

**TRAUMA VIDYA INTERNATIONAL
TRAUMA RELIEF TEAM
February 2, 2006 to February 26, 2006**



Raja Selvam, PhD., Santa Monica, California

Raja is a senior faculty member of Peter Levine's Somatic Experiencing professional training programs and the Santa Barbara Graduate Institute. He lectures and teaches internationally. After obtaining graduate degrees in business and statistics, and a doctoral degree in marketing, he is at present writing a dissertation towards a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Pacifica Graduate Institute. Raja's increasingly eclectic approach draws from bodywork systems of Postural Integration and Biodynamic Cranio-Sacral Therapy, body-psychotherapy systems of Somatic Experiencing and Biodynamic Analysis, Jungian and Archetypal psychologies, psychoanalytic schools of Object Relations and Inter-Subjectivity, affective neuroscience, and Advaita Vedanta, a spiritual tradition from India. His current interests are trauma and attachment on one hand and trauma and spirituality on the other.

Marcia Anderson, San Francisco, California



Marcia is a Somatic Experiencing Practitioner and authorized Continuum Movement teacher, with a background in Perceptual Integration, Biodynamic Foundation training, the Biodynamic shock and Perinatal Birth Therapy Training in Santa Barbara. Marcia practices in San Francisco, where she works with trauma renegotiation and early attachment issues. Marcia has coordinated and assisted for all levels of Somatic Experiencing trainings for 5 years in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has an ongoing spiritual practice and a deep interest in the cultures of S.E. Asia, India, and Tibet, where she has traveled extensively living in Nepal for almost three years.

Peter J. Baker, M.A., SEP, t-LLP, Detroit, Michigan



Peter has a Master of Arts degree in Clinical Psychology, is a certified Somatic Experiencing Practitioner and a nationally certified massage therapist, and is a Limited License Psychologist in the State of Michigan. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in Clinical and Somatic Psychology at Santa Barbara Graduate Institute. He has practiced massage therapy for 30 years, combining various modalities in an eclectic approach. He has also worked in the fields of substance abuse therapy, and personnel training and group facilitation for the auto industry. Peter has led workshops in massage therapy and in stress management in the workplace, and lectured on issues in substance abuse treatment. He has a private practice in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in which he combines hands-on bodywork with a narrative approach to facilitate resolution and self-regulation of emotional issues, with a specialization in substance abuse and related traumatic issues. He and his wife lead and organize community dance activities to further interpersonal contact and facilitate greater cross-cultural understanding.



Gisela Beneke, SEP, Freiburg, Germany

Gisela is a member of the German Association for Somatic Experiencing.

After working twelve years as a nurse mainly in intensive care, she graduated as a physiotherapist and alternative medicine practitioner. In addition to her professional work in rehabilitation centres, she has her own private practice Gisela has specialized in several holistic, energy-based therapies including Polarity and Craniosacral Therapy since 1994. She teaches anatomy, physiology and pathology at the Academy of Natural Healing in Basel/Switzerland. The core of her work is in Somatic Experiencing and working with trauma-based disorders. Deeply convinced and touched by the SE's effectiveness and wide fields of application, she is dedicated to bringing SE to South

Western Germany and has organized and assisted an introductory class in Freiburg. A full SE training program will start in the region of Freiburg in November of 2006.



Michelle Bongiorno, Hurleyville, New York

Michelle has a background in Cultural Anthropology with a focus on Asia where she has lived and worked for most of 18 years. Her Masters in Education at the School for International Training prepared her to administrate internationally-based human service programs and to facilitate training programs in cross-cultural settings. Michelle has done refugee resettlement training in Thailand with Southeast Asian refugees, worked in Hong Kong refugee camps with Vietnamese 'boat people', and was a village development worker for 6 years in Maharashtra, India. Michelle deepened her understanding of trauma and healing as a practitioner and teacher of Holographic Repatterning which she taught extensively around the world before studying Somatic Experiencing. She

is committed to bringing leading-edge healing practices to socioeconomically marginalized populations. Michelle holds a passionate belief born of experience that people can heal quickly and can actively support their own healing process. She is presently hired to coordinate the creative integration of Holographic Repatterning and Somatic Experiencing into all aspects of staff development and work with traumatized families at a large social service agency in the South Bronx in NY City.

