

# Aperture

The Official Publication of the  
International Remote Viewing Association

## A Message from The Editors

Greetings, dear readers! You will find that much of this issue of *Aperture* is devoted to an extensive review of the important book *Mind At Large*, a scholarly and scientific compilation of remote-viewing articles by several authors prominent in the field. The book owes its genesis to prestigious symposia on ESP sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and among its offerings are articles by Ingo Swann, Dr. Harold E. Puthoff, Russell Targ, Dr. Charles T. Tart, Dr. Edwin May, and many others of note. This book was of great importance to the formative development of remote viewing as both a legitimate field of scientific inquiry and as a truly useful and useable tool. In this vein, its rank is exceeded only by the seminal *Mind Reach* (by Targ and Puthoff), which, happily, will once again be widely available beginning in February 2005 as the newest volume in the Studies in Consciousness series, edited by Russell Targ and published by the Hampton Roads Publishing Company. Still, the various papers contained in *Mind at Large* are just as relevant and significant today as when the volume first appeared in 1979.

Along with this review, we are also delighted to include, as usual, other insightful features and articles about remote viewing, including an entertaining report on our 2004 Remote Viewing Conference in Las Vegas, which was widely hailed as the best annual IRVA event so far. We sincerely hope that title will last only as long as our next conference, which is now finally in the planning stages. Stay tuned for more information! ☺



### Aperture

Ap - er - ture (ap'ěr-chěr) n. 1. A hole, cleft, gap, or space through which something, such as light, may pass. 2. A term of art in certain remote viewing methodologies, signifying the point or portal through which information transitions from the subconscious into conscious awareness.

### Inside This Issue

Feature Article .....	2
RV in the News	
Suspect Zero .....	6
Proof Positive .....	8
ReView	
Mind at Large .....	9
Taskings & Responses .....	15
ReView	
The Psychic Fiction of Martha C. Lawrence .....	17
RV in Film and Print .....	18
About IRVA .....	20



## APERTURE

*Aperture* is a publication of The International Remote Viewing Association (IRVA), PO Box 381, East Windsor Hill, Connecticut, USA, 06028, toll-free (866) 374-4782. It is distributed quarterly to persons and institutions holding membership in the Association. Copyright © 2004 by The International Remote Viewing Association. Design & Production, Fox Computer Systems

### Editorial Team

William P. Eagles  
Paul H. Smith  
Skye Turell

### Board of Directors

#### Officers:

President ~ Stephan A. Schwartz  
Vice President ~ Paul H. Smith  
Secretary ~ William P. Eagles  
Treasurer ~ Sandy Ray

#### Board Members:

John Alexander, Ph.D.  
Leonard Buchanan  
William F. Higgins  
Russell Targ

#### Advisor:

F. Holmes Atwater

#### Advisors Emeriti:

H. E. Puthoff, Ph.D.  
Marcello Truzzi, Ph.D. (dec.)

#### Organizing Facilitator:

David Hathcock

#### Web Master:

Shelia Massey

#### IRVAmembers Moderator:

Cheryle Hopton

Administrative Director, Anneliese Fox  
IRVA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization devoted to the encouragement of research, education, and public information in the field of Remote Viewing.

A General Membership in IRVA is \$35 per year (\$45 outside the US and Canada), which includes a subscription to *Aperture* and discounts on major conferences.

Letters and contributions to *Aperture* are invited. All manuscripts, review copies, reprints, and information items should be addressed to the Editor. Submission of material does not guarantee its publication.

Web—<http://www.irva.org>



# Feature Article

## The 2004 IRVA Conference in Las Vegas

By Robert Durant with Paul Rivera

It was topping 100 degrees outside and the ride from McCarran Airport to the hotel was long, with the “Strip” hotels receding behind us on the freeway. The MGM Grand, the Bellagio with its huge fountains spraying, and that gigantic pyramid called the Luxor! The taxi seemed trapped in a neon blur. And some-



Conference organizer Cheryle Hopton, conference chair Paul H. Smith, together with presenter Daryl Bem, Ph.D., and Bill Ray, the conference master of ceremonies.

where in the distance nestled the Texas Station Hotel and Casino, still a tiny star amongst the megawatt Las Vegas galaxy of lights. Texas Station? Why not the pyramid? After all, this was a gathering of the clan of remote viewers, for gosh sakes, not the Rotary Club!

But one foot in the door was like entering another dimension. That’s Las Vegas, folks. Cool air, bodies, noise, color, action. Every move from A to B required navigation through the slots, but it was never dull or obnoxious. In fact, the place had a variety of good restaurants, the rooms were nice, and the conference auditorium perfect—a quiet

sanctum in the heart of the weird casino.

Attendance was smallish, a disappointment to the organizers and, until late Saturday, actually a cause for some alarm. Would the conference break even? No small issue for a pay-as-you-go outfit like IRVA, still left to fend for itself beyond the bounds of academic respectability and affiliation, and the institutional funding that comes with such connections. But they continued to drift in, one, two, and three at a time, and the cash register kept ringing, spiritually resonating with the slot-machine noises just beyond the blessedly soundproofed walls. And finally the conference broke even.

Reaction to the program by attendees was uniformly positive, and many compared it with the 2002 Austin conference by way of illustration. They noted several substantive differences in this vein. First, the pace of this gathering was much slower than in Austin, with more time between presentations and longer lunch breaks. Combined with the smaller turnout, this made for an “intimacy” that was very much valued, translating into new friendships—and there really *was* time to grab a few “quality minutes” with remote viewing’s celebrities. Second, Austin featured the “originals” of remote viewing, the pivotal figures from the Stanford Research Institute work of the 1970s. The unspoken questions in many

people's minds were, "What can follow that act?" and, "Is there life in IRVA after we've reviewed the history of RV?"

The Las Vegas conference answered those very questions—resoundingly in the affirmative. Although two of the "originals" (Ingo Swann and Russell Targ) spoke again this year, theirs were not historical themes this time around. The rest of the 19 speakers presented on a wide range of topics, either novel issues or insightful updates of previous work. And this convinced any doubters about IRVA's relevance and future.

Bill Ray was the Master of Ceremonies and seemed born to the job. Ray was one of the initial military team trained by Ingo Swann, and spent a career in the U.S. Army specializing in counterintelligence. An odd background for a Master of Ceremonies, but Bill's easygoing style and hearty reservoir of Irish jokes turned out to make him perfectly suited for the role.

Here are some remarks this reporter picked up from attendees:

- "But just to be able to do that, to be able to talk to Lyn, to be able to talk with Ingo, to be able to talk with Paul, and sit around in-between the moments that Paul was running from this point to this point to take care of the organization of the conference. But just being able to grab some "mind-share." For example, did people when they were around Ouspensky and Gurdjieff, did they appreciate who they were really around with?"
- "Yeah, let me tell you what I felt about it personally, and what I heard from others there. And that's exactly, I think the word 'intimate' is right. The pace of it did not have the frantic quality

that I got at Austin."

