



*Steven Smith*

## **Eros Personified: the 'doing' and 'un-doing' of the therapeutic relationship.**

1st November 2008, 10am to 4.30pm

**Senate House**, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU

Erotic transference and counter-transference can be experienced by client and therapist as a transformative and indispensable force within the therapeutic dyad: the 'doing' or strengthening of the therapeutic relationship. Alternatively, if ignored or over emphasised the Erotic can be a formidable and destructive force: the 'un-doing' of the therapeutic alliance. As practitioners how do we mindfully and therapeutically monitor these parameters and potentialities? In this workshop we will be drawing upon developmental and transpersonal theory to make sense of the therapeutic and counter-therapeutic aspects of the erotic in the therapeutic encounter. This theory will be applied to the 'in-between' of the relational now in order to establish 'guidelines' of how to identify, monitor and manage the emergence of 'Eros Personified'. There will be a mixture of teaching and experiential components to the day and participants are warmly invited to bring case examples from their own work to apply theory to practice.

**Steven Smith** is an UCKP Registered Psychotherapist and as an Integrative practitioner is interested in the challenges of holding an aetiological (developmental) and teleological (transpersonal) perspective in working with the here-and-now of the therapeutic relationship. He is a trainer, supervisor and therapist and holds a private practice in the heart of Fulham, SW6. He has written on the transpersonal for the UKAPI Journal with an article entitled "The Transpersonal: from 'subjective-knowing' to neurobiology" and more recently co-written a chapter with Anne Kearns called 'Love and Hate in the in-between' [in Kearns, A (Editor) (2007) *The Mirror Crack'd*, London: Karnac].