

HOW TO THINK IMPOSSIBLY

A mind-bending invitation to experience the impossible as fundamentally human

Pari, Italy
June 28 –
July 1,
2024



JEFFREY J. KRIPAL

Curated and
chaired by

Àlex Gómez-Marín

In order to present his new book *How to Think Impossibly: About Souls, UFOs, Time, Belief, and Everything Else*, Jeff Kripal will host a special event at the Pari Center. In this three-day teaching (and experiencing!) gathering—our major in-depth workshop with an author this year—we will explore with a rigorously open mind the edges of human experience and thought

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Pari Center

HOW TO THINK IMPOSSIBLY: A MIND-BENDING INVITATION TO EXPERIENCE THE IMPOSSIBLE AS FUNDAMENTALLY HUMAN

Dates

June 28 – July 1, 2024

Location

Pari, Tuscany, Italy

Presenter

Jeffrey J. Kripal

Curated and
chaired by

Àlex Gómez-Marín

Event

The event starts on Friday June 28 at 16:00 and ends on Monday July 1 after lunch.

Fee

725,00 euros, which includes:

- a 3-night stay in private accommodation;
- breakfast, lunch and dinner at the local restaurant featuring locally sourced produce and traditional dishes;
- water, wine, and coffee are provided with lunch and dinner;
- programmed activities and materials;
- refreshments provided at mid-morning and mid-afternoon coffee breaks..

The event

From precognitive dreams and telepathic visions to near-death experiences, UFO encounters, and beyond, so-called impossible phenomena are not supposed to happen. But they do happen—all the time. Jeffrey J. Kripal asserts that the impossible is a function not of reality, but of our everchanging assumptions about what is real.

How to Think Impossibly invites us to think about these fantastic (yet commonplace) experiences as an essential part of being human, expressive of a deeply shared reality that is neither mental nor material but gives rise to both.

Thinking with specific individuals and their extraordinary experiences in vulnerable, open, and often humorous ways, Kripal interweaves humanistic and scientific inquiry to develop an awareness that the fantastic is real, the supernatural is super *natural*, and the impossible is possible.

Prof. Kripal's new book, ***How to Think Impossibly***, will be published on July 3rd, 2024.

As complimentary preparation material, participants will receive an exclusive digital copy of the Prologue and Introduction of the book before its publication, as well as a signed physical copy of the book while in Pari.

Participating in an event at the Pari Center means living for a week in a medieval village, mingling with the tiny local population, eating local dishes and drinking local wines, appreciating the beauty of the surrounding countryside, and participating in a very gentle way of life far from the frenzy of work and city living. 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. It's a unique opportunity open to everyone.

Schedule

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Intro (Friday afternoon) | Thinking-with experiencers... |
| Part 1 (Saturday morning) | World of the dead and the nature of soul |
| Part 2 (Saturday afternoon) | Praying mantises, flying saucers and professional comedians |
| Part 3 (Sunday morning) | Neuro-diversity and multi-verses |
| Part 4 (Sunday afternoon) | Time travel, quantum physics and meaning |
| Outro (Monday morning) | How to pull it all together |

Jeffrey J. Kripal is the J. Newton Rayzor Chair in Philosophy and Religious Thought at Rice University. He also helps direct the Center for Theory and Research at the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, California and sits on numerous advisory boards in the U.S. and Europe involving the nature of consciousness and the human, social, and natural sciences.

Most recently, Jeff is the author of *The Superhumanities: Historical Precedents, Moral Objections, New Realities* (Chicago, 2022),

where he intuits an emerging order of knowledge that can engage in robust moral criticism but also affirm the superhuman or nonhuman dimensions of our histories and futures. His forthcoming book is *How to Think Impossibly: About Souls, UFOs, Time, Belief, and Everything Else* (Chicago, 2024). He is presently working on a three-volume study of paranormal currents in the sciences, modern esoteric literature, and the hidden history of science fiction collectively entitled *The Super Story: Science (Fiction) and Some Emergent Mythologies*. His full body of work can be seen at <https://jeffreyjkripal.com> He thinks he may be Spider-Man.



What a typical day looks like

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 8:30 - 9:30 | breakfast |
| 10:00 | presentation (including a half-hour break) |
| 13:00 | lunch |
| 16:00 | presentation (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 the presenter, these occur not just in the more formal presentations—which will allow time for discussion and Q&A—but also at meal-times, 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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Pari Center