

Gemma Collins

In my free time, I like to hike, bike, cross-country ski, and explore Washington's spectacular outdoors. I grew up on the Long Island Sound, and I like to be in and around bodies of water as much as possible—oceans in the winter and alpine lakes in the summer. I like to cook and eat good food and read memoir and other prosaic non-fiction. I live on Capitol Hill with my partner and my Yorkshire terrier.



Carlos Encalada

My name is Carlos Encalada. I'm a psychodynamically trained LICSW alum from Smith College School for Social Work. I'm also the son of Latino immigrants from Colombia and Ecuador. I'm also creatively minded. My multiple identity markers make the work of anti-racism and self-awareness very important in my personal relationships as well as my professional therapeutic work with clients. As I continue to grow and evolve, I regularly seek new (and old) ways to understand and see the world that hold similar wisdoms and guidance on our paths as humans in this marvelous universe of ours. Outside of psychotherapy, I enjoy capoeira angola, reading magical realism, science fiction, philosophy, and drinking coffee while sharing stories with elders.



Jake Goyden

I am a psychiatry resident at the University of Washington. I came to residency interested to learn more about psychodynamic psychotherapy. What I've learned and experienced so far has just grown my interest. Before medical school, I was a paramedic in Boise and northern Nevada, which is when my interest in psychiatry started. I've lived in Cleveland, SoCal, and Honduras for a bit, too. Boise was my childhood home. The outdoors, especially the mountains and the desert back home, have always been important to me. I'm excited to connect more with the community at SPSI!



Malin Hamblin

Hello, my name is Malin Hamblin. I am a social worker serving folks with substance use disorder diagnoses through a clinic with Public Health - Seattle and King County. I've been serving this population for about twelve years using a harm reduction practice, with experience in direct daily needs as well as recovery and sobriety work.

In my current position, I provide therapeutic support and connection to outpatient services in the community to folks enrolled in our low-barrier clinic that provides medication for opioid use disorder. Professionally, I would like to learn and grow in a direction that helps me connect the principles of harm reduction to psychotherapy in order to better serve those in my community. Having been the recipient of psychotherapy for an extended period of time, it feels important to me to learn how to integrate the gifts that psychotherapy and psychoanalysis bring into my practice. I'm looking forward to growing in all aspects of my SPSI experience.



Clarkie Hussey

Hey, I'm Clarkie! I'm a Seattle native, did my undergrad at UW and got my MSW at Seattle U in 2018. While in school, I interned at Catholic Community Services' Counseling, Recovery, and Wellness Center as a counselor/case manager. After graduating, I worked for a year in vocational rehabilitation before joining a private therapy practice, where I've been since then (now video-only, due to the pandemic). I have read some psychotherapy books (mostly Irvin Yalom's stuff) but haven't studied it formally--but am very excited to! I'm especially interested in the psychotherapeutic idea that people unconsciously manifest the difficulties in their lives (or at least the form those difficulties take) as a way of acting out internal scripts--I find this very true of my own life (in retrospect), and always try to think about how this might apply to my clients. I'm also very interested in queer and feminist critical theory (though again have never formally studied it!) and am curious about how critical theory and psychoanalysis might inform and challenge each other. Really looking forward to joining the SPSI community!



Brian Imber

Dr. Imber is a licensed Psychotherapist and Neurotherapist. He is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the state of Washington and in process of being licensed as a Psychologist in the state of Washington and state of California. Dr. Imber's subscribes to the contemporary model of psychotherapy called, "Trans-theroretical".



Dr. Imber's doctoral degree was granted by Saybrook University in Clinical Psychology with a specializations in Applied Psychophysiology and Depth Psychology. His theoretical focus is on the Transtheroretical treatment approach, which includes competence in multiple therapies including: psychodynamic, interpersonal, family systems, cognitive-behavioral, EMDR and exposure, rational-emotive, emotionally focused, and humanistic therapies.

Dr. Imber has other degrees in Clinical Psychology (MA), Business (MBA) and Geology (BA). His clinical internship experience was completed at Brain Health Northwest, a private practice in Seattle, WA working with clinical and forensic clients. His published dissertation thesis was on combining a stress management therapy with biofeedback and he received the award of Distinctive Dissertations. Dr. Imber is board certified in Neurotherapy and Biofeedback. He is additionally trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT).

Dr. Imber currently has a private practice in Bellevue, WA and helps individuals, couples, and families with a wide spectrum on mental health concerns and diversity of multicultural backgrounds. He specializes in integrating applied psychophysiology treatments and assessments (Neurofeedback, Biofeedback, Heart Rate Variability, Cranial and Visual Stimulation, and Photobiomodulation).

Erin Menser

Born and raised in Michigan, I moved to Seattle in the spring of 2011. Prior to that, in 2010, I completed my MA degree at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. During my MA program I interned as an on-site Counselor at Harold Washington City College. My first position in Seattle was as an Extern Counselor at Well-spring Family Services (WFS). Since then, I have remained at WFS, but I now work in Wellspring's Employee Assistance Program department. My current position allows me to work as an on-site LMHC / EAP provider at one of our contracted companies.