- [On meeting the central figures of remote viewing] *"Well first, if you get over the novelty of it, which is what you had originally when you met them, and then you get to the point where it's an exchange of information, because the novelty isn't there so much as the appreciation of what you can actually exchange in information, and where ideas come to you and questions come to you, and that sort of thing. I don't know, I mean, to me it's priceless, if you're seriously interested in the craft."*
- [On Ingo Swann's session] *"I was very appreciative of that moment, because I know it was a very special moment, and I realized it might not have ever been repeated, also."*
- [On Russell Targ's presentation] *"And when I heard him speak in Las Vegas in his session, I realized what a truly enlightened individual he is, and that his worldview, what he announced as his worldview, was so close to what resonates with me, I was just taken aback by it. I was going, 'This guy really is enlightened.' That's the best word I can come up with for him. He's an amazing guy."*
- "So, one of the things that I enjoyed was camaraderie, because the camaraderie is what we're all kind of pursuing in our own way, in our own specific path, yet there's enough commonality on this, that we're all trying to gain information and grow in this exchange of information that I keep coming back to."
- "And I think that sense of 'all these people here in this room understand it,' and we can talk about it, and can feel it. In a way, Lyn puts it down, but I would say it's a kind of a brotherhood in a way, in a nice way, or a 'guild' maybe is a better word to use."
- [On Marty Rosenblatt's lecture on applying Associative Remote Viewing to stock-market investing] *"That strikes me as you know, once they get this thing down, and I think they're close, you can make money with it. And once you make money, now you've got the public's attention."*
- "Daryl Bem's presentation—the evening with Daryl Bem was priceless. He had psychologically the most captivated audience, because we were all ripe for the pickin's. We all saw what we wanted to believe. And he even said that." But others were not so pleased. Dr. Bem is a professor of psychology with an intense interest in psi and an equally strong

*continued on page 4*



*Dr. Melvin Morse (l.) with IRVA president Stephan Schwartz and director John Alexander.*

*The 2004 IRVA Conference in Las Vegas, continued from page 3*

attraction to his avocation as a “mentalist” and stage magician. On Saturday morning, he presented on his scientifically rigorous studies of ESP, but his preceding Friday-night presentation caused considerable heartburn—a series of convincing tricks posing as genuine ESP. The magic act caught many attendees unawares, and some reacted nastily when Dr. Bem revealed that he was tricking them. But, there was method to his madness, after all: Bem’s purpose had been to show how easy it is to be fooled by false claims of “paranormal events.” Such



*Conference attendees and presenters mingle during a break.*

things have plagued legitimate psi research for generations. But even today, true progress in remote viewing and other psi research is often hampered by the need to sort out the false claims from those that are real. After the initial shock wore off, though, Bem got a huge hand from his audience.

- *“I’m incredibly attracted to healing and medicine, and intuitive healing and that whole thing of sharing of information and energy for the betterment of people. So I would say, if it was to really come to a countdown of what’s attracting me to this, that’s probably it at this moment.”* Melodie Kleiman and Nick Seferlis spoke on the use of remote viewing in healing, and Carol Ann Liaros presented the amazing story of her Project Blind Awareness. And, while it may be a stretch to include her as a healer, Pam Coronado’s recounting of her police work seemed like a way of healing some of the more obvious ills of society. The use of remote viewing in police work has been a persistent part of the craft’s employment. The military viewers did many operational sessions against narcotics traffickers, and Lyn Buchanan has long had a formal program for working with law enforcement. This is why Coronado was invited to speak, and well she did.

On the SciFi Channel’s *Proof Positive* program segment that aired on November 10, 2004, Pam was taken

to the scene of a 24-year-old crime and asked 50 questions by a very skeptical detective. Afterwards, he rated her answers as 95-99 per cent correct. Another psychic was rated at only 20 per cent. To put it mildly, Pam was very impressive in that test. Her conference presentation gave us the chance to learn colleague-to-colleague about the details of her crime-investigation work.

Halfway into conference chair Paul H. Smith’s presentation, his laptop began emitting a loud chattering noise. Computer-savvy folks in the audience knew the ominous meaning of that tapping sound—the laptop’s hard drive was quickly heading south. At the audience’s urging, he shut it down. Then a chorus of voices chimed in, humorously accusing Lyn Buchanan of using psi ability to sabotage Paul’s com-

puter. That was a sign of how far the story of Lyn and the crashing of the U.S. Army’s computers had traveled, and a perfect illustration of the camaraderie that suffused the conference. A bemused yet grinning Buchanan denied any culpability, at least on that more recent day.

Fortunately, Angela Thompson Smith was scheduled to follow Paul, and had her computer with her. Even more importantly, Paul had a backup for his presentation. And so, after fielding questions for some unscheduled Q&A time while other, friendly hands put things back together for him behind his back, Paul continued on with his presentation. First, he showed results from the successful outbinder “beacon” remote-viewing experiment that he had conducted with conference recipients the day before. Then he went on to project onto the screen complete session after session that had been done in blind and double-blind conditions. The goal of this presentation was to demonstrate that the “exceptional proof” for remote viewing that is demanded by so many skeptics may indeed be right under their very noses.

The topic of “time” was a recurrent theme, beginning with Lyn Buchanan’s lecture that was titled, “It’s About Time,” an overview of the anomalous nature of time as perceived by remote viewers. The overall remote-viewing experience tells us that the conventional, linear “arrow of time” does not exist, and this seems to be the conclusion of modern physics as well.

Marty Rosenblatt spoke on “Precognition Applications and Free Will,” mainly a review of the ongoing work by his team that aims to use precognitive remote viewing in stock-market transactions, but he also added cogent comments about the “time” issue. Because success in remote viewing the future must mean that the future already exists, there must therefore be something seriously wrong with the “common sense” view of time held by many, if not most, people.

During a discussion after Marty’s presentation, Russell Targ asked whether the audience thought there is a fundamental conflict between free will and precognition. An informal vote resulted in a unanimous “no,” but obviously much more remains to be done to sort this one out in a rigorous way acceptable to philosophers.



*Photographer Robert Knight and Hawaii Remote Viewers’ Guild’s Glenn Wheaton confer during the conference.*

Russell brought up the issue again when he spoke about his personal pilgrimage through the mystical literature, and showed how much we can learn from ancient texts that have remarkable resonance with what we have learned from the remote-viewing experience. Although he said little about remote viewing *per se*, all listeners were fascinated by the power of the ideas proposed so long ago by what must be acknowledged as our intellectual, if rather mystical, forebears.

And finally, Angela Thompson Smith gave us more insights into the role of time with remote viewing with her presentation on “Predictions: What’s the Point?” But, however perplexing “time” in the realm of remote viewing can be, probably the most exasperating session of the confab was hosted by Paul Smith. It was an exercise in Associative Remote Viewing: We in the audience were told to remote view four hours into the future and to describe which of two photos would then be shown to us. Each photo was “associated” with a baseball team that had begun playing ball as Paul gave us the target. Only 53 people in the audience participated, but 41 chose the picture of a tuba as the correct one, while only 12 chose the picture of a wolf. With that in hand, a man

at the back raced out of the room. He returned only a few minutes later, however, crestfallen because the casino had closed all betting on the ballgame. This would-be bettor knew of previous ARV experiments in which his bet would have been a sure thing. But, in the end, the group of 41 got it wrong! And so, the whys and wherefores of this “bust” will be debated for a long time to come.



*Presenter Pam Coronado and IRVA director Lyn Buchanan pose between sessions.*

I was not able to attend each and every lecture and, in fact, four sessions were run with concurrent speakers,

meaning that you flipped a coin and then went to either this room or that. Still, every presentation was recorded on videotape. If you were present in Las Vegas, you do not have to be “sold” on buying the videotapes or the audio-only taped versions. But if you could not attend, you would be well advised to go ahead and get those tapes. These were fascinating presentations—and historically important records of the state of the art (and science!) of remote viewing as of June 2004.

On behalf of all those in attendance, I would like to extend my personal thanks to Paul Smith, Bill Ray, and particularly Cheryle Hopton, the local conference organizer, as well as all the rest of the organizing crew for a very well-run, splendidly fresh, varied, and stimulating confab devoted to our “special discipline.” Events such as these not only help to educate and enlighten all those who attend, but serve to inspire many of us to pursue remote viewing further ourselves, to hone our skills and perhaps develop new and useful applications. I’m certainly looking forward to our next collective “fix” in 2005! ☺

**Bob Durant** is a retired airline pilot of 31 years who has studied anomalies, mainly the UFO enigma, for decades. A recognized authority on the Roswell Incident, he has produced a DVD titled “Roswell? Yes!” In 1994, he and author Jim Schnabel became students of Ingo Swann, the father of remote viewing.

**Paul Rivera** is an electronics engineer and freelance journalist, and a student of parapsychology and remote viewing. His latest research interests include subtle-energy medicine and healing.

# RV in the News

## How Did Hollywood End Up in My Backyard?

By Paul H. Smith

In the last issue of *Aperture* (2:4), Skye Turell, our ReView Editor, discussed *Suspect Zero*, a new feature-length film starring Ben Kingsley as a former FBI agent who finds serial killers using remote viewing. But, as it turns out, remote viewing is even more intimately connected with this project than just Kingsley's on-screen use of it to track "Suspect Zero." The movie's director, E. Elias Merhige, actually came to Austin, Texas as part of his quest to get to the bottom of the remote-viewing phenomenon—and, in the process, discovered he could do it himself.

