

Association TransCommunication NewsJournal

Founded in 1982 by Sarah Estep to Provide
Objective Evidence That We Survive Death
in an Individual Conscious State.

Published by Tom and Lisa Butler

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Viewpoint

Forever Family Foundation 2013 Conference

Bob and Phran Ginsberg's daughter, Bailey, made her untimely transition in 2002. Phran told us, "The knowledge that she was still with us gave us the hope we so desperately needed just to survive each day," and with that understanding, they started the Forever Family Foundation (FFF) in 2004. Since then, they have expanded the non-profit, volunteer organization to provide a host of services including conferences, discussion groups, a radio program and newsletter. Membership is free; however, the organization lives on donations and the hard work of a few volunteers, so your support would help this important organization continue into the future.

Forever Family is dedicated to supporting people who have lost loved ones. The organization maintains an excellent certification program for mental mediums, making it possible for people to be sure that they are working with a reputable medium.

We were invited to speak at their 7th Annual Afterlife Conference in San Diego in November. It was a fantastic mixture of amazingly gifted mental mediums and the latest scientific evidence proving survival.

Well-known researcher of the paranormal and foundation president, Loyd Auerbach, opened the conference, and later gave a very interesting talk on apparitions. His broad background in paranormal research, and especially in hauntings investigation, gives him an important perspective on the nature of this phenomenon.

Dr. Stephen Braude has been conducting intensive research into the physical mediumship of Kai Mügge under controlled conditions. You have seen reports in this NewsJournal about Kai and we will be hosting him again in July, 2014 (see back page). If anyone

ever felt that there was trickery in Kai's séances, Braude can provide excellent assurance that the phenomena are real.

Dr. Diane Hennacy Powell has conducted extensive research into psi functioning and brain activity. She spoke about her research into people with autism and how they experience reality. The information was riveting and we realized how they are much more high-functioning than most think. We believe that she is working toward a book

that will be both extremely interesting and very needed.

During a holotropic breathing workshop, medium Janet Mayer began speaking in a foreign language. After years of searching, she learned that the language was that of an

indigenous people living in a tropical rain forest in northern Brazil and southern Venezuela. Janet found a man working at the Smithsonian Institute who was able to translate her words. She learned that she was speaking prayers, chants, prophesies and prognostications of the Yanomami people who believe their fate is tied to the fate of the environment.

Dr. Jeffrey Tarrant gave a talk about his research mapping Janet's brain while she is channeling the Yanomami language and other languages (spoken by more than one person). Jeffrey put a helmet equipped with electrodes on Janet's head and gave us a real-time demonstration of the changes in her brain activity during her normal speech and then when she was speaking the foreign language. He pointed out how the region of the brain associated with compassion, empathy and loss of ego became very active

when Janet began channeling.

Of course, we talked about transcommunication. Lisa played a number of Class A EVP

Continued page 17



Scientific panel: (left to right) Jeffrey Tarrant, Ph.D., Loyd Auerbach, M.S., Tom and Lisa Butler, Diane Hennacy Powell, MD and Stephen Braude, Ph.D.

Photo: Kathleen Murray



Bob and Phran Ginsberg, Forever Family Foundation Directors; Photo: Kathleen Murray

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Article Contributions: Articles that explain techniques, the concepts of transcommunication and/or provide a role model to which others can aspire are considered. The average column is 425 words—fewer with pictures. Articles should be short and to the point as they would be for a newspaper. Feature articles may be up to four columns, serialized or presented as a brief which refers to the full article which can be placed on the Association website. Announcements of member activities and reports of successes working with these phenomena with brief comments about your observations, are welcome. Email submission to atransc@atransc.org or mail to Association TransCommunication, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507, USA.



Tom and Lisa Butler

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The ATransC attempts to assure the veracity of material presented in this publication; however, understanding of these phenomena continues to change and the reader should practice discernment here as with all information about these phenomena.

Winter 2014

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Ray

by Norma St. Michel

My husband, Ray, passed on September 11, 2011 while we were on a cruise. He was 67. The autopsy said he had an aneurysm. He had been bitten by a black widow spider three days prior to our cruise. The doctors think that the spider bite contributed to the aneurysm bursting, but they said he probably already had the aneurysm. He went while we were taking a nap. I woke up because he was making a weird noise. I turned the lights on and saw and heard him dying.

Our life was wonderful. We have three children and four grandchildren and Ray was extremely close to them. We never talked much about afterlife. I was taught that you just die and possibly go to heaven. We were married forty-one wonderful years.

We have all been devastated. We started reading books and seeing mediums. When we saw James Van Praagh, he called on us and gave us a quick reading. We even saw Theresa Caputo who asked who is the woman who lost her husband to a brain aneurysm? I yelled out "me," but she was so far away and said she would come back to me. She never did and that hurt a lot.



Ray

He blows him kisses and he has seen him near the light fixture in his room.

My son felt his presence and tried to capture a picture in his hallway. After snapping the picture, his camera on his phone went out with a grey screen and he had to take out the batteries and reboot. When he turned it back on, his father's apparition appeared and our dog is below him next to him. The picture is grainy, but it is very evident that it is Ray.

We have captured videos and pictures of orbs, and when my granddaughter asked her grandfather to come to her, an orb flew into her side. We caught that on film. My daughter asked her dad to show the hummingbird that we believe is from his influence, and just then, it flew out of a bush and quickly flew into my daughter's face and then turned back and went back into the bush.

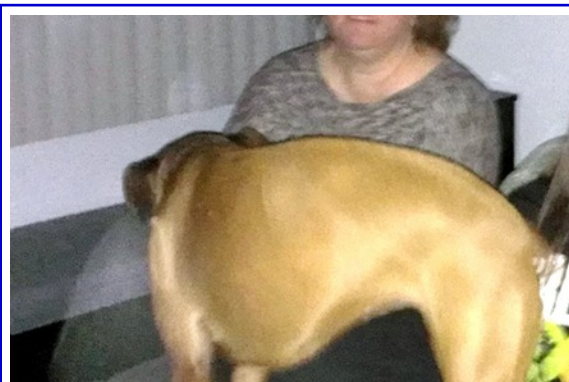
We decided to try and get an EVP. My daughter, Tami, went into Ray's bedroom and closed the door and talked to him. She asked him to talk. When she came out, she played the recording, and after five minutes and fifteen seconds, my daughter was going to turn it off when that is when we can hear him say "**Hi**" and a few seconds later, "**I love you.**" We think he also said "**Tami**" at the end but it was cut off when my daughter stopped the recorder.

In the photograph with the dog, you can see an apparition of Ray kneeling next to Tami who has the dog in her lap. His head is leaning on her arm and you can see his back as "see thru" and his hand is on her left upper chest. You can even see his fingers and his hand. So so many more things. It would take hours to tell you everything, but now I know that my husband feels the need, as I also have the need, to communicate to us. It's such a wonderful thing! These documented items are proof of the afterlife!



Ray with granddaughters left to right: Cassidy, Brianna and Christina

We have had many signs from day one. My grandson, who is three now, sometimes talks to Ray and they communicate. He will all of a sudden tell us that Papa is here and we ask him to tell us where and he sometimes says in his mirror in his bedroom that is a full-length closet mirror.



Tami with the dog. The light area beginning with the dog's left ear as a circular arc toward the lower-left corner of the picture is thought to be Ray. The other parts of the apparition are not well defined in this reproduction. As it is, the arch has been slightly enhanced to assure visibility in the printed version.

Evidential ITC from Sonia Rinaldi

by Lisa Butler

[The back-story to these examples is that in August, Craig Hogan asked us to speak at the Academy for Spiritual and Consciousness Studies, Inc. (ASCSI) 39th Annual Conference in Scottsdale, AZ, July 10-13, 2014. We were disappointed that we had a conflict on those dates and recommended he email Sonia Rinaldi. Sonia agreed and will be speaking at the conference this summer.]



Sonia's camera setup for Skype

In November, Sonia conducted a recording and asked about Craig. She wrote Craig, "I talked to the coordinator of the transmission station on the other side, whom I call Mr. German, in spite of the fact that he later confirmed that he is Dr. Konstantin Raudive. I first asked him if he knew you, and before I could ask if he would help us in Phoenix, he said: **'I just want to see.'** This means that there is nothing concluded yet; it will depend on many variants. In the same recording session, he made very curious comments about things I had not mentioned. First, he said that you have a great consideration and respect for me and then went on to say (what I considered the most important): **'He will see his father!'** He finished by saying: **'With his father he has written!'**

"Does this make sense to you? I wonder if, in fact, your father is deceased. If he is, then I understand that your father will appear in a transimage. Mr. German suggests that your father helps you in your writing. Is this correct? Well, the audio is absolutely clear, I just don't know if it makes sense."

[Note: All EVP were received in Portuguese with Sonia translating to English.]

Craig replied to Sonia, "Hi Sonia, thanks so much for asking Konstantin Raudive about me.

