifty articles on consciousness, psychotherapy, relationship, and personal change, as well as seven books, including Journey of the Heart: The Path of Conscious Love; Love and Awakening: Discovering the Sacred Path of Intimate Relationship; Awakening the Heart: East/West Approaches to Psychotherapy and the Healing Relationship; and Ordinary Magic: Everyday Life as Spiritual Path. His forthcoming book, Toward a Psychology of Awakening: Buddhism, Psychotherapy, and the Path of Personal and Spiritual Transformation, will be published in the spring of 2000.

He teaches widely in the area of psychospiritual development and conscious relationship, and has also been a student of Tibetan Buddhism and Dzogchen for nearly thirty years. He is currently phasing out his psychotherapy practice of twenty years in order to open up some space to see what wants to come next.

Author's address: P.O. Box 2173, Mill Valley, California 94942, USA. E-mail: johnwelwood@hotmail.com



Buddy