It all started when John Mefford, a producer hired by Paramount Studios to put together a documentary on remote viewing, contacted yours truly this past June. He told me about the planned documentary, which was to be included as a bonus feature on the DVD version of the *Suspect Zero* film. Would I like to be interviewed for it, he wanted to know. It seems that remote-viewing pioneer (and IRVA director) Russell Targ, scientist Dean Radin, and statistics professor Jessica Utts—all with impeccable RV credentials—had already agreed to participate. With such illustrious company as that, how could I refuse!

Over the next few weeks, Mefford and I were in contact several times. In the end, I helped persuade Hal Puthoff, founder of the original CIA-sponsored remote-viewing research program at SRI International, to take part as well. So Mefford, along with director Merhige, showed up in Austin on Wednesday, July 28, 2004. They first interviewed Hal in his office at the Institute for

Advanced Studies, with the director conducting the interview and attended by two cameramen and a sound technician. Merhige asked a number of deep and well-thought-out questions, which Puthoff answered just as thoughtfully.

After lunch it was to be my turn. But Hal and I, in collusion with the documentary's producer, John Mefford, had a surprise in store for Merhige. The filmmakers had come to town originally with the expectation that I would do a demonstration remote-viewing session for them. I have done a number of these for other documentaries and have learned to loathe them.

What I have experienced is, if you agree to serve as viewer, you lose all control of the protocol—and I've only had one film crew out of many actually get it right.

But another idea presented itself! Back in the old SRI-International days, Puthoff and Targ had adopted a strategy suggested by their premier research subject, Ingo Swann. Critics, reporters, and visiting scientists had often come to the remote-viewing research lab demanding to see proof that remote viewing was real.

Usually, they wanted to see an actual demonstration as evidence—"seeing is believing," after all. The SRI folks would then trot out their best viewers who, more often than not, provided excellent successful performances. Nevertheless, the observers were too often still unimpressed—it seems seeing isn't *always* believing!

But then came this new strategy: The SRI scientists decided that they would trust the "first-time effect," the tendency of someone trying remote viewing for the first time to have good success with it. From that point on, people coming to the lab demanding to see a remote-viewing demonstration would themselves become the guinea pigs. They would be handed pen and paper and told to concentrate on the location of a "beacon" team of people sent out to mark the targeted site. Because of the first-time effect, these neophyte viewers often had



(L to R) Hal Puthoff, E. Elias Merhige, Jamie Conrad, and Paul H. Smith comparing feedback notes after Merhige's beacon remote-viewing experiment.

remarkable success, and went away far more persuaded of remote-viewing's validity than if they had merely watched someone else do it. We decided to try this same tactic on Elias Merhige.

On that Wednesday afternoon, Merhige walked into the meeting room of the hotel where my interview was to take place. "What would be better for you," he asked solicitously, "to do the demonstration before or after your interview?"

"Well, that actually may be moot," I answered to his quizzical look. With the rest of the film crew and Hal Puthoff looking on, I explained the SRI strategy to him, and then said, "And you get to be the 'victim!'" The astonished expression on his face said it all. Feeling "put on the spot" was only natural; after all, a failure in this case would not only be embarrassing but a waste of expensive camera time! But with Hal, myself, and John Mefford all cajoling him, he finally relented. Hal was to be the interviewer, while I would lead the beacon team.

Over the previous few days, I had assembled a set of four possible targets within a 30-minute drive of the hotel. These had to be significantly different in nature from each other so that it would be obvious which target the viewer would eventually be describing. Each of the targets was sealed in a large opaque envelope and then shuffled so that even I didn't know which might be picked. I had not clued Hal in ahead of time as to what any of the targets might be; this was to be a truly double-blind session. A single die was rolled to see which envelope would be selected, and then I and the other team members left the building, only opening the envelope so chosen once we had entered the car to drive to the target site. Not until that moment did we learn that we were to visit Pennybacker Bridge, a huge steel suspension bridge that carries the Capitol of Texas Highway over Lake Austin.

Besides myself, the beacon team consisted of Jamie Conrad, a female family friend, and one of the cameramen with his heavy video equipment. I had invited Jamie along because some parapsychology research has suggested that experiments sometimes show a stronger effect when both genders take part than when only one gender is represented. I figured that I'd try anything reasonable that might increase our chances for success!

At the appointed time, we arrived at the bridge. Parking in the shade under one of the abutments, the three of us piled out and set about doing our best to "interact" with the target, hoping thereby to increase the "in-

terest factor" and help focus Elias's consciousness enough for him to "view" where we were. We stood back and took pictures of the bridge. We rubbed our hands on and hugged its supports. We climbed up to its deck in the blazing sun and high humidity of a July day in Texas and, thankful for every breeze, went along the pedestrian walk out to the bridge's center to view the surroundings it commands. Lake Austin stretched away north and south, and the tree-choked limestone bluffs that frame the bridge stood imposingly to our left and right. All the while, heavy traffic barreled across the bridge mere feet away, and the raw, sweet smell of newly laid asphalt along the bridge's western approach filled our nostrils.



*Jamie Conrad and the cameraman in front of the remote-viewing target, Austin's Pennybacker Bridge.*

Soon enough it was time to return, so the three of us plus the cumbersome video camera stuffed ourselves back into Jamie's vintage '86 Olds to rush back to the hotel. We found the rest of the crew beginning to sort out what Elias had produced. He looked a bit nonplussed and just a touch anxious about what he had just done. I heard comments like, "I don't know how well I

did," and "Wow, I *hope* it turned out okay." But, I could tell from his tone that he wasn't sure.

I didn't want to disclose what the target had been until the director could see it with his own eyes. But when we headed back out to give Elias his "feedback," I knew we would be in the thick of rush hour. So, I drew Hal outside and down the hallway to tell him where we were going, so that if we got separated he could still find his way to the target.

But first, I had to know. "Hal, before I tell you where we're going, think back on what Elias told you during

*continued on page 8*

*How Did Hollywood End Up in My Backyard, continued from page 7*

the session. Based on what you heard him say, what would you think the target was, if you had to guess?” “Well,” he said tentatively after a few moments of thought, “he mentioned trees and water and big criss-crossing steel girders, and of course my first thought was the Loop 360 bridge over Lake Austin!”

“Hmm, I guess I don’t need to tell you where to go. That’s it!” I thought Hal was going to jump out of his shoes, he was that pleased and excited.

I was just as pleased—there is always an element of doubt in a situation like this. Remote viewing does not always work well, and a high-stakes situation like this one—where remote viewing’s reputation is, so to speak, on the line—can create significant stress not just for the viewer but for the monitor and tasker as well. There is always concern that it won’t work “this time,” and it’ll be back to the drawing board for this important skill.

As it was, Merhige, Jamie, the cameraman, and I piled yet again into Jamie’s venerable old relic and, with me driving, we set off. The conversation drifted from one topic to the next, generally staying away from thoughts of the experiment we were about to conclude. But then, a few miles down the road, we came over a slight rise and the bridge suddenly loomed in the middle distance. Merhige paused in his conversation, squinted through the windshield into the afternoon sun and exclaimed, “Is *that* the target?”

By the time we were crossing under the bridge’s tall, steel girders, he was shouting, “This is the target! This is what I described!” The best thing about it is that the



*E. Elias Merhige comparing his remote-viewing transcript to the actual target.*

cameraman had kept his video camera surreptitiously running and aimed toward Merhige throughout this part of our journey. He caught all of his excitement on film, to all of our even greater satisfaction!