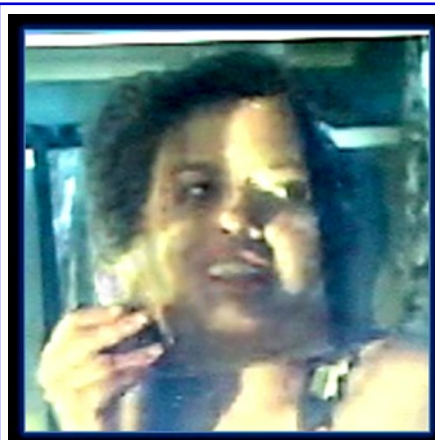
"Yes, he's right. I have great respect for you. Yes, my father is in spirit. My mother and my father are involved in my work and I know they inspire me as I write. I do hope we can see my father. If anything comes that you believe might



Nilza who was in front of the camera



Craig's parents



One of the transimages of Nilza shows strong changes in relation to Nilza's face and appears to be Craig's mother.

be him, send it along to me. I'll let you know. The recording is very clear."

Sonia continued, "A few days later, trying a new set of experiments, I decided to record a video to check if our spirit friends could access us remotely. My friend Nilza called from her house via Skype so that we could see each other on the screen.

"I recorded her for some five minutes and about twenty-five transfigurations occurred, with men, women and children. I selected several transimages and sent to Craig to analyze. He promptly returned, commenting that one of them, in fact, could be of his mom.

"We have observed that the deceased loved ones always appear younger than the age when they died. Note the change in hair to match the change in facial features."



Here is a link to the Academy for Spiritual and Consciousness Studies, Inc. and more information about the 39th Annual ASCSI Conference to be held this July 10-13, 2014 in Scottsdale, Arizona:

ascsi.org/conference/index.html

The theme for the conference is: "New Developments in Afterlife Communication: There are more ways to connect than people realize!"

Sonia Rinaldi's website is:
ipati.org/index_en.html

Craig Hogan's website is:
youreternalself.com/drhogan2.htm



The Yuwipi Ceremony

by Kai Mügge

I feel extremely lucky that I was allowed to attend a Yuwipi ceremony with other sitters in the presence of the Lakota Nation and its wise and mighty shaman and ceremonial master Warfield Moose. I want to humbly share with you what happened during this old traditional rite of the Lakota, the prayer ceremony "Yuwipi"!

Warfield urged us not to go online and lose the value of what was happening by sharing it with people who will react with disbelief and mistrust, but I know I have my friends around here who already know what is possible to a certain extent!

So outside there may be people who will comment with malice that, as a medium myself, I am trying to describe something independently, but

I wasn't the only one witnessing this - and all the other attendees saw and heard and felt the same!

The parallels to western hemisphere (physical) mediumship were for me strikingly obvious - what we are doing in physical séances, the Lakota do in slightly other forms in front of a totally different cultural background.

At the beginning, I was invited to enter the sacred space with four other people to do a Chinoopa prayer. Warfield, who was the shaman, held an Indian pipe and asked the elders to chant with us.

The sacred space was a huge buffalo fur on the ground. A buffalo skull was at the top and there were flower pots with little flags of symbolic colors. Other Lakota symbols were set in every cardinal direction. All of the prayer ties were positioned around the buffalo fur and several ritualistic percussive instruments were inside that space, as well.

I had my hand on Warfield's right and a lady beside me had her hand on his left when the drums set in for the first time and the light was switched off! Behind and above the shaman, lights suddenly started to flicker. It is hard to describe. They were little flashing points cascading downwards. Later we saw them in greater detail.

Where the lights were flashing, there was no space for anyone to stand, the sitters sat in awe witnessing this first manifestation! While this was occurring, Warfield sat beside me, praying, and the drummers were drumming increasingly faster. Warfield's chanting became more and more adjuratory and we presented the pipe we all held

over and over towards the four cardinal directions and towards the heaven and the earth!

After a few minutes, everything ceased and the lights were switched on to begin the main part; the "yuwippi" (means "enwrapping") ceremony!

For this, the shaman was tightly rolled into a huge holy blanket; even his head was covered. Then his hands were tightly tied on his back with a rope by independent sitters. His feet were also tightly tied and the rope was even tied around his neck! Then he was laid onto the buffalo fur!

For a last time, Warfield's helper drew a little bit more cloth towards his head to make his breathing easier inside of the tight cocoon he was in. And

with all of the sitters sitting on the ground, the lights were switched off. (Parallels with a séance: blanket as cabinet, roping as medium control, darkness!) Immediately after the lights were switched off, a huge instrument that was lying directly in front of me started to move and I heard it was taken into the air as if someone was standing right in front of me! The drum beat began at that moment, and during the entire four-hour session, both drummers were drumming and singing; they did not leave their place once!

The instrument in front of me rattled above my head and I heard Warfield gasp in his cocoon where he lay on the fur. Then this huge rattle started to give off traces of light. It was as if a fine glowing mist was rattled off the instrument and according to its quick movement the mist also cascaded away in waveforms from the rattle - hard to describe...!

The people then were urged to pray and one after the other did so. The drumming carried on but more gently now to let people speak. Accompanying their words screaming pipes were heard, flashes of white light appeared all over the room and the huge rattle made out of buffalo skin carried on to emit the illuminated mist over 4 hours!

Later, it seemed as if the rattle might have multiplied and everywhere in the room flashes and cascading illuminated mist was seen from one end to the other! I frequently heard Warfield on ground level gasping. Continued page 6



Gift of the Sacred Pipe

Rogue Guirey Simpson, askart.com

The Yuwipi Ceremony Continued from page 5

Hands appeared and gave people rattles to join in. A shaking rattle gently circled my head two times and tapped me on the shoulder. Then the Lakota spirits talked to me and thanked me and announced that they'll do something with me to enhance my spiritual work!

People with different diseases or handicaps were then asked to stand up and the cascading lights illuminated them fully; they stood glowing in the darkness! After all the ceremonies were being done, and the people had received medicine from the spirits through Warfield, the lights were switched on and the independent sitters that had placed Warfield in the ropes checked everything and untied him. Warfield came out of the cocoon...!

For the last time he then called sitters onto the sacred space and wanted them to hold his hands. They sat very close and the blanket was put over them like a tipi. Lights were switched off and the drumming and chanting began again! I learned that the song they sang was about the prayer ties that every sitter had tied to fabric before and laid around the large buffalo fur. Warfield requested a lady sitter yell out the words "prayer ties" three times! The lights went on again and to our surprise, the several meters of prayer ties around the fur had vanished and had appeared in the midst of the intimate sitters space between Warfield and the three sitters he had with him on the fur! They all confirmed that they had his hands tightly in theirs and so this was another mystery of the evening facilitated by the spirits of the Lakota elders!

Then the pipe was lit and the last prayers were sent to heaven as holy smoke! The ceremony went on for four hours!

My report couldn't convey, at all, the holiness and dignity of the ceremony. It's an integrative/ healing/ powerful and astounding experience! Warfield Moose and his Yuwipi Ceremony is one of the, if not *the* greatest spiritual experience that I have ever had in my life!

I give thanks to Warfield, his ceremonial helpers and the Lakota elders that came in spirit to reunite and redeem us!



Kai Mügge

Why Darkness in Séances?

It may not be the light that is the problem in séances but the increased focus it brings for the sitters. To paraphrase how Hans Bender explained via medium Kai Mügge, the sitters and their etheric friends also contribute energy and control to the "matrix." When the light is on and the sitters are focused on what they see, lucidity between their conscious and etheric personality is diminished, effectively reducing the channel. Kai told us he agrees with Walter von Lucadou in "Predictions of the Model of Pragmatic Information about RSPK"

(archived.parapsych.org/papers/09.pdf). It is an interesting read.

The second factor, and where the danger for the medium seems to come in, is how the energy reacts to surprise. It may be mostly the medium's surprised response, but if the sitters are part of the circuit, then the surprise of the "collective channel" (medium and all of the sitters) probably contributes to the rapid withdrawal of the energy. We saw Hans Bender allow the use of white light to illuminate the ectoplasm for a moment as long as it was not shined in the medium's eyes. Shining bright light in the eyes of a person in trance will quickly bring the person out of trance.

Spreading the Light

by Victor Zammit

We are all in a position to pass on the word about the afterlife, without coming across as being overzealous. When it is appropriate, just a subtle hint here and there to some friend or acquaintance will go a long way to giving the most important gift you can ever give anyone, knowledge that we are all eternal souls.

Many people turn away from any hope of life after death and reunion with their loved ones when they reject the absurdity of religious beliefs about an eternity of either eternal punishment or eternal boredom. They are not aware that there is a more modern alternative based on the evidence of systematic investigation.

So many people could be spared years of unnecessary fear about their own transition which should be the most joyous experience to crown a life well lived. They could be spared years of despair and suffering when they believe that their loved ones are lost to them forever. And they could be spared from the horrible realization at the end of their lives that they could have done so much more if only they had known the rules of the game of life.

We are informed from the afterlife dimension that if you just help one person to see the light, you will have justified your existence on planet earth! (Silver Birch). Again, without exaggerating, helping someone turn to the light is the greatest gift you can give to another human being.



A Strange and Perplexing Characteristic of Our Extended Community

by Tom Butler

Dr. Ferdinando Bersani reported on the work of the Bologna Center for Parapsychological Studies (CSP) at the 2013 Parapsychological Association conference in Italy.¹ In part, he reported that



"At the beginning of the seventies, the Raudive Voices phenomenon (or 'metaphonia') attracted the CSP's attention, since it became popular in Italy and many people, mainly composed by persons who had lost sons or very loved relatives, wrote books and/or publicized their experience. A group of the CSP, including myself, deeply investigated the phenomenon, trying to obtain anomalous voices with different techniques and to simulate them in different ways; after about a decade of observations and experiments, the most peculiar conclusion was that the phenomenon could be explained in terms of psycho-acoustic illusions, a sort of acoustic 'Rorshach inkblots.'