I am the Chair of the Membership Committee at NWAPS and have been a member of that organization since approximately 2012.

I enjoy doing Pilates or yoga, reading, watching scary movies, volunteering at Edmonds Center for the Arts, and planning my next get away. For the prior 20 years I enjoyed cuddling with my beloved cat Susie and now look forward to having a cat free life for at least a few years.

Albert Mezistrano

My name is Albert Mezistrano, and I am currently working at a community mental health clinic in Seattle. I completed my MSW in 2018 interning at an outpatient clinic in the South Bronx before moving to Seattle, getting married, and working the last two years in Belltown. Although my original interests lie in the field of philosophy, I have since shifted my focus to psychoanalysis. While still a young student of psychoanalytic thought, I find myself increasingly intrigued with its implications on a personal as well professional level.



Peter Minich

Peter Minich started his career as a transplant surgeon. Almost immediately, despite the scientific aspects of his career, he appreciated the human aspects of clinical successes. This led him to embark on a PhD in organizational leadership at Vanderbilt. Following this he taught physician leadership internationally- skills that could be learned by physicians to create safer clinical environments. Most recently, he has explored the impact of psychological trauma on somatic urologic disease. His dream is to create a truly integrated approach to patients with psychosomatic illness.



Matija Petrovcic

Matija Petrovcic will be completing his Master of Arts in Counseling from City University of Seattle on August 29th 2020 and will be starting to practice in community mental health setting as an Adult Services Clinician as a member of Sound Health, Northgate. Matija Petrovcic completed his clinical internship at Sound Health, Tukwila, providing individual and group counseling service to the population suffering from Intellectual and Developmental Disorders from October 2019- July 2020. Matija's interest in mental health field started developing during his nine-year experience of working as a tutor in mathematics, physics and chemistry and observing how family systems and educational difficulties contribute to the development of self-concept and sense of agency in youth. Prior to starting his practice



as a mental health clinician, Matija worked for 7 years as an analytical chemist in pharmaceutical industry and is holding Master of Science in Chemistry from University of Zagreb.

Nicole Podell

I specialize in treating teens and adults with anxiety, depression, eating disorders and symptoms of PTSD, particularly resulting from interpersonal and attachment based trauma.



Sherry Thomas

I am a psychodynamic, relational, and experiential therapist who works with adults, adolescents and children ages 4+. I provide psychotherapy and specialize in addictions, mood disorders, trauma, and play therapy.



Cummings Rork

I am a current fourth year psychiatry resident at the University of Washington, and the outpatient chief resident for the Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic. My clinical practice is a mixture of consultation, medication management, structured, and open-ended psychotherapy. I have particular interest in integrative and collaborative care, curriculum development and education, and physician coaching.



Emily Anne Taylor

I am a lifelong student of psychology with love for photography, classic literature, Sci-Fi, and jumping into cold water. I believe that relationship is a deep resource for healing even as it a place where so many have been wounded. I work from a social justice perspective based on the foundational belief in the goodness of every human. I see my practice as a space where people can bring their pain and find relief in the presence of another. I am currently a Clinical Supervisor at Seattle Counseling Service where I see clients and supervisees as an LMHC and SUDP. I attended The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, where they teach from a psychodynamic perspective, which gave me my jump into more psychoanalytic perspectives. Last year I took an intro to Object Relations course at Center for Object Relations, which I really enjoyed, and is part of why I'm continuing with this more intensive learning program.



New Clinical Associates, 2020

Taryn Beard

Hello Everyone! My name is Taryn Beard. I grew up in Southern California and moved to Washington for my doctoral internship. Currently, I live in teeny Ellensburg with my fiance Danny and our morkiepoo Leonardo. I am excited to begin this journey in learning psychoanalysis. I hope to combine yoga and analysis. My favorite things to do are read about skincare, cook Southern, Japanese, and Italian food, and laugh with my loved ones.



secondary education (teaching math) and then through non-profit community work. I grew up in the Pacific Northwest, spent my twenties in the San Francisco Bay Area, then returned to Seattle for graduate school in Counseling Psychology. Upon completing my masters degree in 2011, I worked as a Teaching Assistant at The Seattle School for Theology and Psychology while building my private practice as a therapist in the Seattle area, which has been full time for several years now. I primarily work with twenty or thirty-somethings, some of which is short-term symptom management but more often the relationship turns into longer-term therapy, working with underlying dynamics contributing to presenting issues. Personally, I love being outdoors—mostly through trail running or cycling, though this summer I've stayed closer to home, playing and relaxing in parks with my new puppy. When not being active, I enjoy watercoloring, reading and cooking good meals with family and friends.

Kisha Clune

I'm excited to be joining the SPSI community! I've made my way into psychoanalytic training through a combination of obsessive consumption of literature and childhood trauma. Glad to be here, amongst my own.



