

CLAUDIA BADER
Duende, the Golden Dark

"All that has black sounds has duende." Manuel Torre

In the opinion of the lecturer, psychoanalysis is the science with duende, since we are specialists in seeing in the dark, the realm of the unconscious. Duende is a term used to describe artistry empowered by the awareness of death. The term was the cornerstone for Federico García Lorca's poetry, and is primarily used to describe Flamenco performers. No art form embodies "danger and desire" more aptly than flamenco. Attachment, passion, anger, death, and mourning are key themes in this art.

This lecture begins with a discussion of the psychodynamics of the color black, moving to the definitions of thanatos from Freud and Klein. A clip from the film "The Matrix," to illustrate toxic narcissism and the death instinct is shown. The lecturer then integrates Jungian alchemical models with ideas of darkness, discussing how duende is an aspect of the mercurius archetype, also quoting Joyce McDougall in this context.

To conclude, there is a case study using both artwork and dream material from a client to illustrate the healing process as she detoxifies from thanatos, finishing up with a film clip of flamenco.

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