

"Perpetrators, Victims and Bystanders: Greek Tragedy and Group Analysis"

Group Analytic Society International Workshop 2025
12th of April 2025 (online event)
3 pm - 6.45 pm (UK Time)



Speaker:

Gerhard Wilke



Gerhard Wilke is an organisational and leadership development consultant. He is an internationally renowned **Group Analytic Training Analyst and Supervisor**. His client base is spread across Europe and he works in English and in German.

He studied **Social Anthropology** at **King's College**, **Cambridge** and is a qualified member of the **Institute of Group Analysis** in London. He also holds a diploma in **Further and Higher Education** from London University and is an associate of **Ashridge Business School**.

He is an Honorary Fellow of both the Royal College of General Practitioners and the International Association of Group Psychotherapy.

Gerhard is an expert on how leaders, executive groups and the whole organisational culture interact, attain better performance and learn from their experience.

Greek tragedy has brought a basic pattern of humanity on to the stage, which also plays a central role in group analysis, but has not yet been clearly depicted in theory: perpetrators, victims and followers and how they deal with the forces of fate and destiny. In group analytical work, this primordial cultural pattern appears indirectly in the form of three interwoven relationship matrices. The personal matrix of internalised relationships between parents and children (the perpetrators and their victims); the group matrix of the therapy group (the siblings in the chorus, equal and unequal at the same time, and the followers and silent collaborators); last but not least, the foundation matrix of culture, society and history (the forces of trans-generational transmissions and the social structure and cultural codes which pre-date birth and exist after death). The view through these three lenses allows group conductors and members of the group to examine the meaning of verbal exchanges or the acting out of unspeakable feelings. In this lecture I want to put the role of destiny and the story a group member tells others and him/herself at the centre of my reflections and the subsequent group work.

Day structure: Lecture (1 hour); Break (15 min); Leaderless Groups (45 min); Break (15 min); Large Group (1h 30 min).