



INTERNATIONAL MASTERSON INSTITUTE | AUSTRALIA

August 15th 2024

Dear psychiatrist, psychologist or any clinician interested in the field of personality disorder:

We are pleased to announce the upcoming conference: “**Another Chance to be Real**” which may be of great interest to you. The conference will be held on October 4-6, 2024 in Bucharest, Romania.

This conference will be in the form of a three day workshop which will focus on diagnostic dilemmas, treatment planning and forms of therapeutic intervention, as well as focussing on the specific difficulties specialists encounter working with patients who suffer from borderline, narcissistic or schizoid personality disorders.

It is a common even for an experienced psychiatrist or therapist to feel overwhelmed, lost, helpless, or out of control with respect to **what to do** and **how to do it**. Where does one start when faced with an impenetrable maze of defense? How does the therapist take charge in the face of the patient’s helplessness, or hopelessness, or suicidality?

The late professor James Masterson, who was Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry at Cornell University Medical School, was internationally regarded as a pioneer in the field of personality disorder. He wrote over sixteen acclaimed texts on the treatment of borderline, narcissistic and schizoid personality disorder. His treatment approach, developed with his co-pioneer Dr. Ralph Klein, laid out a treatment approach which enabled the therapist to **(1) set up the frame of treatment**, **(2) distinguish acting out/defense from the patients “real self”** **(3) intervene to interrupt defense in order to help the patient activate his or her real self** **(4) in order to work through the underlying abandonment depression** which is the **nonconscious driver of defensive behaviour** in personality disordered patients.

Participants will have the chance to meet clinicians who have trained personally with Dr. Masterson and Dr. Klein and they will learn why and how they can master steps (1) to (4).

The conference will be organised in a hybrid form, which means that you can participate in person or online, via an online platform. All participants will have access to workshops recordings until the 30th day after the conference.

For more information about the conference, you can access the website <https://masterson-institute.com/> or you can access the program directly at <https://masterson-institute.com/conference/imi-conference-2024>

We hope to see you there.

Caroline Andrew



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Director IMI Australia