John Mefford reminded me to tell everyone that it will all be part of the documentary on remote viewing, included as a bonus feature, to be released on the DVD version of *Suspect Zero* this coming winter. Just another victory for our favorite discipline! ☸

*Paul H. Smith is Vice President of IRVA and Editor-in-Chief of Aperture. He is a seven-year veteran of the U.S. military’s remote-viewing unit, serving as both an operational remote viewer and a trainer of viewers. He is the primary author of the military’s remote-viewing manual. His book, Reading the Enemy’s Mind, will be published by Forge Books this coming January. Paul’s website is [www.rviewer.com](http://www.rviewer.com).*



## RV In The News

Pam Coronado, who has been a popular presenter at several of IRVA’s annual remote-viewing conferences, was featured recently on an episode of the Sci-Fi Channel’s *Proof Positive* program. Without having any prior knowledge of the tasked event, Pam was able to describe significant details of a decades-old crime. The detective who had done the original investigation of the 24-year-old crime scene rated her performance on the show, giving her a +95 per cent accuracy rating for her answers to 50

questions about the crime. Among other items, she correctly identified the situation: That one man came through a gate in a wall, shot a policeman, who then returned fire, and that the policeman’s wife was in a car just a few feet away and witnessed the entire event. Wonderful to tell, it was the only test on the show that was judged “proof positive.” We can only wonder if that detective will now be moved to task Ms. Coronado on other, more recent, unsolved crimes! ☸

# ReView

## **Mind at Large: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Symposia on the Nature of Extrasensory Perception (Studies in Consciousness)**

edited by Charles T. Tart, Harold E. Puthoff, and Russell Targ. Hampton Roads, 2002. 256 pp. \$16.95 (paper). ISBN 1-571-743-200.

*Ed. Note: This article first appeared in Vol. 18, No. 2 of the Journal of the Society for Scientific Exploration. The British spellings and diction of the author are entirely preserved from the original.*

*Mind at Large*, edited by Charles T. Tart, Harold E. Puthoff, and Russell Targ, was originally published in 1979 at a time when parapsychology was brought under the scrutiny of conventional science, this following the publication of an article on the “remote viewing” experiments in the respected science journal *Nature*. The collection of articles in this volume were originally presented at two symposia sponsored by Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers on the nature of extrasensory perception around the same time. The articles are wide-ranging and multidisciplinary in their approach, influenced by psychology, parapsychology, philosophy, and physics. Twenty-five years later, *Mind at Large* has recently been re-released by Hampton Roads Publishing Company, with an animated new preface by Russell Targ and an additional chapter by Robert Jahn appearing as the appendix. The book is an intense and often challenging read, presenting a cocktail of perspectives, research, and theory from a diverse range of authors. The reader is taken on a wide-ranging tour. The history of parapsychology is treated in Chapter 1 and in the appendix. Elsewhere are described various neatly designed and imaginative experiments. Then there are reported revealing and challenging findings that were and are clearly being demonstrated in the laboratory. Finally, there is in-depth exploration of the often complex and radical theories that may accommodate—as mainstream ideas about science and reality cannot—the phenomena that parapsychology is concerned with. It also includes

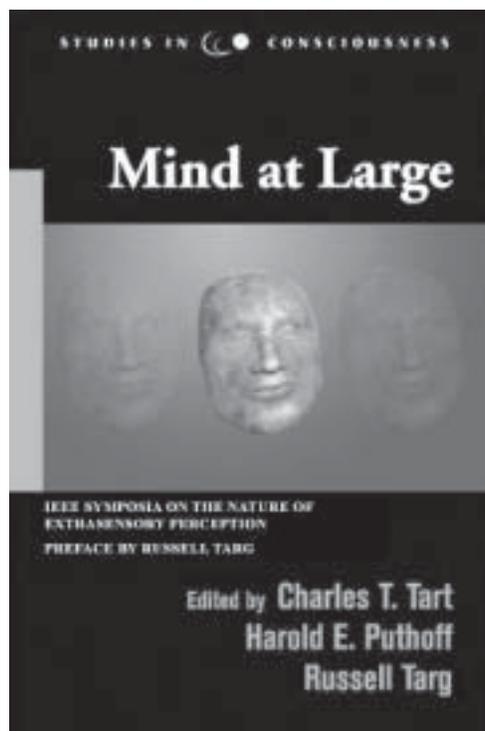
commentary from those individuals who have been studied by parapsychologists—those who perform well at tasks designed to measure extrasensory perception (ESP).

A thread running through this work is that parapsychology is as rigorous and methodological as any other science, but it always relates the findings back to the context of human experience. The articles cover a variety of different ways of explaining apparent paranormal phenomena, and in so doing allows for a greater understanding of reality. Psi phenomena are brought under the spotlight of respectability, far removed from the “new age” context.

Parapsychology still holds a strange position in the modern world. It is paradoxical in that it focuses on areas of human cognition and perception that are forbidden by mainstream science, but that are simultaneously at the forefront of the new sciences. It is regularly

pointed out that paranormal phenomena cannot be true, because they do not fit the current scientific model. But many new theories in physics actually explain these phenomena. The establishment of one unified theory of psi may be beyond us at present, although it seems that much can be explained by modern theories that are described in this volume.

In his preface, Targ makes some interesting points from his perspective as both physicist and parapsychologist, in that he doesn’t have to *believe* in extrasensory perception as he has seen it working in the lab. It would



*continued on page 10*

*Mind at Large, continued from page 9*

be like saying that he doesn't have to believe in lasers as he also worked extensively with them in the laboratory. He compares the work of the modern parapsychologist to other brave and outstanding pioneers of philosophy such as Galileo and Copernicus. He suggests that a great cognitive dissonance exists in modern culture. Surveys demonstrate that half the nation report paranormal experiences, but these are less frequently discussed as they do not fit in with the logical thought system that dominates western culture. Paranormal phenomena, he suggests, are borderland phenomena that challenge the peace and structure of society. But they persist to exist. And this is the case in a variety of forms. The evidence ensuing from the laboratories of parapsychologists indicates that the modern worldview is not enough to house that evidence. The evidence from the parapsychology labs indicates that we actually live in an interconnected world full of psi phenomena and all that these imply, rather than the logical world where we are all separate individuals. Against the idea that there will one day be a grand theory of everything, it looks like the end of physics is actually unknowable. It also looks like awareness is not actually restricted by the laws of space and time, and events can happen instantaneously, expressing nonlocality. This observation was described by Henry Stapp as the most profound discovery in all of science. It is also apparent that "mind" can not only affect biological matter, but it is possible to actually heal matter.

The introduction contains information that whets the appetite for the rest of the book. It begins by introducing the lesser known but more impressive experiments undertaken during the years by parapsychologists, particularly in the area of "remote viewing." This is the apparent human perceptual ability to access and describe information that is blocked from normal perception. These experiments are far beyond the stuff of card-guessing and dice-throwing experiments, which most people associate with parapsychology. Indeed, they span into areas of great interest that allow for the model-building and theorising characteristic of other scientific endeavours. The authors suggest that, in fact, the study of psi has come of age and is ready to take its place as a challenging interdisciplinary area within the scientific community at large. It seems to be time for parapsychology to fall under the umbrella of the rest of science. This is partially true now in the vast number of academic psychology departments

in the UK that include parapsychology.

Most of the chapters are short overviews that are arranged such that they complement each other and flow in a linear manner, but allow for a nonlinear approach, just like the phenomena they describe. For any parapsychologist, this is a learning experience and supplements and extends existing knowledge on a very wide field. Indeed, as a nonphysicist, this author found the book to be a great introduction to many of the theories.

Chapter 1 is by Edgar Mitchell, the founder of the Institute of Noetic Sciences and first person to carry out an ESP test in outer space. Mitchell compares psychic functioning with musical talent and other creative abilities. These are all the talents of the exceptional human mind. It is suggested that we need to understand unusual talents and potentials of the human mind and, in so doing, we might be able to naturalise many phenomena that have been pushed into the liminal and labelled as unnatural and, in some instances, psychotic and insane. Mitchell suggests that the label "psychic" is disturbing, but the phenomena are real and allow for a shift in the way that the world is understood. He questions what would happen when the extraordinary becomes ordinary. Our values could be altered such that there would no longer be duplicity and deception, but this might pave the way to increased honesty or paranoia. He suggests overall that the positives might be interconnectedness and interdependence of all matter, but asks, "Is mankind ready for this?" (p. 9)

Chapter 2 is an article by Puthoff and Targ that was originally published in 1976. The authors review parapsychological research and report particularly on remote-viewing experiments with a view to understanding the perceptual channel by which psi phenomena may function. It is apparent that hypothesis-testing can now be applied to psi phenomena as with other phenomena. Some fascinating examples are given of the experiments undertaken as part of the research program at SRI (Stanford Research Institute in California); these were with both experienced and nonexperienced remote viewers, some of whom were government officials. It seems that anyone can do remote viewing, but differences exist in reliability. Indeed, "remote viewing might be a latent and widely distributed, though repressed[,] perceptual ability." (p. 57)

People were able to obtain information on locations and even laboratory equipment better than chance. This information seemed to arrive in consciousness more

accurately through nonverbal means and not analysing or giving meaning to impressions. It is of interest that the information is not at all degraded by distance or by use of a Faraday cage.