Concerning this, Paolo Presi wrote:² *"At the beginning of the '80s, the research [in Italy] came to a halt due to the argumentation backed up by Professor Ferdinando Bersani, a physicist of CSP. He exploited the weak aspect of the phenomenon, namely the acoustic ambiguity of the 'voices.' He claimed that if any ordinary acoustic event is artificially fragmented and cadenced, it could be interpreted in a linguistic manner if the perceiver is expected to receive a message.*

"At the time, I was able to defend the authenticity of the phenomenon with a simple counter-demonstration. Based on the mechanism that regulates human perception, I showed how all acoustic perception is influenced by the attentive condition of the listener to hear. In particular, I pointed out that, with a specific degree of attention (selective attention), even loud acoustic stimuli could go unperceived at consciousness level.

"I therefore concluded that what Professor F. Bersani claimed did not undermine the objective reality of the 'voices,' but that he only exploited the weakest aspect of the phenomenon. The fact that the 'voices' are not easily understandable may, de facto, lead to interpretative mistakes. The psychoacoustic decoding is a perfectly normal process and it does not only involve perception of the 'voices,' but the whole perceptive system of human communication."

It is clear that the CSP, specifically Bersani, decided in the 1980s that EVP are just noise mistaken as voice; illusion. The report: "Instrumental Analysis of EVP Collected via a Sound-Psi Interaction" on page 8 demonstrates the level of expertise brought by Il Laboratorio to the study of transcommunication.

The study of transcommunication involves two communities of interest: parapsychology who are focused on psi

phenomena and human nature, and "paranormalists" (for lack of a better term) who are focused on phenomena related to survival of personality beyond physical death. With a few important

exceptions such as the work conducted by Dr. Mark Leary,³ the parapsychological community has consistently produced "Failure to Replicate" reports.⁴ At the same time, mostly nonacademic researchers have been reporting studies demonstrating the objectivity of these phenomena such as the Il Laboratorio report on page 8.

This is a strange and perplexing characteristic of our extended community which forces the question: "why does one part of the community consistently find these phenomena illusion while another finds them objective?" It has been our observation that research using inexperienced people as practitioners, conducted by people who are trained in psychology rather than technology and who are largely uninformed about the current understanding of the phenomena consistently produce "failure-to-replicate" results. Collaboration would fix that but it is not possible, considering the academic wall between lay people and trained researchers.

It is not that paranormalists are untrained or too eager to validate their experiences as paranormal. Yes, sometimes that is certainly the case, but there are important studies being conducted by well-educated people who are bent on conducting documented, controlled research. Most paranormalists today have moved on from proving the objectivity of these phenomena to seeking answers as to their nature.

The work of paranormalists is hampered by reports such as the one by Bersani to the PA. It is further hampered by the inability to address those reports in open dialogue, primarily because of their academic status. Meanwhile, the parapsychological community consistently lets such reports by probably unqualified psychologists go without challenge.

As we have proposed on many occasions, the solution is not to wait for the parapsychological community to catch up. It is for our community to participate in forums specifically intended for collaboration through presentation of reports and ideas, and that permit open discussion.

Here are a few discussion boards you might consider:

Journal of Exceptional Experiences and Psychology (JEEP):

This new organization is an online, international journal that caters to both the academic community and society at large. The organization is dedicated to the exploration of exceptional experiences, such as survival after death, out-of-body experiences, extrasensory perception, psychokinesis, poltergeists, mediumship, and hauntings.

"SFINGE" PROJECT

Instrumental Analysis of EVP Collected via a Sound-Psi Interaction

P. Presi, D. Gullà, G. Gagliardi, G. Lenzi; 2006

[Digested by ATransC. The complete report is available on request from ATransC.]

Abstract

The research team of Il Laboratorio from Bologna, Italy conducted a two-year long study of well-known Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) operator, Mrs. Lida Russo of Livorno, Italy. The microphone recording method with a commercial recorder with built-in microphone was used by the operator and professional digital devices were used to monitor the sessions. However, only a few anomalous voices of poor acoustic quality were found upon review of Mrs. Russo's audio tape. Contrary to the expected, the most interesting voices in terms of quantity and quality were recorded on the digital devices operated by Daniele Gullà.

State-of-the art software commonly used for forensic analysis was used for analyses of the resulting voices. This new approach to EVP research was introduced to the world by the researchers of Il Laboratorio and has revealed many structural electroacoustical features that prove the authenticity of these acoustic events, which now can legitimately be classified as linguistic events.

Introduction

The so-called "paranormal voices or Electronic Voice Phenomena" have been studied for more than forty years and consist of recorded sounds and/or sounds directly audible through the experimentation equipment. These events can manifest spontaneously or as coherent answers to the questions of the researcher.

Research Aim.

This Il Laboratorio study of the anomalous voices is called "Progetto Sfinge" (English: "Sphinx Project"). In order to understand the reason for this name it is necessary to recall the symbolic meaning attributed to the Sphinx as an unresolved mystery. The application of innovative methods of research, and availability of the latest information technologies, has made it possible to investigate the phenomenon through many different perspectives inconceivable until recent years.

Progetto Sfinge's principal aim is to document differences in the phonic structure of the anomalous voices as compared with human voices. Where possible, the degree of similarity between a voice attributed to a dead person

and the voice when the person was alive was compared. The project's accomplishment has been possible thanks to a generous contribution of the Swedish Foundation Helene Reeder Memorial Fund.

3. Research Setting.

There are many opinions about the nature of the phenomenon. For some, the voices lack objectivity and are the consequences of psychoacoustic illusions (psycholinguistics). Others, mostly those who had direct experience of the phenomenon, say they are strong evidence of survival.

The perception of acoustic signals as human language, and their subsequent interpretation, is the most critical moment in the understanding of speech. The first consequence of this psychic

process is the possible interpretation of the signals in many different ways or, as those who study psycholinguistics define them, events of "interpretative plurality." Many are the factors that contribute to this critical situation such as the ambiguity and fragmentation of the acoustic events or when the listener has a poor understanding of the language.

Even in normal listening conditions, the danger of psycholinguistic illusion is ever-present in the interpretation of voice. This problem is further stressed by listening to ambiguous sounds when there is the wish to "receive" messages from the other side; perhaps when the listener is under emotional stress due to the loss of a loved one (wishful thinking).

Thanks to developing professional competence and the availability of advanced information technologies, after decades of discussions in favor and against this phenomenon, we decided to undertake interdisciplinary research. This research had the purpose of documenting the existence of the anomalous voices and identifying the characteristics that make them different from human speech. For the first time, the new technology has made it possible to examine the acoustic structure of the anomalous voices to clearly define their characteristics and semantic content.

This phenomenon can no longer be considered an independent occurrence. It must be placed into a Phenomenal System¹ grouping "all realities, concrete or abstract, which constitute

Continued page 9



Dr. Giorgio Gagliardi (left), Eng. Paolo Presi, Eng. Daniele Gullà



Analysis of EVP

Continued from 8

the background of that event; in other words the elements or the parts (the *variables*) of physic, biological or psychological nature that are integral part of the event itself.”¹

For this reason, our research also investigated the role and personality of the person who recorded the voices. The operator is, in fact, an important part of the experiment, and in the final analysis, of the phenomenon. The psychological and psychophysiological analysis of the operator was conducted by specialists in order to identify possible correlations with the resulting anomalous voices.

The experimentation was to have been accomplished through the technique of microphone recording, usually as adopted by the operator. The voices obtained with her recorder were to have constituted the collected data and the object of instrumental analysis. At the same time, a high quality digital recorder operated by Daniele Gullà was intended to provide a reference recording for comparison.

Two experimental cycles were conducted, the first in 2005 and the second in 2006. Mrs Lida Ceccherini from Livorno, widow of Mr Russo, was chosen as the operator. Most operators in this field prefer to experiment on their own and maintain a kind of reserve while displaying distrust towards the scientific researches who impose boring protocols and careful checks to guarantee the absence of possible cheats. However, with exceptional helpfulness and enthusiasm, Mrs. Russo accepted the invitation to be the operator. To Mrs. Russo goes the gratitude of the II Laboratorio research team for her great helpfulness, patience and above all, for her exquisite kindness.

4. Research team.

Paolo Presi (*Project Manager, Supervisor*)

Daniele Gullà (*Forensic Audio-Video Consultant*)

Giorgio Gagliardi (*Surgeon, Psychophysiological and Psychotherapist*)

Giuseppe Lenzi (*Researcher, session reports*)

5. Experimentation.

During the experiments, Mrs. Russo was very anxious to know if Mr. Gullà recorded the *voices* on his own equipment rather than worrying if the voices had recorded on her recorder. In fact, the advanced equipment we used recorded clearer and more definite voices in comparison with the same result obtained through Mrs. Russo's commercial tape recorder with built-in microphone. The higher sensitivity of our equipment allowed also the recording of low volume voices without any confirmation of them in Russo's tape.