Almut Prah, Norway



Almut Prah is a psychologist at the mental hospital for children in Tromsø/Norway. She has experience from working with adults and children and at her present job she works mainly with families. In addition she gives private lessons as a singing teacher. She integrates the SE approach both in her job as psychologist and as a singing teacher.

Patricia Meadows, MS, RN, RCST, Novato, California



Patricia is a holistic nurse counselor in private practice in Novato, California. She has Masters Degrees in Community Health Nursing and Community Mental Health Counseling and has completed six years of doctoral studies in East/West Psychology at the California Institute of Integral Studies. With over 30 years experience in health care and mental health in both inpatient and outpatient treatment settings, she has worked and taught across the life span, as well as across the whole continuum of health and disease. Currently, in her integrative practice, Patricia facilitates a process-oriented approach to healing and transformation which focuses on the integral growth and development of the whole person and all dimensions of human experience. She combines Somatic Experiencing with her specialized training and experience in prenatal and birth trauma therapy, biodynamic craniosacral therapy, energy healing, breath work, Authentic Movement, and psycho spiritual inquiry.

Elizabeth (Beth) Nielsen, LMFT, SEP, Newport Beach, California



Beth is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in private practice in Newport Beach, CA. Deeply moved by the Tsunami, Beth started and helped organize a team for the Foundation for Human Enrichment that went to Thailand to treat Tsunami survivors. In June 2005 she traveled to Tamil Nadu, India with an International Trauma team to offer relief to Tsunami survivors with post traumatic stress and to help train local professional in treating trauma. Beth now serves as both Secretary and Treasurer on the Board of Directors for Trauma Vidya, a nonprofit devoted to providing education, treatment and training in trauma. Beth has completed trainings in Somatic Experiencing, Bioenergetics, EMDR, domestic violence and Object Relations Therapy. She has worked extensively with children, adolescents, and families in the school system, group homes, and treatment centers. Her current work, enhanced by years of yoga and meditation practices, utilizes SE, appropriate touch, mindfulness, and body awareness/movement practices to help her clients heal trauma. Beth is very passionate about helping therapists understand trauma and assists in SE trainings throughout Southern California.

Lida Ruiter, Netherlands



Lida has a bachelor's degree in education and social work and started her career as a social worker specializing in community care. After working 10 years she obtained a master's degree in community building and became a supervisor and teacher of professionals in that field. In the second part of her career she worked as a counsellor with individuals and groups focusing on personal development and therapy. She has had her own private practice since 1990. Lida has also trained in Core-energetics (bodywork), naturopathy (SNG), healing at the Snowlion Center School, and Somatic Experiencing. An important part of her work and expertise is awakening the power of self healing in people.

Andrea J. Smith, SEP, CMT, San Carlos, California



With over 9 years as a certified self defense instructor and trainer with Impact Bay Area a full force, full contact self defense class, Andrea specializes in accessing the body to heal from sexual assault and boundary ruptures. She teaches skills in finding resources for creating and discovering safety within and outside the body. With over 700 hrs of bodywork training she gently adds support to the body to move through trauma. Before discovering Somatic Experiencing, Andrea worked as a production coordinator making TV commercials for 10 years and has directed a PSA for Impact Bay Area which ran for 3 years. She uses those skills to stay involved with the Foundation for Human Enrichment by filming trainings with Peter Levine and other trainings and workshops in the San Francisco area.

Tessa Ure, B.A., England



Tessa is a certified Shiatsu practitioner who also incorporates Reflexology, Pregnancy, Swedish, and Thai Massage in her practice. She has completed the first year of the Somatic Experiencing (SE) training. An avid photographer since the age of fourteen, with training in photojournalism and photographing children, Tessa will accompany the team as its photographer. She has a B.A. Honors degree in Art History with a specialization in Tribal Art and a media background with work experience at the BBC, Carlton Television and CNN. Tessa has traveled extensively in the Far East, Asia, India, Africa, the Caribbean, Australia and Latin America.

Hubert Zoller, Austria



Hubert is a Physio-and Manual therapist as well as a Cranio-practitioner who works with the Biodynamic approach. He completed his Somatic Experiencing training in spring 2005. Since 13 years he has his own praxis in Schwaz/Tirol in Austria working originally with the focus on neuroorthopedic medicine and pain therapy. In the last years he integrated more and more somatic experiencing into his practical bodywork. In the meantime the working spectrum includes the treatment in different kinds of traumas in children and adults.