

JIM KLEE FORUM
LECTURE SERIES
UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA



PRESENTS

Amedeo Giorgi

**Beyond Psychology
As a Natural Science**
(Free Lecture)

Friday, March 28th, 2008

6:30 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

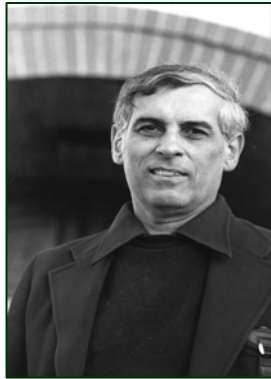
Kathy Cashen Recital Hall
Humanities Building

Sponsored by
Psychology Department
University of West Georgia

Keynote Speaker

AMEDEO GIORGI

As an undergraduate, Amedeo Giorgi was interested in studying the human experience, and so initially majored in English, to learn from the great stories. But he then discovered the writings of William James and realized, through James's depiction of topics such as "The Stream of Consciousness," the power of psychology to reveal the

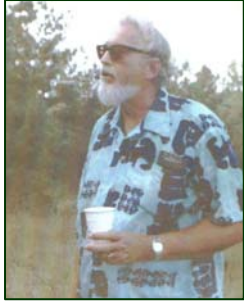


profundity of the human, and thus began his life-long quest for a psychological understanding of human experience. He earned his Ph.D. from Fordham University and began his teaching career at Duquesne University, helping to develop their newly launched graduate program in existential-phenomenological psychology in the early 1960's. This extraordinarily innovative approach proposed a fundamentally different paradigm for psychology and quickly attracted faculty and students from around the world hungry for such a revision of psychology. As Giorgi often noted, however, this proposed paradigm was "1% accomplished, and 99% a promissory note." It would be his life's work to bring that possible vision to

fruition. He noted that the more generally humanistic paradigm emerging in the 1960's tended to focus on content areas neglected by traditional psychology (love, creativity, friendship, etc) but that, to be a true alternative, what was needed was a different approach to theory and method. Giorgi understood that phenomenology offered such a possibility of founding psychology as a fully human science His many publications have contributed deeply to such a development, beginning with his first book *Psychology as a Human Science*. Subsequent volumes he authored, edited or co-edited include: *Duquesne Studies in Phenomenological Psychology* (volumes 1-4), *Phenomenology and Psychological Research*, and the monograph *A Phenomenological Analysis of Descriptions of Concepts of Learning*. In addition he was the founding and long-time editor of the *Journal of Phenomenological Psychology*. Among his many other professional services are his founding of the Human Science Research Association and his past presidency of the Division of Humanistic Psychology (of the APA). He has also taught at the University of Quebec and at Saybrook Institute, as well as visiting or consulting relationships with many other universities in North America and Europe. He has also given over five hundred presentations on all the inhabited continents. His mentorship of two generations of his students has resulted in faculty that has gone on to influence the development of many of the humanistically oriented graduate programs in the world, including here at West Georgia.

JAMES B. KLEE

Jim Klee earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in Psychology at the University of Michigan. Much of his academic career was spent at Brandeis University and at the University of West Georgia. At Brandeis he joined Abraham Maslow in establishing the first humanistic psychology program in the nation. There he also became colleagues with and influenced George Kelly and Ulric Neisser, two founders of the cognitive psychology movement. Yet cognition was far too narrow and rigidly cast a vision for Klee



himself. His great-plains-sized thinking simultaneously grounded humanistic psychology in existential-phenomenology while also stretching it to its own “outer reaches” in transpersonal psychology in its historical-temporal religious dimension. Jim typically explored the territory between categories. He navigated his sail ship of vision along the boundaries of words, concepts, and spheres of inquiry, between existing thoughts and disciplines, in a quest for openings to oceans of potential insight. His published collection, *Points of departure: Aspects of the Tao*, and his papers include such titles as “The Absolute and the Relative”, “India’s Mysterious Unity” and “Omniscience, Time and Suchness”. In the interstices, in the “in between”, he found a consciousness-expanding nexus of dimensionality and unity that reveals points of continuity among seemingly unrelated understandings offered by such persons as Satre, Spence, Bergson, Skinner, Aristotle, Plato, Lao Tze, and the Hindu Mystics. For Jim, the continuity was recognized in the discontinuity, the paradoxical, the ironic, and the symbolic. In 1971, Jim Klee joined the faculty of the newly-forming Humanistic Psychology program at the University of West Georgia. Owing greatly to his *largesse d’esprit*, the program burgeoned to its current prominence as a principal center for studies and research in Humanistic and Transpersonal Psychology. Jim was named Professor of Psychology Emeritus upon his retirement from the University of West Georgia in 1987. He died in 1996.

THE JIM KLEE FORUM FUND

The Jim Klee Forum Fund was established upon James B. Klee’s retirement from the Psychology Department at the University of West Georgia in 1987. As a token expression of appreciation for Jim’s monumental contributions to the personal and professional development of students and colleagues over a period of nearly two decades, the initial request for contributions was made to the alumni of the Psychology Department and the Department faculty. In accordance with Jim Klee’s wishes, proceeds from that fund have been assigned to the establishment of the Jim Klee Forum. Annually it brings to the university a speaker of national or international renown. Each forum features a major address by an invited speaker, along with dialogue among the speaker, discussants, and audience. Funding for this Forum series depends on contributions to the Jim Klee Forum Fund. These contributions are tax deductible and should be directed to the University of West Georgia Foundation, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA 30118.

Directions From Atlanta:

Travel I-20 West to Villa Rica/UWG Exit 24 (Old exit 5), and turn left (west) onto Hwy 61. Travel approximately 12 miles to Carrollton South 166 By-Pass, and turn left onto By-Pass 166 just past Ryan’s Steak House and Longhorn Steak House. Once the By-Pass dead-ends at the 6th traffic light, turn right onto Maple Street (Hwy. 166) and UWG will be on the left at approximately 6/10 of a mile. Turn left at the east entrance (by

McDonalds). Kathy Cashen Recital Hall (located in the Humanities Building) will be on the left and the Townsend Center for the Performing Arts on the right.

For more information

Contact conference chair Chris Aanstoos (678-839-0618); aanstoos@westga.edu or Morgen East (678-839-6510; meast@westga.edu)