This fact highlighted an interesting aspect of the phenomenon which gives great importance to the equipment and to the role of the operator in the context of recording the voices. One of the causes of this occurrence was surely the low quality of the recorder used by Mrs Russo; however,

the main factor affecting the results may have been Mrs. Russo's attitude during the experiments. She had great expectation for the success of the experiments possibly because the positive results would have given a greater significance and credibility to her experiments. For this reason, I believe her focus on our equipment instead of her own can be considered a very relevant element, which demonstrates the existence of possible psychical projections toward our equipment instead of her own tape recorder.

Examination of Mrs. Russo by the psychophysicologist appeared to negatively influenced her psyche, the people constituting the research group and Mrs. Russo's assistant. In other words, it influenced the whole psychic complex involved in the experimental sessions.

6. Listening survey results and their interpretation.

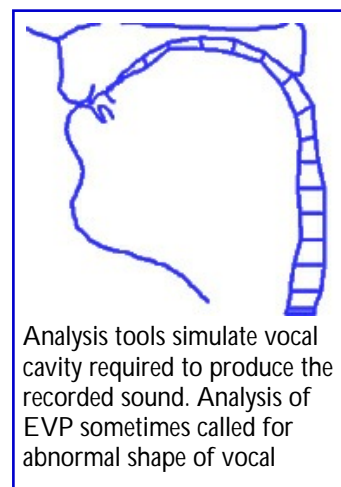
An unequivocal interpretation of the results was the main requirement guiding the choice of the samples for analysis. People skilled in listening to EVP provided a first auditory test. After establishing an interpretation of what was said in the examples, an instrumental check was conducted.

The electroacoustic analyses of nine samples displayed the presence of considerable

structural anomalies even in those samples that came very close to human voice. These anomalies revealed some spectral components and articulations with noticeable deviations from human standards. In many cases, we found relevant disagreement between the graphic representations generated by the software and the uttered sounds. This can be understood as a possible weak influence of over-glottal resonators or as a partial or total lack of the internal speech-organs (e.g. larynx, velum palatinum, etc). In other cases, the software wasn't able to virtually reconstruct the vocal tract at all.

There are several remarkable anomalies noticed in the fundamental frequency F0 in the examples, such as frequent absence, fragmentation and anomalous values. Very relevant are the cases of absent fundamental frequency and the presence of inexplicable formants. The formants are frequency bands containing groups of harmonics of the fundamental frequency. They are produced in the vocal tract from the fundamental frequency. The presence of formants is inexplicable if there is no fundamental frequency. Psychoacoustics teaches us that the brain has limited ability to reconstruct the fundamental frequency from the upper harmonics.

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Is This the Week that Organized Skepticism Imploded?

Posted by Greg 11 Aug 2013 on *The Daily Grail*

For many years on this site I've critiqued the demagogic tendencies of a number of the 'leaders' of the modern skeptical movement (see the bottom of this post for some links). I've often faced resistance (and sometimes hostility) from card-carrying skeptics for pointing out the foibles of these so-called champions of science, and the dangers of having such people as figureheads of a movement dedicated to truth and reason - but I had no inkling that in the space of just a few short years the reputations of a number of them would begin coming undone at their own hands.

The first tremors began, perhaps, two years ago with the 'Elevatorgate' scandal within skepticism, in which Richard Dawkins outed his 'drunk uncle' persona to those within skepticism by entering a controversial argument he didn't need to engage in, and making comments that were always going to set off a firestorm.

Just a few months later, the previously Teflon-coated James 'The Amazing' Randi was caught at the center of his own scandal when his partner of more than two decades, Jose Alvarez, was caught and pleaded guilty to identity theft, after overstaying his visa in the 1980s. Though many felt sympathy for both Randi and his partner's dilemma, there were also questions over how much Randi knew or was involved in the crime - a not-particularly-good look for the much celebrated champion of truth and honesty.

Randi's credibility devolved further earlier this year when Will Storr's book *The Heretics* brought Randi's Social Darwinist-like philosophies into the spotlight, as well as Randi's own confession that he sometimes lies to win his arguments.

A few months later, prominent skeptical voice Brian Dunning (of the popular *Skeptoid* podcast) pleaded guilty to one charge of wire fraud for his part in a scheme to 'hack' eBay's affiliate marketing program which netted millions of dollars for the group.

This week, Richard Dawkins once again put his foot in it with a provocative tweet about the lack of Nobel Prizes in the Islamic world (if you want to understand why it was a stupid tweet, swap 'Islam' for 'women' in the tweet and his later 'reflections' on the matter). This time, it seems that Dawkins may have put the final straw on the camel's back: Owen Jones wrote that Dawkins could no longer "be left to represent atheists"; Martin Robbins wrote that atheism "will leave Dawkins behind"; Tom Chivers asked

him "to please be quiet"; and Nesrine Malik said Dawkins himself was as irrational "as an Islamic extremist."

There's a fair feeling of chickens coming home to roost in these incidents, but this week flocks of previously hidden fowl seem to have emerged from every dark shadow in the world of skepticism. Some two years on from the 'Elevatorgate' incident, skeptical speaker and writer Karen



Stolznow used her blog at *Scientific American* to note that she herself was a victim of sexual harassment by "a predator" within the skeptical movement. This individual, a well-known media commentator and editor of one of skepticism's flagship publications was subsequently named by P.Z. Myers on his blog (after what Myers said was a flood of corroborating emails).

A former JREF employee then spoke out about continuous unethical behaviour at Randi's foundation. Then another blogger named yet another high-end skeptic/atheist and well-credentialed scientist of acting improperly, before withdrawing his name (though again that hasn't stopped P.Z. Myers). And if all that wasn't enough, at the end of the week P.Z. Myers followed up with testimony from someone he knows regarding what the victim describes as her 'rape' by one of the most prominent of all skeptics during a skeptical conference (a blog post that has generated some 3000 comments now).

Whether each of the accusations is valid or not, and whether the naming of certain individuals is proper, is not part of my argument here. But what has become clear is that the former figureheads of the skeptical movement finally now have a (long-awaited) skepticism being applied to their own actions and pronouncements, and a number of them are being revealed for the pretenders they are. I'd like to think that this is the end of skeptical demagoguery, and the beginning of a new, more intelligent, self-critiquing skeptical movement - though perhaps it's more just a fragmentation, as Myers and Randi and others now just seem to have their own righteous armies fighting somewhat of an internal civil war in skepticism. I'm still hoping for the former though, as intelligent skepticism is a much-needed element of modern discourse, but something that has been very rare indeed to this point.

See the article at dailygrail.com/Skepticism/2013/8/Is-the-Week-Organized-Skepticism-Imploded for further reading.



Aggie

by Christopher J. Abbott

I enjoyed Sonia's article on Rany because it struck home with me and my beloved dog (Whippet) Aggie. [by Sonia Rinaldi in issue 32-3] Aggie departed back in 2007 but has been helping me on my journey from the other side ever since. She shows up in many of my breath photos. I was diagnosed with prostate cancer back in January of 2011. Aggie and an ET showed up in one of my breath photos just before the diagnoses; showing me that something was wrong. The ET was pointing to an Orb with a hole in it. (the ET points to an orb, to me, indicated urgency)

I showed my thirteen-year-old son a blow up of one of the orbs with a hole in it. He said something amazing that helped me understand the message Aggie and the Et were showing me. He said *"Wow that looks like a cell that is being eaten up by cancer."* He was studying about cells and cancer in biology. I felt completely healthy but went to get a physical and a prostate examination the next day. The doctor found a lump on my prostate and when the biopsy report came back it showed that the lump was malignant.

There are other personal messages Aggie brings to my attention as well. She was very psychic while on this Earth plain. Maybe that is helping her to communicate with me now. It is amazing, what can happen once we drop our limiting belief systems and open up to seeing things in a different way.

More of Chris' work at breath-photography.com
Image enhancement by Christine Dennett (kesara.org)

[Editor: Chris' breath images appear to be formed in much the same way that images in light reflected from moving water or video-loops are formed. The breath vapor is chaotic visible "noise" that is known to be able to be influenced by intentionality. In this view, his technique is consistent with other techniques, and represents a very accessible, novel approach to ITC.

You can trust the shape and coloration of his originals that are suggestive of flesh and faces as being the product of intended order.]



(c) Christopher J Abbott 2013



(c) Christine Dennett 2013



(c) Christopher J Abbott



Analysis of EVP

Continued from 9

Spectrograms make it possible to examine the important function of noise in anomalous voice formation. Although noise is always thought to negatively influence voice formation, analysis of over nine examples showed it has a function. In the absence of the fundamental frequency and in the presence of formants, we noticed how their structures can be shaped as a localized noise thickening with an impulsive and not harmonic trend. (In human voice, the formants are sinusoidal like the fundamental frequency which generates them)

Of great interest is, as shown in the spectrograms, such anomalously shaped formants are located in the same frequency ranges of vowels. Their frequency bands can often be shifted toward a higher frequency range while maintaining their ratio. Many researchers in this phenomenon (Carlo Trajna, Ernst Senkowski, Paolo Presi) agree with the hypothesis that the voices could be generated by a process exploiting the background sounds. This hypothesis finds some objective evidence in how the acoustic signal has been shown to sometimes degrade before the formation of the voice and then return during its utterance. As proposed by Carlo Trajna,² the voices are formed, not with additional or absorbed energy, but simply by exploiting the energy coming from background noise (impulsive or not) at the time of recording.