The optimisation of psi in the lab was considered to follow on from complex analysis of the information coming in. The efficacy of psi-functioning can be increased by maximising the way in which psi seems to work, for example, coding targets in simpler form (*e.g.*, as binary code or in Morse-code format). For example, this was done by Ryzl with Delmore and by Carpenter with the word “peace.” This way, the noise level can be decreased and the overall target signal can be reassembled by its constituent signal parts. Modern physics does not have to stretch very far to accommodate the patterns and observations associated with this type of perception. Quantum theories, for example those of Walker and De Beauregard (revisited in Chapter 6), are very accommodating in that there might be a role of the observer/consciousness on an effect. Properties of certain types of electromagnetism also allow feasible and logical theory on how information may be carried (*e.g.*, as ELF waves). Time is potentially reversible in the equations of potential solutions arising from the electromagnetic field; as such, the authors note that if advanced waves were detected, they might sometimes carry information that is precognitive to the event (revisited in Chapter 7).

In Chapter 3, Targ, Puthoff, and May describe additional remote-viewing experiments that extend the findings described in the previous chapter. The previously described experiments focused on remote viewing in a local area, whereas this set of data extends the task to distances over 5000 km. One twist on the usual experiment is described, which included a subject in a submarine whilst the outbounder went to the target location. This demonstrated that, even under stressful circumstances, information could be significantly detected. The authors conclude that remote-viewing effects are robust phenomena, which exceed chance. It is also the case that physical distance does not affect the accuracy of the information that is derived from this remote form of perception. This includes a useful summary table of everything known about the remote-viewing perceptual ability. This chapter is self-reflective and contains sev-

From this research, remote viewing is not only independent of space, but also of time.

eral criticisms on the nature and design of the experiments, which are answered one by one. It also explores the theoretical possibilities of ELF waves (revisited in Chapter 8) and quantum theory (revisited in Chapter 7) that would explain such anomalies.

In Chapter 4, evidence is presented from a different laboratory that extends the findings demonstrated at the SRI labs under Targ and Puthoff. Bisaha and Dunne describe two experiments addressing precognitive remote viewing. In the first experiment, the target location would be visited 35 minutes into the future, whereas in the second, the target location would be 5000 miles away and 24 hours into the future. The perspective of these au-

thors is that the ability to perceive remotely is latent and widespread among the population, rather than the unusual talent of a select few; as such, their work addressed a mixture of trained and untrained viewers. Even when remote viewing is delayed in time, it seems that there are significant deviations from what would be expected by chance. This is the case even with time delays as long as 24 hours in the future. From this research, remote viewing is not only independent of space, but also of time.

The authors of Chapter 5, May, Targ, and Puthoff, suggest that the psi process comprises at least two steps: one where information arrives in the system, and a second whereby the psi impression becomes conscious or results in an overt behavior(s). This is supported by work in other labs where physiological measures of psi were demonstrated in the absence of conscious psi detection, for example using EEG or a plethysmograph. Here, unconscious psi perception is explored by addressing physiological responses as indices of psi reception using the EEG. Experiments are described whereby a “sender” is exposed to stroboscopic flashes of light and a “receiver” (located in a visually opaque, acoustically and electronically shielded, double-walled steel room 7 m from the sender) is monitored for EEG responses to those remote light flashes. One promising participant was selected for a series of trials, as she showed a consistent alpha-blocking effect in the control. Significant differences were found in the alpha power band between experimental and control trials. As such, there appears to be a physiological index of remote light detection in this person. This effect did not extend into

*continued on page 12*

*Mind at Large*, continued from page 11

conscious awareness. Replication work with other participants found statistically significant decreases in the in-band EEG power in the receiver in response to a distant series of light flashes, although a second replication found a slight increase in the alpha band. Because of this, the authors consider the evidence in support of remote light detection to be only suggestive. However, patterns are interesting and it is also of note that it does not seem like a sender is actually necessary to drive the brain of the receiver; this happens in the presence or absence of a sender.

Chapter 6 introduces Tart's theory of "transtemporal inhibition." Transtemporal inhibition is a theory that makes logical sense and is analogous to lateral inhibition (associated with edge detection) in the human nervous system. It is equivalent to focusing on a psi stimulus in space and time when consciousness is not localised just in the physical present. This involves the discrimination of information in time. This was discovered accidentally in a study that was designed to train good ESP participants by means of feedback. Tart did not originally consider precognition in his data as he was more interested in real-time ESP effects (clairvoyance or telepathy). However, following the calculation of real-time hits, the computer was reprogrammed to look at displacement, which demonstrated that there was significant psi-missing immediately following a psi hit. Tart suggests that the experienced present is altered in psi-conductive states, such that time flows at a different rate and the "bandwidth" includes time from the past and the future as well as the present. To achieve real-time hits, the psi process works by suppressing the past and future information and allowing real-time ESP to be noticed. Some people may have different bandwidths, and their inhibition may be further focused in the future. As such, sometimes it may be that an experiment does not look like there is any ESP going on, but if this theory is taken into account, psi processes are going on and are observable if one considers time displacements.

Following on from experimental observations with precognition and time, Chapter 7, by Costa De Beauregard, explores the concepts of time, causality,

Tart suggests that the experienced present is altered in psi-conductive states, such that time flows at a different rate and the "bandwidth" includes time from the past and the future as well as the present.

and quantum physics. There is a particular focus on precognition, as time may be reversible. It is clear that consciousness proceeds from past to future in the usual understanding of the world, but he challenges that events are actually *bound* to this direction. It is suggested that causality is fact-like rather than law-like and, as such, is reversible. When thinking about information (and information transfer), Beauregard restates Aristotle. Negentropy is considered as information that exhibits two symmetrical procedures of gaining knowledge by decoding a message and emitting a message by means of one's information. In our world, information is also coupled to matter but also to the log of probability. This allows for it to be simultaneously objective and subjective. Indeed, Beauregard suggests that "information is the very hinge around which mind and matter are interacting." (p. 168) This interac-

tion is considered in space-time. It can also be understood as waveforms. Retarded waves reflect information decoding, whereas advanced waves would reflect information emission. The collapse of the wave function is executed by a conscious act—observation. Sometimes it is possible that information from the future can indeed flow to the past or intention can affect something that has already happened. (See Chapter 9.) He suggests that relativistic quantum mechanics is a conceptual schema where phenomena such as PK [psychokinesis] or telepathy are far from irrational and in fact should be expected as very rational due to the mathematical symmetries of retarded and advanced waves. This chapter is an in-depth tour through the ideas of quantum physics and how it allows for many of the phenomena observed in the laboratory by parapsychologists.

In Chapter 8, Michael Persinger is concerned with the *mechanism* of information transfer between person A and person B in cases of telepathy and clairvoyance. He describes how ELF (extra low frequency) waves, in the range of 3 Hz to 3 KHz, might be implicated in the experience of paranormal phenomena. ELF waves occur in several forms in the natural world, for example, in geomagnetic radiation. It is interesting that many human physiological processes display power spectra within the ELF region, for example, the human heart, the brain, and musculature. It may be that the waves carry information and employ a "lock and key" type of

mechanism, or that they work by resonance. The correlation is supported by increased psi experiences in times where humans are more sensitive to ELF waves. Two possibilities for the role of ELF waves are suggested, the first that waves might be modified by an agent who then influences a percipient some time and distance later. The second is that there is an illusory transfer of information between the agent and percipient. In the simpler of the two possibilities, geomagnetism is contiguous to a shared experience between two people, which is then reawakened some time in the future by the unconscious presence of geomagnetism simultaneously in the two individuals. A more complex chain of events is also possible, involving the influence of geomagnetism on behaviours associated with typical telepathy and clairvoyance experiences, such as accidents and death in the agent. The percipient would unconsciously associate geomagnetism with these behaviours in the person's presence and at a later date, in their absence, be cued about the agent's distress. It seems that the first scenario is unlikely, given that there is little scope for the level of perceptual discrimination that is seen in telepathy and clairvoyance cases. This could be overcome by binary coding, but Persinger suggests that this seems biologically prohibitive and it is unlikely that ELF fields have sufficient information-carrying properties. The second scenario involves waves as a trigger and does not require them to carry information, and there is evidence that waves may be involved in learning. This chapter is an interesting assessment of factors we are not usually aware of in the physical world that could help explain anomalies.

