

# AT THE EDGES OF CONSCIOUSNESS SCIENCE AND ANOMALOUS EXPERIENCES

**Pari, Italy / June 6-13, 2023**



Pari Center



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with **Allan Leslie Combs**  
**Etzel Cardeña**  
**Paul Grof**  
**Sarah Janes**  
**Jeffrey Kripal**  
**Roderick Main**  
**Dean Radin (via Zoom)**  
**Tanya Sacramento**  
**Peter Sjöstedt-Hughes**

Curated and chaired by **Àlex Gómez-Marín**



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**The study of consciousness requires that we take seriously the many flavors of human experience, particularly those that lie at the edges of what is typically explored scientifically and discussed in public.**

**From psychedelics and synchronicities, to lucid dreaming and psychic phenomena, the ‘backdoors of perception’ have the potential to transform not just neuroscience and physics but our very understanding of the nature of reality and our place in it.**

# AT THE EDGES OF CONSCIOUSNESS: SCIENCE AND ANOMALOUS EXPERIENCES

Dates

**June 6 – 13, 2023**

Location

**Pari, Tuscany, Italy**

Presenters

**Allan Leslie Combs, Etzel Cardeña, Paul Grof, Sarah Janes, Jeffrey Kripal, Roderick Main, Julia Mossbridge, Peter Sjöstedt-Hughes.**  
Virtual presentation: **Dean Radin**

Curated and  
chaired by

**Àlex Gómez-Marín**

Event

**The event starts with a welcome dinner on Tuesday June 6 at 19:00 and ends after lunch on Tuesday June 13.**

Fee

**1975.00 euros, which includes:**

- a 7-night stay in private accommodation;
- breakfast, lunch and dinner at the local restaurant featuring locally sourced produce and traditional dishes;
- the water, wine, and coffee provided with meals;
- programmed activities and materials;
- refreshments provided at mid-morning and mid-afternoon coffee breaks.

## The event

Through presentations and informal discussions in a convivial atmosphere you will learn about, and have opportunities to discuss, the insights and research findings of world-renowned experts on what are called ‘exceptional’ experiences.

The subject fits under the umbrella of consciousness research, which is currently enjoying a huge renaissance in terms of general interest and academic momentum.

The study of consciousness requires that we take seriously the many flavors of human experience, even those—ranging from psychedelics and lucid dreaming to synchronicities, near death experiences and mystical phenomena—that could be said to enter through the ‘backdoors of perception.’ Such experiences have up till now been largely avoided by academia and left to lie beyond the border of what is typically explored scientifically and discussed in public.

However, now it is more openly being asked whether such experiences can actually inform—and even transform—not just neuroscience and fundamental physics but also our very understanding of the nature of reality and our collective and individual place in the world.

The scientific study of consciousness is now allowing that it has reached a stage where such parcels of human subjectivity have to be taken seriously. In fact, it is playing an important role in the recognition that such ‘backdoors of perception’ have the potential to profoundly impact our current state of knowledge in many fields.

We at the Pari Center seek to bring together world-renowned experts from a variety of disciplines to meet together in person and deepen our insights on the workings and bases of such experiences, while also exploring creative and rigorous frameworks to integrate such a constellation into a coherent understanding. You are cordially invited to join us.

## What a typical day looks like

8:30 - 9:30	breakfast
10:00 - 13:00	formal presentation (including a half-hour break)
13:00	lunch
16:00 - 19:00	interactive/workshop session (including a half-hour break)
20:00	dinner
21:00	free time (retire to your accommodation for quiet time, engage in informal discussions, or, if there is a village event such as music in the piazza, join in)

For those seeking opportunities for interaction between participants and presenters (ratio around one to four!), these occur not just in the more formal presentations—which will allow time for discussion and Q&A—but also at the workshops, mealtimes, and during the free time.



## *‘The future has an ancient heart?’*

CARLO LEVI

Our founder David Peat compared Pari to an alchemical vessel—a place where transformation can come about—as well as an opportunity to pause for a moment and re-assess one’s life. Participating in an event at the Pari Center means not only meeting with scholars and experts but living for a week in a medieval village, mingling with the local population, eating local dishes and drinking local wines. It also means being able to view the beauty of the surrounding countryside, and participating in a very gentle way of life far from the frenzy of work and city living.

Pari today continues in a remarkable state of preservation. In the 1950s Pari’s population began to drop from 1500 to the present 100 as people left to find work in the cities. The Pari Center maintains a close relationship with the village people and supports the local economy by renting accommodation—furnished apartments—on behalf of our participants, by having the local restaurant provide meals, and by supporting the local businesses.

Pari is located a few kilometers from the main superstrada that connects Siena to Grosseto. The nearest airports are Rome, Florence and Pisa. Once you have arranged your flight, we can guide you on the best means of travelling to the village.



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