This hypothesis would also be confirmed by the changes of Shimmer³ value, which increases in proximity of background noise degradation while Jitter⁴ value remains constant. This finding means noise modulation is mainly in amplitude and limited in frequency. This feature has been noticed by the physician Alfredo Ferraro, famous scholar of borderline phenomena and practiced radio amateur.⁵

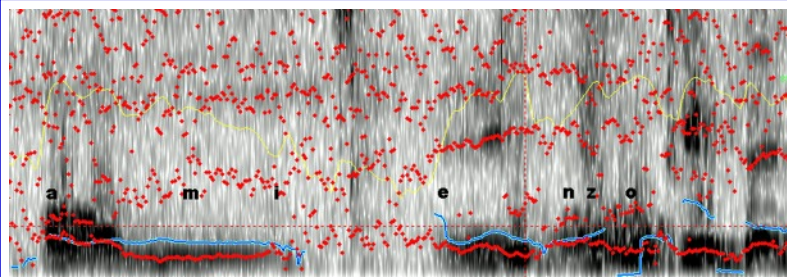
The Jitter values were altered over all the nine samples analyzed. In the case of human voice, an anomalous value for jitter generally indicates pathology in the speech-organs. In this case, this could indicate acoustic events originated by anomalous speech-organs.

The fact that a low-frequency sound from 1 to 30 Hz was recorded, combined with the voice and frequent saturation of the microphone and detector-amplifier with extremely low frequencies (ELF), suggests further research concerning possible correlation with electric activity of the brain. Related to this is a strong, ELF field detected by Gullà during deep meditative process by a group of volunteers. If

confirmed by further experimentations, this could open new researching into the interaction between psi and instruments.

A psychological and psychophysiological assessment is provided by Dr. Giorgio Gagliardi and colleagues [in the full report]. However, it appears that no significant finding was traceable to the voices production process. Mrs. Russo is

an emotional person with a high social communication attitude. Her manners are open and sincere and she has always shown a strong desire to share her experiences of contacts with the other dimension. She showed a strong worry and sometimes some anxiety about success in receiving the voices. This



This sonogram provides a good visualization of the formants (red) and the fundamental frequency F0 (blue). The dark bands represent frequency groups that are found in the vocalization. Sonograms provide a means of analyzing how sound is arranged to form speech.

worry was stronger in our regards rather than her own recordings. She has a strong faith in the survival of human personality after death and is not conditioned by any religious faith. Surely this strong belief helps the formation of this phenomenon.

The different ways through which the voices can manifest appears to depend on the sensitivity⁶ of the operator, and where applicable, on the psychic support of the experimentation group. The existence of psychic support of others is confirmed in the psychotemporal model proposed since 1992 by Carlo Trajna.⁷ Particularly, the presence of deeply interiorized conceptual models combined with expectations that seem reasonable to the operator to activate some unknown psychic channel.

Everyone appears to have this ability to some extent. It could be improved in time by individuals, particularly when a motivated operator regularly practices this kind of experimentation. This quality seems to be supported by a strong inner belief on the possibility to communicate with other levels of consciousness. Since 1985, I called this particular psychological attitude "*Inner Attentive Disposition*."

The experimental data obtained from "Progetto Sfinge" provides a biopsychocybernetic interpretation of the phenomenon. In other words, the final effects involve a complex interaction in a mind system. This indicates one or more minds can communicate within the limits of the psychic model of the process held in the operator's belief system. Such a psychic model would be able to produce physic effects through special action, defined as psychokinetic effect or PK Effect⁸ in the parapsychological literature. The fact that different operators obtain voices with different acoustic features,

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Analysis of EVP

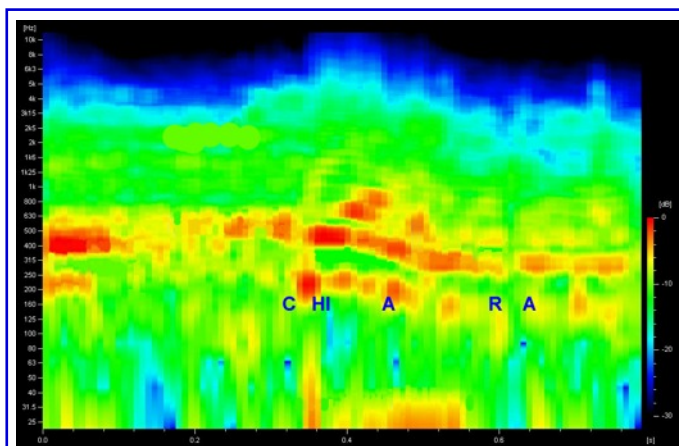
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even if they use the same equipment and the same method, appears to be a direct consequence of the different psychic models held by each operator. These different psychic situations would produce different physical effects depending on the model and how it is conceived.

7. Conclusions

From the electroacoustic analyses performed on the audio samples recorded under controlled conditions, we extracted the acoustic parameters distinguishing a vocal signal. These elements allowed us to identify the phonemes constituting the words we decoded linguistically.

By examining their structures and their anomalies, we were able to assert with documented evidence, that these events exhibit phonetic features associated with the voices. These voices have evident and absolutely original features and are structured and characterized by parameters which deviate from the typical human standards.



Sonogram showing the degradation of the acoustic signal (background noise and/or environmental acoustics) before the formation of the word "Chiara" and appearance of a very low-frequency noise in conjunction with its formation.

The presence of formantic bands, with localized noise strengthening, confers to the voice an acoustic structure close, but not identical, to the human one. The anomalies found where the voices were recorded allow us to affirm the existence of an atypical process of formation which is still today scientifically unknown despite their objective nature.

References

1. Definition introduced by Dr. Enrico Marabini in *La Biopsicocibernetica - una branca delle scienze dell'uomo* - La Mandragora, Imola, 2007.
2. Carlo M. Traina – *Ignoto chiama uomo*, Salani, Firenze, 1980.
3. **Shimmer**: value defining the amplitude fluctuation of a vocal signal based on an average of measurements over 5 periods of F0.
4. **Jitter**: value defining the frequency fluctuation of a vocal signal based on an average of measurements over 5

periods of F0.

5. Alfredo Ferraro – *Parapsicologia e...Spiritismo*, Età dell'Acquario, Torino, 2004, p. 185.
6. **Sensitivity**: term used to indicate the faculties of an individual which allow extrasensorial perceptions (ESP) and psychokinesis phenomena (PK) called by Biopsychocybernetics "Psi Interaction Phenomena."
7. Carlo M. Trajna – *Il modello psicotemporale*, Istituto Gnosis, Napoli, 1992.
8. **John Beloff** hypothesized that psychokinesis could not be a force, energy or physical process, but rather a strange result of a direct connection between our mind, the universe and everything in it. He proposed that this action does not need to be a kind of super energy localized in our mind or body but may be a thing happening in certain circumstances still to be identified; an idea or mental intention which is able to automatically force a physical system to express that idea or intention. To summarize, it would be a final event without the need of further process to make the results intelligible (Presidential Report presented in 1975 to the Society for Physical Research of London).

[Editor: The formation of transform EVP (voice formed from noise in a recording device) is a fundamental characteristic of ITC. Understanding how EVP are believed to be formed provides guidance in how to use EVP for communication. This study clearly indicates the importance of practitioner (operator) attention and intention and the availability of suitable audio-frequency energy (noise). See: *The Energy Profile of Transform EVP* (atransc.org/research.htm)

Other studies have indicated that choice of recording device is not as important as the kind of noise available for voice formation, but as a general rule, higher quality recorders (little internal noise) are more dependent on external noise. See: *Selecting an Audio Recorder* (atransc.org/techniques.htm)

As demonstrated with forensic-quality tools, the unusual formation of the voice in EVP, which are clearly understood by experienced listeners, causes difficulty for people who are not experienced with EVP. This fact has been demonstrated in the article: *EVP Online Listening Trials* (atransc.org/journal.htm). Also: *Hearing with Templates* (atransc.org/theory.htm)

Also read the companion article, "A Strange and Perplexing Characteristic of Our Extended Community" on page 7]



Friedrich Jürgenson - His Life and Work

by Carl Michael von Hausswolff, Director of The Friedrich Jürgenson Foundation

Friedrich Jürgenson was born in Odessa on February 8th, 1903. His mother was Swedish and his father was of Danish descent, practicing as a physician in Odessa where the family had moved from Estonia.

After living through World War One and the Russian Revolution as a child, Jürgenson trained as a painter at the Art Academy and as a singer and musician at the Odessa Conservatory, where he was a contemporary of the concerto pianist Svyatoslav Richter.

In 1925 the family was allowed to move back to Estonia where Friedrich continued his training as a singer and painter and shortly afterwards he moved to Berlin for more studies. Here his tutor was the bass-singer Tito Scipa. Scipa, a Jew, fled to Palestine in 1932 and Jürgenson accompanied him, staying for 6 years. During this period while still studying he made a living as a singer and painter and some forecast a successful career in opera for him.

In 1938 Jürgenson left Palestine for Milan for more studying and performances. In 1943 when he went to visit his parents, the colder climate caused him serious health problems and his voice was partly damaged, so he decided to give up his professional opera career to concentrate entirely on painting. He was a realist painter, mostly doing portraits, landscapes and still life.