Chapter 9 describes the experimental work of Helmut Schmidt addressing mental effects on electronic or quantum-mechanical events in electronic random-number generators. In such experiments, the noise from a diode noise source or radioactive decay (such as Strontium 90 being placed near a Geiger tube) is monitored while a subject attempts to alter the statistical properties of the noise distribution. The interface presented to participants was in the form of lamps. In precognition studies there were four of them, and the participant's task was to try to predict the next lamp that would light up in a random sequence; this was found particularly in one person who reported precognitive dreams in his daily life. In PK studies, the machines mimicked coin-

tossing and produced binary bits. These drove a nine-lamp display. The light performed a random walk around the lamps. The participant would be asked to influence the random stream in one direction over another, usually to try to increase the number of heads and lamps lighting up to the right more than the left. It was found that there were significant deviations from chance. This was particularly prominent in two participants, one who seemed to consistently gain the opposite to what was intended, whereas the other gained what was desired. PK work was explored with different levels of information-streaming and with time. For example, it was found that when the random sequence was generated 24 hours before the experiment, before intention was directed to the number sequence, there was still an effect of intention on the sequence. As such, there is evidence from this work that not only can "mind" apparently interact with micro-level information streams, but that we live in a noncausal world.

[Ingo] Swann's perspective adds considerable insight and balance to this volume.

Chapter 10 is written by Ingo Swann, an artist and a psychic subject in many parapsychology experiments. He considers that subjects are often relegated to an unofficial status in the field of parapsychology, but that this unofficial part of the community is an untapped source for potential advancement of the field. For example, in laboratory experiments, there is a complex interaction going on between the experimenter and the participant. This is more complex than the experimenter effects of other areas of psychology, in that there is an impact of experimenter psi into the equation of success. The Experimenter Effect was first described by Pratt and Price in 1938. We still do not understand this today, although it is the focus of several areas of current research. In general, there is room for more investigation with regard to a psychic personality; again, those who are psychic subjects may be able to give insight into this. In fact, it seems that Swann's personality profile reflects the various findings with different personality measures in lab research. Overall, it is considered that subjective or qualitative information on the part of the subject is neglected, when it is the constructed reality of the psychic individual that seems to have an impact on the psi process. Swann's perspective adds considerable insight and balance to this volume.

Chapter 11 puts parapsychology into a social and

*continued on page 14*

*Mind at Large*, continued from page 13

cultural context by exploring what is known about the research that went on in the former Soviet Union in the early 20th century. The Soviet approach was more one that accepted the existence of psi and addressed it from a psychophysiological, materialist stance rather than one of establishing proof. Although the literature varies in terms of sophistication, reflecting the often noninstitution-based nature of much research, some of it is more credible. Three authors' work forms the main basis of this chapter: Kogan, Adamenko, and Sergeyev. Soviet work ranges from statistical theories, to electrostatic models of PK, to detection of electromagnetic fields by humans, the production of electromagnetic fields, to hypnosis machines, to training programs, to remote physiological detectors. For example, it is claimed that Sergeyev could detect an incoming telepathic stimulus by analysing EEG records. It may be that these took the form of antennae for the detection of ELF and VLF [very low frequency] waves radiating from a telepathic agent. They may also have tried to generate radiation of the right frequency to interfere with the telepathy signal. Overall, the literature reflects a mixed bag of research that is at times contradictory and inconclusive, perhaps because much of it was government-classified.

Robert Jahn has written a review of psi research that did not appear in the original volume, but is included here as the appendix. This review encompasses a balanced and interesting view of the field of parapsychology as a science, as well as considering where we go from here. He summarises that psi effects *are* demonstrated; however, they are not replicable in the scientific sense. This interestingly mirrors a recent conclusion by Palmer regarding the Ganzfeld debate (Palmer, 2003). Despite this, the effects demonstrated are a significant challenge to physics and modern science. It is implied that the next stage in human evolution may actually involve expansion and interconnection of human consciousness.

This book is important, and it is well worth persevering through the drier sections. Anyone seriously interested in the nature and rubric of reality, the history of science, philosophy, and physics should have a reference copy on the shelf. The authors of the introductory chapter suggested that it was time for a paradigm revision. The question is, to what extent is this true now? On reading these pages, the current author felt that, in some manner, the field has not moved much further forward in the 25 years that have passed by, although

in many other ways she could see developments based on the technology we now have available, for example in brain-mapping techniques and how psi may manifest in psychophysiology. (Chapter 5) This has been extended now with work by Don and colleagues who found a greater evoked potential in the gamma band of the EEG for targets compared to nontargets. The presentiment effect, if true, would indicate a greater preresponse to emotional compared to calm targets at a physiological level. Perhaps current concerns in parapsychology are more with the sustainability of the field, where *application* of these effects becomes an issue. From here, healing and prayer research have developed considerably, for example, by Targ's daughter, Elizabeth.

*Mind at Large* is re-released at an interesting time in the history of the field of parapsychology. It is a reminder that the work going on in this field is of great value and importance in the modern world. The present status of parapsychology is growing year by year in European universities, whereas paradoxically the American cousins are underfunded and falling outside of university-housed academe. This book reminds us that this work has found some fascinating phenomena under laboratory settings, and that these findings are real and should be integrated fully into a new science. It allows a parapsychologist to re-embrace the field and become excited about this research.

Publication of works such as Walker's *Physics of Consciousness* may indicate a step toward a paradigm shift, but it is interesting that this book was published without the chapter written on psi phenomena. As such, despite these exciting experiments and theories, society still remains at the edge of a paradigm revision, which was pre-empted by the sorts of research that were going on at the time of the initial release of this book in 1979. It is clear that the variety of theories expounded in this volume are not the stuff of fancy but are cutting-edge science, which theories support paranormal phenomena as valid and logical conclusions that are actually expected. Modern parapsychologists should read or re-read this volume and combine this with new knowledge and technological advances to develop thinking for future psi research.

Christine Simmonds  
Rhine Research Center  
and  
Liverpool Hope University College  
[christine@rhine.org](mailto:christine@rhine.org)

# Taskings & Responses

## Deep Mind Probe

*I have heard the “deep mind probe” mentioned every now and then when remote viewing is discussed. Can you tell me what this is, and where the concept originated?*

The phrase “Deep Mind Probe” conjures up visions of late-night Vincent Price horror movies. And, in some respects, that might not be far off the mark. The term has been linked to the *X-men* comic book and movie franchise, and mentioned in at least one episode of the Sci-Fi Channel’s popular *Stargate SG-1* series (and that’s a *different* kind of “stargate,” for the uninitiated!). One obvious image is that of *Star Trek*’s Dr. Spock performing his Vulcan mind-melds. However, all of those things are fictional, whereas deep mind probes (“DPM”) are reality—sort of.

Ostensibly, a “deep mind probe” is an attempt during a remote-viewing session to access the mental contents of a targeted person. Presumably, the target’s thoughts, intentions, worries, concepts, etc. are available to a well-trained remote viewer’s scrutiny. Though only a small number of the popular remote-viewing methodologies include this as a formal part of their doctrine, the idea behind DPMs has a history in remote viewing going back at least 20 years.

Dr. Harold E. Puthoff, the founder and first director of the CIA-funded research program at SRI International, has said that no such technique was used at SRI during his time there. He added, though, that occasionally information was obtained that seemed to come from the minds of persons at the target. For example, during a “beacon” exercise, a viewer might pick up on the apparent thoughts of one member of the beacon team.