Eric Mann

I'm a native to Seattle. I grew up in Redmond when Redmond was still a small farming town and Microsoft was yet to come. I've come and went over the years to Colorado and Canada working as a mountaineering guide and instructor, but often end up back in Seattle, perhaps due to the wonderful snowy mountain winters. When I'm not working in my practice, I spend most of my time running, climbing, skiing and mountaineering in the North Cascades with my wife Genevieve and dog Watson.



April Crofut

Originally from California, April completed medical school and psychiatry residency at the University of CA, Davis and psychotherapy training at the San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis. She has been in private practice in Oregon for the past several years, currently in Portland where she lives with her husband and 7 year old son. In her free time she enjoys running, reading, and making her way through the abundance of local vegan cuisine.



Maggie Mathew

I grew up in south Louisiana and spent the past two decades living abroad and between the east and west coasts. Since completing my MSW at Smith College in 2012, I have worked in community mental health agencies, high schools, and homes, and I opened a private practice in 2018. I'm pleased to be joining the SPSI community and look forward to seeing my practice evolve with analytic training.



Jamelyn Keatts

I work full-time in private practice, with young adults and adults dealing with depression, anxiety, relationship issues and/or sexual trauma. Most of my work with patients is psychodynamic oriented, primarily through the lenses of object-relations and intersectional feminism. I have a background working with adolescents, first through



Erika Mora

Erika Mora is a licensed clinical social worker in the state of Washington. She opened her private practice one year ago after working in community mental health for about six years. Her passion is helping clients to develop a deep sense of awareness of their feelings. She enjoys working with biracial/bicultural people and addressing systematic oppression.



She enjoys spending time with her family and friends. A perfect weekend for Erika is cooking and having a table full of loved ones enjoying her dishes. During the summer, Erika and her family explore the beautiful northwest trails. On a rainy Washington day, she cuddles with Gigi the four-legged family member to read a book.

Jesse Paulsen

I grew up in two different suburbs of Boston, MA, went to Haverford College outside of Philadelphia and majored in Theatre. I lived in Philadelphia for four years after college where I worked for an urban educational farm and a cocaine addiction study while starting a small theatre company with three friends. I then completed a post-baccalaureate pre-medical program at Bryn Mawr College and stayed on to TA for a year. I met my partner in Philadelphia and she lead us to move back to her hometown of Seattle in 2013. I worked for the Pike Market Neighborcare Clinic for a year before starting medical school at UW. We decided to stay in Seattle for our respective residencies. I am currently a third year psychiatry resident at the UW, I live in the Central District, and my partner and I just welcomed our first baby (Elke Louise) to the world on June 13th.



Lionel "Lio" Perez

Lionel "Lio" Perez is a psychiatrist in private practice in Seattle. He graduated from college and medical school at Harvard, and completed his psychiatry residency at the University of Washington in June 2020. He enjoys working with adults and older adolescents, and is intellectually motivated to understand the contributions of varied psychotherapeutic traditions.



He was born in Cuba and came to the U.S. when he was nine years old. For fun, he enjoys dancing, spending time in the outdoors, meditating, doing yoga, reading, lounging in coffee shops, playing tennis, swimming, exploring new places, eating delicious food, and spending quality time with loved ones.

Monica Samelson

Monica Samelson recently graduated psychiatry residency at University of Washington and is starting a psychotherapy-focused private practice. Her professional interests include trauma recovery and sociologically-informed perspectives on individual psychology. She is from Chicago and Phoenix, has a very cute toddler, and loves to read and bake in her free time.



Dave Shen-Miller

Good morning. I am pleased and excited to introduce myself to you as a clinical associate, and to join the community of psychoanalysts and psychoanalytic enthusiasts in Seattle and around the world. My path to joining you has been a winding one. For the last several years I have been working as a psychologist in individual practice in Wallingford, with a focus on the psychology of men and masculinity and work with people of all genders. Prior to this, I had been a professor (assistant and then associate) of counseling psychology at two universities over 10 years, and prior to this, a ballet dancer, bouncer, and bartender.



I have been very interested in pursuing analytic training for as long as I can remember, predating my career as a dancer, intertwining with the dynamics of that life as an artist, and shifting yet again as I turned more formally to the internal world through graduate work.

Thank you for your welcome, and I look forward to learning from you and with you.

Anthony Thomas

I completed my residency training in psychiatry in June of 2019. Since that time I have worked in emergency psychiatry. I evaluate patients in crisis. Patients generally present depressed with suicidal ideations and sometimes after a suicide attempt. Patients often present during acute psychosis. Additionally, I oversee an inpatient psychiatric unit. Most patients are of lower socioeconomic background and many come from underserved communities. Many patients are also severely mentally ill and unable to care for themselves without assistance from family or from public services.

I take a psychodynamic approach to my patients. I spend significant time not only hearing their symptoms but listening to how they may have developed their symptoms and how social relationships and social factors contribute to their clinical picture. In addition to initiating medication I attempt to make each interaction with patients therapeutic.