Driven out by war in that year he moved to Sweden. Located in Stockholm, he married and became a Swedish citizen. Here he also learned his tenth language. During the following years he painted portraits of wealthy Swedes and motifs from Stockholm. In 1949 he visited Pompeii in Italy and to get more access to the buried city he showed some of his work to the Vatican and a few days later he received a proposal: the Vatican recognized his talents and asked him to catalogue their archaeological works buried beneath the Holy City. He returned the following year and for four months sat in this damp underworld, painted and contracted pneumonia. The Vatican medics cured him and when Pope Pius XII saw the results of his work he asked Jürgenson to paint a portrait of him. In all, Jürgenson produced four portraits of The Pope. Now he had full access to Pompeii as well and he returned there many times to paint.

In 1957 Jürgenson bought a tape-recorder to record his own singing and he started to notice at this time some quite strange phenomena; inexplicable fade-ins and fade-outs on the tapes; abstract visions and telepathic messages. Jürgenson understood that these events were

produced by his highly developed aural and visual senses caused by his artistic prowess.

In the following year Jürgenson had his first major exhibition amidst the ruins of Pompeii.

Back in Stockholm his telepathic contacts continued: "I sat by the table, clearly awake and relaxed. I sensed that soon something was going to happen. Following an inner pleasurable calmness, long sentences in English appeared in my consciousness. I did not perceive these sentences acoustically

but they formed themselves as long phonetic sentences and after a closer study I couldn't conceive the words as correct English but in a disfigured almost alphabetical way - completely deformed. I did not hear a voice, a sound nor a whisper. It was all soundless."

Later he also recalled that in the spring of 1959 he "got a message about a 'Central Investigation Station In Space', from where they conducted profound observations of Mankind" and "My friends spoke about certain electromagnetic screens or radars, that were frequently transmitting, day and night, in thousands to our three dimensional life levels and like living beings had a mission as mental messengers. Undoubtedly one could see these radars as half-living robots that, remote controlled, had the ability like an oversensitive television or radio to correctly register and transmit all our conscious and unconscious impulses, feelings and thoughts." Jürgenson knew that these fantastic facts really belonged in a Science Fiction world but he carried on hoping to capture these messages on tape.

On June 12, 1959, Jürgenson, and his wife Monica went to visit their country house to enjoy the warm summer. Jürgenson brought his tape-recorder to record the singing of wild birds, especially the chaffinch.

Listening to the tape he "heard a noise, vibrating like a storm, where you could only remotely hear the chirping of the birds. My first thought was that maybe some of the tubes had been damaged. In spite of this I switched on the machine again and let the tape roll. Again I heard this peculiar noise and the distant chirping. Then I heard a trumpet solo, a kind of a signal for attention. Stunned, I continued to listen when suddenly a man's voice began to speak in Norwegian. Even though the voice was quite low could clearly hear and understand the words. The man spoke about 'nightly bird voices' and I perceived a row of piping, splashing and rattling sounds. Suddenly the choir of birds and the vibrating noise stopped.

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Friedrich Jürgenson

Continued from page 14

In the next moment the chirping of a chaffinch was heard and you could hear the tits singing at a distance - the machine worked perfectly!"

From this point Jürgenson continued to investigate in these phenomena and at first he thought it was his "friends from outer space" but very soon he began to believe that these voices were "from the other side", or the 'Voices of the Dead'. Was he close to solving one of the fundamental mysteries of death?

At this moment Jürgenson experienced a remarkable event that would change his life: "I was outside with a tape recorder, recording bird songs. When I listen through the tape, a voice was heard to say "Friedel, can you hear me. It's mammy" It was my dead mother's voice. 'Friedel' was her special nickname for me."

At this point Jürgenson abandoned painting for his audio recordings and in 1964 he published 'The Voices From Space' (Rostema Fran Rymden, Saxon & Lindstrom Forlag, Stockholm): "My love for the arts was still alive now as ever, and I heart-searchingly asked myself if it was the right thing for me to abandon the art of painting - a creative occupation that I had submitted my whole life to" and later "instead I was sitting here with an enormous jigsaw puzzle brooding in despair over the problem of whether one could assemble a more complete picture from all these fragments. And, likewise ...I had never before been so touched and captured by any other urgencies than by these mystical connections, literally floating in the ether."

Now located in Molnbo, south of Stockholm, Jürgenson held his first press conference and the Swedish press were stunned by Jürgenson's scientific approach to these matters and were understandingly critical. International Paranormal

Societies, as well as the Max Planck Institute, the University of Freiburg and the Parapsychological Association in the USA, also took a keen interest and others; W Konstantin Raudive and Claude Thorlin, came to visit and began to work with tape recorders.

At first Jürgenson only used a microphone and a tape recorder. He simply set up the microphone, set the recorder to 'record' and spoke clearly into the room, leaving space for voices to respond. This was a bit tricky for Jürgenson since he always had to play back the tape, sometimes at a lower speed, to hear the voices. These voices spoke in a combination of various languages such as Swedish, German, Russian, English, Italian - all languages that Jürgenson knew and could speak. He called this new mixture of languages 'polyglot', or 'many tongues'.

In spring 1960 one of the voices told him to "use the radio" as a medium and this was the technique he used until his death. He connected a microphone and a radio receiver to the tape recorder and in this way he could have

a real-time conversation with his "friends." Usually he set the radio reception in between the frequencies where there's generally a variation of noises. Later he fixed the receiving frequencies to around 1445-1500 kHz (1485.0 kHz is now called the Jürgenson Frequency).

In 1965 Jürgenson took up painting again but his main activity remained recording. At this time he also revisited Pompeii and found that the site was being mistreated; sponsored by Swedish National Television he made the documentary film "Pompeii - a cultural relic that must be preserved" in 1966. A vast output followed in the ensuing years from this highly energetic and creative figure.

In 1967 a book was published by Verlag Hermann Bauer KG in Freiburg called 'Sprechfunk Mit Verstorbenen' about this electronic voice phenomena, or 'EVP', as it became known and in 1968 four documentaries were produced...

In 1968 his third book was published in Swedish: "Radio and Microphone Contacts with the Dead" (Radio och Mikrofonkontakt med de Dada, Nybloms, Uppsala). Rome was impressed with Jürgenson's documentary output. The result of his work at Pompeii was another mission for the Vatican and in 1969 his documentary "The Fisherman from Gallilea - On the Grave and Stool of Peter" was finished and for this Jürgenson received the Order of Commendatore Gregorio Magno from the hand of Pope Paul VI. Short after he also made a film about the life of the Pope and the quality of the film caused Paul VI to contact Jürgenson again. Jürgenson then painted three portraits of his second Pope. Around this time he was also permitted to conduct his own archaeological diggings in Pompei and he dug out the large domestic house of the former governor in Pompei.

In the 1970s Jürgenson continued to record and paint. Moving from Molnbo to Hoar in Skane, southern Sweden, he found a more peaceful place for his work. Age began to take out its toll and Jürgenson spent more time with his recordings at home, making an occasional trip to Italy. There was also serious talk about founding an EVP research institute in Italy. In 1978 he held his third press conference and gave a huge number of lectures. Here he predicted that soon we will be able to receive messages through the TV as well. He now labelled the work 'Audioscopic Research'. The German book was translated into Dutch, Italian and Portuguese at the beginning of the Eighties. In 1985 he held his last press conference in conjunction with a nationwide television appearance.

Friedrich Jürgenson died in October 1987 leaving several hundred tapes of recorded material.

On October 21, 1987, following the information his spouse had mediumistically received, Claude Thorlin, a Swedish friend of Friedrich Jürgenson took his Polaroid camera and sat down in front of the television set adjusted to a free channel.

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Paranormal Unity and What It Means To Me

by Mark Cook

[Editor: This was written for a hauntings investigation group, but it exemplifies part of a set of ethics which might be considered for the paranormal community at large.]

I'm sure you have seen it mentioned on Facebook, Twitter, Google+, or maybe even during a conversation at an event or conference. So what exactly does paranormal unity mean to us and can we ever achieve it? That's an excellent question and one I certainly cannot fully answer being one investigator in a sea of many. I can however do my very best to present the team I founded in a respectable way and expect team members to present themselves in the same way.

It shouldn't be that difficult to respect the opinions of other teams and the way they investigate. As a member of the paranormal community, I can remind our team that "our way" is not the only way and we still have a lot to learn even if we have been investigating for however many years.

I can also remind our team members that we do not own the paranormal and we should never take credit for the work of others. Be honest, give credit where credit is due and be willing to work with other teams even if that means allowing them to take the lead.

We can learn the history of this field, its founders and the work they have done. Remember that they did this when it was not a very popular thing to do and we would not be doing what we do today without their achievements. We can look to those who are doing legitimate fieldwork and research too. We may learn something new.

We should also be willing to share, whether it be ideas, evidence, or locations with the exception being a private residence that would fall under permission from the client.

This field is about the quest for knowledge that could lead to proof of something bigger than all of us, so why is there so much competition and petty fighting? At the end of the day, it all comes down to opinions and experiences, so shouldn't the exchange of ideas be the driving force?