A possible instance of this occurred when remote-viewing pioneer Russell Targ was acting as a beacon at the Louisiana Superdome during a long-distance remote-viewing experiment. Dictating into a tape recorder on site, he noted that the building reminded him of nothing so much as a giant flying saucer resting in the middle of a city. At the same time as Targ was at the Superdome, viewer Gary Langford was reporting to his monitor impressions of a flying saucer that had landed in a city! Whether Langford in some way “heard” Targ’s spoken comments or instead ferreted it out of Targ’s thoughts would be difficult to tell.

Former IRVA president F. Holmes “Skip” Atwater, who as an Army officer founded the military’s remote-viewing unit and served as its training and operations officer for ten years, thinks the idea of tasking a viewer to access the minds of target persons may have originated with the late Hartleigh Trent, one of the original set of military remote viewers.

No matter who came up with the idea, though, its most famous use took place during the interrogation of a Soviet KGB officer captured by the South African government in 1980. A remote viewer in Maryland attempted to communicate with the KGB agent’s consciousness to ask how he had encoded the messages he sent to Moscow. The agent reportedly “showed” the viewer a small device disguised as a calculator. This information was passed on to the South African authorities and turned out to be correct! (See Jim Schnabel’s *Remote Viewers: The Secret History of America’s Psychic Spies*, pp. 42-46, for more details.)

The KGB-agent story became office lore for personnel in the remote-viewing program, and later in the 1980s it was not unusual during the course of a session for the monitor to ask the viewer to mentally “interact” with individual humans the viewer “encountered” at the target. For example, the monitor might have the viewer mentally “ask” the targeted person to “show” the viewer what the person’s responsibility at the target was; or, the viewer might place a mental “query” about the purpose of the facility being targeted, and so on. Useful information sometimes did appear to be obtained by this technique.

Augmenting this practice was viewers’ use of the “emotional impact” (“EI”) column imploded in the Swann/Puthoff CRV methodology, which was adopted for operations as a major remote-viewing technology beginning in 1985. “Emotional impact” represents the viewer’s perceptions of the emotional state of humans located at the target location and, to whatever degree the information reflects reality, could presumably only be derived from direct mental contact.

Personnel leaving the military’s program took with them their knowledge and experiences. When these folks began teaching remote viewing after the program was declassified, it appears some of them passed on these mental-interaction techniques. In the military program, there was no real term for this practice, so apparently someone hit on “deep mind probe” as a convenient label.

The term may, however, be a misnomer. If a targeted person’s mentality were being accessed, the use of “deep” would seem to be inappropriate. After all, it is content from the target’s conscious awareness and memories that is being sought, rather than anything “deeper” such as subconscious/unconscious material—which, if Freudian

*continued on page 16*

### Guidelines for Submitting Original Articles to *Aperture*

The Editors would like to extend an invitation to all readers to submit timely, relevant, and well-written articles about remote viewing for possible publication in future issues of *Aperture*. Please send your submission(s) in MS Word to [Wiph@irva.org](mailto:Wiph@irva.org), mentioning *Aperture* in the subject line. Article length is negotiable depending on the importance, and interest-level to the readership, of the topic and the quality of the presentation. Submissions should generally be between 500-1500 words, but longer pieces will also be considered based on the merit of the topic and how it is treated. All submissions should include a short (2 sentence) “bio-blurb” about the author(s) and must pertain to remote-viewing research, applications, protocols, skills, viewer performance, or experimentation. If there is any doubt about the suitability of a topic, feel free to communicate with us at the above e-address, and we will provide you guidance. Thanks for your interest in *Aperture*, IRVA’s flagship publication!

Cordially,  
Bill Eagles  
Managing Editor

### Important Notice To All Readers Of *Aperture*

In the last issue of *Aperture* (2:4), we ran an article by Paul H. Smith about the recently released Star Gate Archives. For those readers interested in buying their own copy of them, he had listed the Central Intelligence Agency’s Information and Privacy Coordinator as one of three sources. That information is still correct, but a representative of the CIA has contacted Paul to ask that he let *Aperture*’s subscribers know that if they choose to order the Archive disks from the CIA and pay by check, their checks should be made payable to “Treasurer of the United States.” Checks made out to the “Central Intelligence Agency” or its “Information and Privacy Coordinator” cannot be honored, and your order will therefore be held up unnecessarily. So, please, help the government properly cash your check!

*Deep Mind Probe*, continued from page 15

psychology is to be believed, would harbor little of importance to anyone but the individual herself. In any event, it would also be essentially impossible to get feedback confirming that the viewer had correctly described subconscious material. Thus, one would never really know whether one *had* actually described such content.

Further, the term “probe” is suspect. In everyday life one can, in a narrow sense, “probe” an object for certain limited facts. However, considering that the intent here is to transfer information “laterally” from one person’s mental consciousness into another’s, the word “probe” seems too limited to capture what is presumed to be going on. And finally, as already noted, the notion of “deep mind probe” carries with it some imaginary baggage from its use in works of fantasy that makes it seem less serious than it perhaps really is.

But there is a larger problem. In DPMs, claims are made that the targeted person’s mind is being directly accessed. But there is no way to be sure that is actually what is happening. Perhaps as likely is that this is merely a form of guided visualization, enabling the viewer’s system to do its work at a level that has nothing at all to do with targeted minds. This is possible especially if the Matrix/signal-line/viewer model used in the Swann/Puthoff CRV methodology is correct—the theory that underlies all methodologies employing the notion of DMP.) In that model, *all* information is contained within the informational Matrix, and it is to this “database” that the viewer’s subconscious turns whenever it is asked to provide information about a target. In the Matrix, no information is privileged over any other; all is in one “big pot,” regardless of the “source.” Thus, gaining information about, say, the content of Usama bin Laden’s mind would be no different than retrieving information about the Eiffel Tower or the Battle of Waterloo. In this case, all a DMP would amount to is a convenient fiction that helps to task viewers for certain kinds of desired information.

So, what’s the bottom line on “deep mind probes?” It’s a strategy that might be useful, but don’t let its rather melodramatic label raise your viewing expectations unreasonably. And note that we haven’t even considered here, possible ethical implications of accessing an unwitting persons mind. ☹

The opinions and views expressed in *Aperture* are those of the writers. They do not necessarily reflect the position of the International Remote Viewing Association. We invite your letters and comments on all matters discussed herein.

# ReView

By Skye Turell

## The Psychic Fiction of Martha C. Lawrence

Mystery writers often title their books according to a theme or gimmick. Dick Francis uses race-track titles, Sue Grafton has the alphabet series—*A Is for Alibi*, *B Is for Burglar*, and so on. Martha C. Lawrence's titles all relate to astrology; for example, *The Cold Heart of Capricorn* and *Ashes of Aries*.

Lawrence's work is similar to Grafton's in some respects. Both series are told in the first person by a female investigator. However, Lawrence's PI, Elizabeth Chase, is not only a "private investigator," she is also a "psychic investigator." The titles are thus a little misleading. Although the author has worked as a professional astrologer, Elizabeth Chase only occasionally uses astrology in her cases. Traditional investigative drudgery is the mainstay of her work, but she is also alert to all forms of intuition, including dreams, synchronicities, and psychic impressions. Often these impressions not only help solve the case, but also save her life.

Still, Elizabeth Chase is no New Age flower child. She often puts herself in dangerous situations, more so than most mystery protagonists. She infiltrates a Heaven's Gate-type of cult, brings down a "meth lab" operation, and becomes the target of a serial killer.

The author has had her own psychic experiences, and her descriptions are very true-to-life as a result. On her website ([www.marthalawrence.com](http://www.marthalawrence.com)), she accurately describes the limitations of using psi. "When I created my psychic detective, Elizabeth Chase, my intention was to show psychic phenomena as I've experienced it: Sporadic, unpredictable,

subtle—but nonetheless real. I'm hoping that by seeing the world through Elizabeth's eyes, you the reader just might begin to recognize the psychic in yourself. Even if you can't come up with next week's winning lotto numbers."

Like Grafton's work, the Elizabeth Chase series is also set in California, specifically in the San Diego area and the nearby inland desert communities. The juxtaposition of extreme affluence and near-poverty works well and provides a range of colorful antagonists and allies.

