

## Webinar: Orsolya Lukács on C.G. Jung and Albert Einstein • C.G. Jung - IVAP



In this lecture I will explore the analytical psychologist C. G. Jung's little-known relationship with the Nobel-laureate physicist Albert Einstein. I will discuss the motivations behind their initial interest in each other, the social and intellectual circumstances of their meetings in the 1910s in Zurich, and the reasons why they subsequently distanced themselves from each other. Einstein famously regarded psychoanalysis as a pseudoscience, while Jung unceasingly tried to establish the scientific merits of his profession. These differences, together with some significant personal conflicts, caused them to drift apart, but their short-lived relationship proved unexpectedly fruitful to Jung, and to Einstein too – it influenced Jung's system of thought and gave Einstein a fresh perspective on the value of imagination. I will explore these intellectual influences, focusing specifically on Jung's understanding and usage of the special and general theories of relativity. I will briefly investigate the extent to which Einstein's theories influenced Jung's ideas and how Jung incorporated the radically new thinking about the universe into his own view of the psyche.

**Orsolya Lukács** received her PhD in Psychoanalytic Studies from the University of Essex, England where she contributes to the teaching on the MA in Jungian and Post-Jungian studies. She is interested in Jung's use of physics and his connection to Albert Einstein and the theory of relativity. Her book, *C. G. Jung and Albert Einstein: Analytical Psychology, Relativity and the Universe* will be published by Routledge at the end of 2022.