It's up to each of us to bring this field into a legitimate and respectable light based on principle. I have seen many good people in the paranormal community who have had to defend themselves from senseless attacks that are sometimes very personal and vicious. If we have to continue to spend our time attacking each other, or on defense and response because of such attacks, then we are not making positive progress in this field.

With all of this said, I am just one investigator from a little paranormal team in Perry County, PA. However, I know which road I want my team to take, and if you ask what paranormal unity means to me while I travel that road the answer is simple: **Respect and support both the field and its members!**

From: The Cove Paranormal Research Society blog: The paranormal as We See It, "Paranormal Unity And What It Means To Me" by Mark Cook, August 11, 2013, blog.coveparanormal.com

Mark Cook is Cove Paranormal Research Society founder, lead investigator, and tech specialist.



A Poem on Sarah's Desk

Sarah Estep founded the American Association of Electronic Voice Phenomena Spring, 1982. We assumed leadership in 2000 and changed the name in 2010 Association TransCommunication. (Are we the next generation?)

EVP was discovered in 1959 and reach the English-speaking world in 1971. Imagine Sarah's bravery to start an International organization supporting what was then and still is today, a most controversial subject.

Sarah's daughter Becky told us this poem had been on her desk for years; for courage to venture on?



Sarah Estep at her EVP recording station.

The Journey

Ships are not built for the harbor,
surely in life there is more,
The journey is what brings fulfillment
to a life that is worth living for.

From the heart comes the hope of the present,
from memories dreams of the past.
From the soul comes the spirit of living,
from experience lessons that last.
Look ahead to see where you are going,
look behind to see where you have been.
Look inside to discover your purpose,
then let your life's voyage begin.

Take care as you sail to your future.
Share kindness with people you meet.
Take heart in the oceans you conquer,
till your journey through life is complete.

And when your life's voyage is over,
when your sun starts to set in the sea,
pass on to the next generation
The joy that the journey can be.

Tom Krause © 2000



Viewpoint

Continued from page 1

and told their stories, after which Tom displayed examples of the many forms of visual ITC and talked a little about theories for how the phenomena might be explained.

Mental mediumship is an important cornerstone of the FFF and time was set aside for demonstrations of mediumship by Kim Russo, Angelina Diana, Janet Mayer and Laura Lynne Jackson. We were very impressed by the quality of the information presented by the mediums. Their focus was not only on evidence but also on ethics. Mental mediumship is well-established as one of the phenomena providing evidence of both psi functioning and survival. However, anyone with the gift of gab and a little insight into human nature can claim to be a medium. This "wild west" environment makes it difficult for a grieving family to find a trustworthy person to help them contact a discarnate loved one. The FFF efforts to establish a registry of reliable mediums is perhaps one of the most beneficial services they can provide. You can view this list at foreverfamilyfoundation.org/index2.html

The very first night of mediumship demonstrations turned out to be extremely evidential for me (Lisa), but let me explain a little. My sister had made her transition on October twenty and the memorial in Arizona was only six days before our trip to San Diego for the conference. This was a difficult memorial because my sister never liked me. She wanted to be an only child and never really forgave me for showing up.

In lieu of flowers, donations to a fund for helping animals had been set up, which was wonderful. But, I asked if we could provide a wreath for the memorial because, with out flowers, the memorial would seem cold. My niece agreed to this and we ordered a big heart of roses to be delivered for the memorial. It turned out to be quite beautiful.

The whole thing was beyond awkward and stressful. We were invited to a potluck dinner at my sister's house the evening before the memorial. My niece welcomed us but introduced us to no one in the room of about thirty people. Again, at the memorial we were not asked to sit with the family and were not introduced to anyone. I can't blame my niece, as there is no telling what my sister had said about us. We had never been a part of her life, my sister did not even invite us to her daughter's wedding, saying after the fact that the invitation must have gotten lost.

There is no blame here, families are families. If there is reincarnation perhaps I have done something terrible to my sister in a past life. But because of the loss of this relationship, I cried my eyes out at the memorial. I tell you all of this only because of the next remarkable event.

That first night of the conference, Kim Russo came to Tom and gave him some amazing information on a step-brother and his father. After the event was over, Janet Mayer quickly came to me and said, "Lisa I can't believe

that Kim didn't come to you next. Who is the women; the mother that is here"? I immediately thought of my friend Jannet who's mother had just made her transition. Then Janet Mayer went on saying that she had been a florist and the women was pointing to a large beautiful floral arrangement. Immediately, it hit me that it was my mom. Then Janet said something about angel wings.

Angel wings were important to my sister because she had been very reassured by seeing angel wings, years earlier them during a heart angioplasty. They also seemed to assure me that my sister was on her way to a new life.

I simply can't express the impact of this message. I am so immensely thankful for those on the other side being able to get messages to us in so many different ways. This message through Janet was enormously healing and allowed me to know that my mother had been at the memorial and helped my sister across. I feel blessed for this experience and it's ability to help me let go of hurt feelings that are really nothing in the larger scheme of things.

Another very interesting message came from another medium who told us (before our presentation) that she had done a reading for a mother whose child was on the other side. The son said he was part of a circle (she used the term circle) trying to use technology to contact loved ones on this side. I asked "Big Circle?" and she immediately said "Yes!"

Friedrich Jürgenson

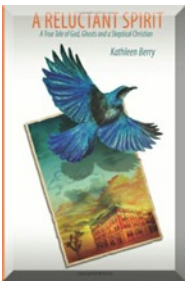
Continued from page 15

When, after about 20 minutes, the screen became black, Thorlin first thought of a power failure or a defect in the television set, when suddenly, in the left part of the screen, appeared a light point which in about six to seven seconds enlarged to such extent that it covered the entire screen, and then decreased again. The photograph taken at this moment shows clearly Friedrich Jürgenson whose funeral was taking place at exactly that time several hundred kilometers away (report in "Eskilstuna Kuriren" of Feb. 16, 1988, and verbal report by Jacobson).

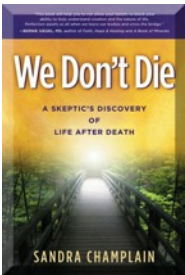
With thanks to Ernst Senkowski for permission to use this extract from his book - "Instrumental TransCommunication" Photograph taken by Claude Thorlin of Jurgenson at the time of his funeral. Additional thanks goes to The Friedrich Jürgenson Foundation and its Director Carl Michael von Hausswolff, the translators, Thomas Wingert and George G. Wynn and Firework Editions for the use of this and all the other material about and by Friedrich Jürgenson.

From ITC Journal No 34 April 2009 (itcjournal.org)

News from Members

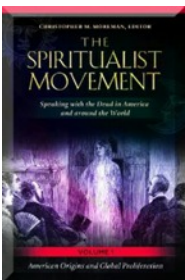


Kathleen Berry's new book, *A Reluctant Spirit: A True Tale of God, Ghosts and a Skeptical Christian* was just released. From the book description: "In this true story Kathy describes how she joined a TV news crew and paranormal investigators as the team's impartial observer. Their first stop was Central Nevada's fabled Goldfield Hotel. This overnight odyssey in the long shuttered, four-story hotel pulverizes her belief that the paranormal is evil or figments of the weak-minded. Kathy hears feels and sees spirits in the Goldfield which lead to a spiritual transformation. She shares insights into the mysteries of life after death, why coincidences do not exist and why we should heed our intuition. *A Reluctant Spirit* chronicles how Kathy reconciles her supernatural experiences with her Christianity and comes out stronger for it."



Sandra Champlain, with the help of Robert Lyon, has made a documentary of her book *We don't Die*. The DVD documents a skeptic's discovery of life after death. Sandra notes that every second, 4 human beings are born and every 1.8 seconds, one dies. As natural as death is, dying is the most common fear that we all share. With every loss comes the most painful emotion called grief, which can cause breakups of relationships, depression and even suicide. Over 100 million suffer from grief daily, although it is a subject not often spoken of, until now.

The fear of dying led Sandra on a fifteen-year journey to find evidence of the afterlife. She now shares her personal story about her journey from skeptic to believer, along with proof that our deceased loved ones can still see, hear and communicate with us. Sandra also shares new information on how our brains function during the grieving process and provides tools that can ease the pain. Sandra's book and DVD are available at wedontdie.com and on Amazon.



Walter Meyer zu Erpen contributed a chapter to Volume 2 of *The Spiritualist Movement: Speaking with the Dead in America and Around the World*. The chapter is about the T.G. Hamilton table levitations and ectoplasm, the Toronto Phillip experiments and Walther's own Victoria Spiritualist group's table tilting experiments. Walter told us that one of the chapters in Volume 2 is about Raudive and ITC. The Hardcover three-volume set is available from major online retailers for around \$150. Link to Amazon through ATransC.org and the Association receives an affiliate fee. The link is mid way down on the right side.

Relative of Konstantin Raudive

Have you ever wondered about the relatives of some of the famous researchers in the field of the paranormal? What are they like? Do they know about the paranormal background of their relative? Would they think we were all nuts?

Well, we were recently surprised by this email from Lisa C. She wrote, "I'm trying to reach Lisa and Tom Butler. Konstantin Raudive was the husband of my Latvian grand-aunt, Zenta Maurina. I have several of his first edition books.

"I started reading about him on the Web and I was astounded to discover his involvements and work with EVP. I listened to his recordings and could definitely identify the various languages and words, and listened to his recordings with you present and was amazed at how similar his deep voice was to another Latvian relative of his generation, one of his brothers-in-law.

I've had several pre-cognitive experiences since my mid-20s, and in the midst of several family losses these past two years, have had channeled contact from the departed and I also photographed dozens of orbs in the Queen Mary a year ago. Wondering about all this, and I'm intrigued."

[We have exchanged more emails with Lisa and plan to stay in touch with her.]

Extended Community Continued from page 7

The Academy for Spiritual and Consciousness Studies: The ASCSI purpose is to encourage an exchange of ideas between clergy and academics of religion, philosophy and scientists. Basic annual membership is \$40.

The Academy has recently opened a discussion board which promises to become an important forum for your education. See: ascsi.org

The Association TransCommunication (ATransC): The ATransC is dedicated to the study of all forms of transcommunication, which is communication across the veil with an emphasis on Instrumental TransCommunication (ITC), and its subset, Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP).

Annual membership in the organization is \$30; all funds go toward operations, public outreach and research. The organization has a world-class discussion board that is perfect for asking questions, collaboration and sharing.

References

1. Abstracts of Presented Papers at the 56th Annual Convention of the Parapsychological Association, 2013, Page 54.
2. Presi, Paolo, *Italian Research in ITC*, atransc.org/articles.htm
3. Leary, mark, Ph.D., *A Research Study into the Interpretation of EVP*, ATransC.org online Journal
4. Butler, Tom, *Critiquing ITC Articles written by Imants Baruss*, Viewpoint, EthericStudies.org.



Reports from the Field

Angie C. wrote, "My story began almost a year ago. My husband and I had gone camping for the weekend and had to return home when we learned that both of my grandparents were in the hospital for different reasons. They were admitted one day apart from each other. I had been trying to get a hold of my mom and Aunt Lisa because they had visited them. My mom and aunt had gone back to my grandparent's house in the early morning of September 8th to get some sleep. (It was closer for them to go there than back to their own home). They were the only two in the house at the time this took place.

I was at home taking a shower before going to the hospital. When I got out of the shower, I had a missed call and a new voicemail from my Aunt Lisa's phone. I listened to the voicemail and was confused at first because it didn't sound like her and I couldn't really understand what the message was. By the fourth or fifth time I listened to it, I was a little bit scared, not really knowing what to think.

I went to my grandparent's house (I live two minutes away). My mom and aunt were sitting on the couch drinking coffee, trying to wake up. They were upset that both parents were in the hospital. I asked my aunt if she had left me a weird voicemail, and with a confused look, said she had not tried to call me that day. When I played it for them, they had a look of shock on their face.

Angie felt that she heard *"It's me Anglia...I can kill her,"* which would be quite upsetting. The recording does sound like EVP but we thought we heard totally different things and nothing negative. That the call came from her Aunt's phone is really interesting.

A.G. wrote, "I'm almost embarrassed to contact you, as my experience is so small but to me it's everything. My beloved partner of thirty-seven years made her transition four years ago. There have been the odd contacts in the shape of an aroma or a light kiss on my forehead. But the significant one came two weeks ago in between 5a.m. and 6a.m. I was awake but dozing then I heard her unmistakable voice. It sounded urgent and a bit metallic. She just said *"Alan"* but with urgency, and I awoke with the certainty that it was my Pat. As I say, it's a bit of a nothing but it meant the whole universe to me.

Becky P. wrote "I stumbled onto your page for the very first time today. After reading the section about phone calls I wanted to share with you something that happened to me about twenty-five years ago, long before I ever knew about EVP or how to try to capture them.

At the time, I was in my early twenties and my sister had died suddenly at the age of twenty-six, eight years earlier. We had a special bond, and she was my best friend. I worked twelve-hour shifts at night, so slept during the day. Everyone I knew, knew not to call because I would be sound

asleep. One day, at about 1 p.m., (my deepest sleep time) my phone rang and I answered it, barely awake. I had to say hello three times and was almost ready to hang up when I heard my sister's voice say, *"Becky"* I answered "Yes, this is Becky." I heard my sister's voice again *"Becky"* and I replied "Yes, this is Becky, who is this?" The voice sounded so sad and answered, *"Becky, you don't remember?"* Then the line went dead, no dial tone; nothing.

For months, I begged for my phone to ring again, to hear her voice again, but it never did. Since then, I have learned how to work with EVP and have gotten some that I think are pretty interesting, but none have ever come from Christine.

Thank you for allowing me to share my story even though I have no proof to share with you. At least I was able to share it with someone who understands.

Melanie S. wrote "I lost my almost two-year-old daughter last month to SUDC, and I have been trying to work through my grief. I found your web site and I wanted to share my story: About six days after Hazel passed, I was going through my purse, cleaning it out of receipts and stuff, a habit I had while Hazel was around. Inside my house, and for no known reason, a ladybug crawled over my wallet inside my purse. My baby girl loved 'bugs.' I had no idea how that ladybug got in my purse, and I don't care. I gently picked it up and put it outside. Only after the experience did I think, Oh hey, that was my Hazel leaving me a little bug to let me know she's all right." but now, after reflection, I feel it's the only possible explanation.

"Thanks for hearing my story. Your website has helped me work through my grief." [Ladybugs are Cathy's sign to her mom Martha Copeland. Cathy and Martha are two of the founders of the Big Circle Transcommunication Group.]



Pamela Kramer is producing a paranormal Drama called "Absent Witness." She wrote, "These are the real stories of Karl Petyr's life. He is a remote viewer and psychic medium who has worked with the government, police and private sector." While shooting the pilot the editor sent her an EVP from one of the scenes. Right after the actor says to the other actor, "Why are you creeping around here," there is an EVP that says *"No Creeping."* She wrote, "It is definitely a child's voice. (We heard it and it's a child.) It was almost midnight and there were no children around. The actor wasn't a believer before, but now he is"

Kai Muegge Physical Séance

Reservation and Payment Form

Association TransCommunication is sponsoring a demonstration of physical mediumship by Kai Muegge of the Felix Experimental Group, Germany. Kai is an internationally known physical medium and perhaps the only living medium publicly demonstrating ectoplasm and ectoplasmic forms in lighted conditions. This is a rare opportunity for people to experience one of the most difficult forms of mediumship and proof that we are more than our physical bodies.

There will be two séances conducted in Reno, Nevada: Tuesday July 29 and Sunday August 3. All séances begin at 6:30 p.m. and may continue until after 11:00 p.m. The séance room is just a short drive from downtown Reno. You will be responsible for your transportation, food and lodging.

Of Major Importance: the séance dates coincide with the dates for Hot August Nights in Reno. There are hotel rooms available as we go to proof on this journal but these rooms may not be available in 4 weeks. If you want to attend book see if you can book a hotel room at any of the downtown Reno locations, immediately.

Attendance is \$150 due at the time of registration. Please send a **check made out to ATransC** with this form to ATransC, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507. A schedule of

available seating will be maintained by Tom and Lisa Butler. They will coordinate with you after receiving this form.

There will be no refunds unless your seat can be filled.

Admission may only be transferred with approval of Tom and Lisa Butler.

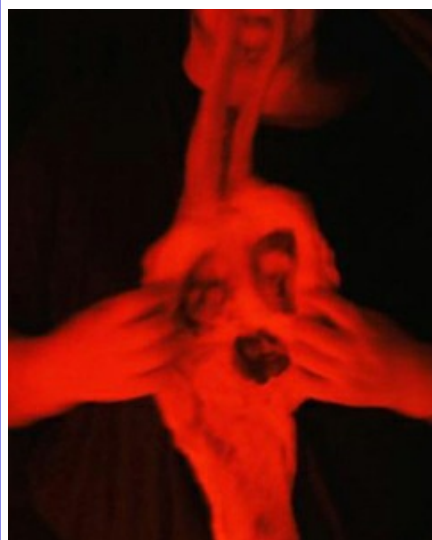
An important concern is the medium's safety and that of other sitters, so you will be asked to read and sign forms regarding physical séances and the required conduct of sitters. A photo ID will be required for admission the evening of the séance.

Ectoplasm is known to be potentially harmful to the medium and even to sitters if it is unexpected disrupted. Séances are conducted in total darkness with occasional short periods in which a red light is turned on for demonstration. Sitters are asked to sit in a small, totally dark room, close to other sitters for possibly two hours. If you

think you might be claustrophobic you probably should not sign up

Further Information

We have sat with Kai five times now. Our report of the first séance was in the Fall 2010 (29-3) ATransC NewsJournal. There was also articles about Kai's last visit with us in the Fall 2013 issue of The Journal. For more information contact us atranscom@aol.com.



Ectoplasm with faces produced by Kai Mügge

Séance Registration Form

Indicate in numerical order your session preferences

_____ Tuesday July 29

_____ Sunday August 3

(Please provide this form for each member of your party.)

Name

Address

City, State & Zip Code

Email Address

Phone Number

Agreement

The ATransC must vouch for you to Kai, so please indicate with your signature below, your agreement to a phone interview and that you understand the need to maintain an open mind and a positive attitude during the séance.

Signed

Date

Please send your check for \$150.00 **made out to ATransC** and a copy of your photo ID with this form to ATransC, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507.



Mail to: ATransC, PO Box 13111, Reno, NV 89507, USA