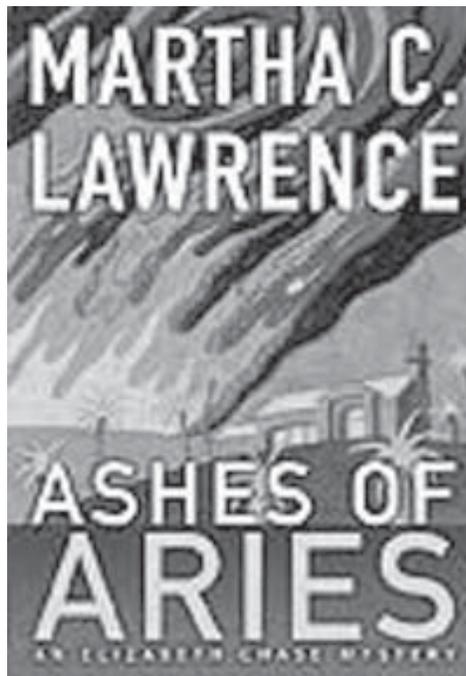
While I read the books in order—and recommend doing so, if only so you understand the development of Elizabeth Chase's personal relationships—each book does stand alone. They are short, about 200-250 pages, so you can read the entire series rapidly. I found the series got better with each subsequent installment. There are currently five books, and all are either in print or readily available in many libraries or from *Amazon.com*: *Murder in Scorpio* (1995), *The Cold Heart of Capricorn* (1997), *Aquarius Descending* (1999), *Pisces Rising* (2000), and *Ashes of Aries* (2001).

There is no word yet on when the next book in the series will be released. Whenever it happens, I look forward to it with great anticipation! You should too. ☺

*Skye Turell is ReView Editor of Aperture and is a skilled and talented practitioner of remote viewing.*



Martha C. Lawrence



## Let's Round Up Remote Viewing In Film and Print!

Winter is coming and that means more time to spend watching movies and reading. With that in mind, IRVA's flagship publication *Aperture* is spearheading a program to compile a list of movies, TV shows/episodes, and novels that address themes of interest to remote viewers. We need everyone's help on this one! I will act as coordinator. Please email me your suggestions by February 25, 2005 at [moviebooklist@yahoo.com](mailto:moviebooklist@yahoo.com). Feel free to email questions there as well.

Send me your personal list of movies, books, and TV shows/episodes (especially those available now on DVD) that fit the parameters. Include the title, author or main actors/director, plus the year of release/publication, if possible. If you know a story to be both a book and a movie, please indicate both. You can use *amazon.com* or *Google* to find more complete information about a particular title. Include movies that are not currently released on DVD, as older videos still exist and many old titles are coming out on DVD every day.

Also, please indicate the genre: horror, mystery/crime, suspense/thriller, action, drama, romance, comedy, sci-fi/fantasy, or other (please explain). And feel free to rate the title:

- 5 = Don't miss!
- 4 = Liked it a lot
- 3 = Not the best, but entertaining
- 2 = Borderline, some might like
- 1 = Forget it!

Here are the parameters: In addition to anything dealing with RV, precognition, telekinesis, or telepathy, let's expand this to include things like healing, dreaming, channeling, communication with the dead (but not every ghost story in creation!), time- or dimension-shifting (but not every space travel story—let's keep the action here on Earth!), near-death experiences (NDEs), mental experiments, mind control/hypnosis, enhanced mental capabilities, and survival of physical death/existence. Use your best judgement, or email me with a description and we'll figure it out together.

Once the lists are complete, all of the information will be input into a Word table and then converted to a pdf-format document. We will make the list available to everyone for their use and enjoyment!

Please pass this request along to your friends, especially movie buffs and readers. Anyone who subscribes to *Netflix* should be able to use their categories or search engine pretty easily. You can also take a few notes at your videostore. We'd like this list to be as complete as possible. Do include titles you don't like, as some people might like them, or at least we can warn folks off of the truly bad ones!

Thanks for your help! This will be a terrific reference!

Skye Turell  
ReView Editor

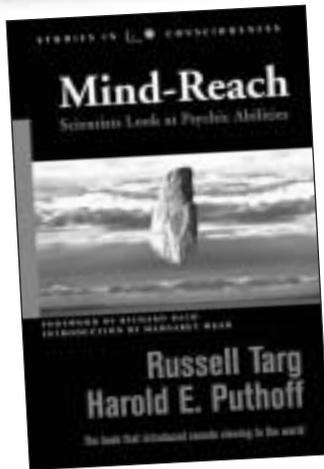
## Taskings & Responses

(Q & A)

Have you been burning to ask a question of some remote-viewing expert? Are you wanting to know something about remote viewing, but didn't know where to turn for an answer? We will be printing questions and answers in the *Taskings & Responses* column in future issues of *Aperture*. Please forward your questions to:

Janet@irva.org (with T&R Editor in the subject line), or mail to:  
T&R Editor,  
*Aperture*, Box 381,  
E. Windsor Hill, CT 06028.

## THE BOOK THAT INTRODUCED REMOTE VIEWING TO THE WORLD



# Mind-Reach

*Scientists Look at Psychic Abilities*

RUSSELL TARG AND HAROLD E. PUTHOFF

Foreword by Richard Bach

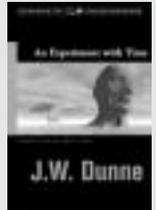
Introduction by Margaret Mead

*Mind-Reach* is the book that led to the U. S. Army's psychic spy program and the prominence of remote viewing. The protocols that physicists Targ and

Puthoff developed at the Stanford Research Institute are still in use today and have proven again and again in laboratory settings that psychic ability is universal.

Paperback • 272 pages • ISBN 1-57174-414-2

The **Studies in Consciousness** series returns some of the best books on the science of parapsychology back to print in affordable, quality paperback editions.



Visit [www.hrpub.com](http://www.hrpub.com) to see the complete line of *Studies in Consciousness* books.

HAMPTON ROADS PUBLISHING COMPANY

1-800-766-8009 • [www.hrpub.com](http://www.hrpub.com)

### This issue's Website Quick-Reference Guide

International Remote Viewing Association [www.irva.org](http://www.irva.org)

Remote Viewing Instructional Services, Inc. [www.rviewer.com](http://www.rviewer.com)

Martha C. Lawrence's Psychic Fiction [www.marthalawrence.com](http://www.marthalawrence.com)

### Advertise Now In *Aperture*!

Do you have a product or service that people in the remote-viewing community should know about? If so, you can now advertise it in the pages of *Aperture*! Advertising space is now available for any products or services that pertain in some way to remote viewing. By offering such space, not only does IRVA defray some of the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter, but *Aperture's* readers are introduced to commercial offerings that may enhance their experience, skills, or understanding of remote viewing. If you or someone you know may be interested in placing an advertisement in the pages of upcoming issues of *Aperture*, please contact Janet at [janet@irva.org](mailto:janet@irva.org), or call her toll-free at (866) 374-4782 for rates and guidelines.

## About The International Remote Viewing Association

The International Remote Viewing Association (IRVA) was organized on March 18, 1999 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, by scientists and academicians involved in remote viewing since its beginnings, together with veterans of the military remote-viewing program who are now active as trainers and practitioners in the field. IRVA was formed in response to widespread confusion and conflicting claims about the remote-viewing phenomenon.

One primary goal of the organization is to encourage the dissemination of accurate information about remote viewing. This goal is accomplished through a robust website, regular conferences, and speaking and educational outreach by its directors. Other IRVA goals are to assist in forming objective testing standards and materials for evaluating remote viewers, serve as a clearinghouse for accurate information about the phenomenon, promote rigorous theoretical research and applications development in the remote-viewing field, and propose ethical standards as appropriate. IRVA has made progress on some of these goals, but others will take more time to realize. We encourage all who are interested in bringing them about to join us in our efforts.

IRVA neither endorses nor promotes any specific method or approach to remote viewing, but aims to become a responsible voice in the future development of all aspects of the discipline.

**web: [www.irva.org](http://www.irva.org) • toll-free: (866) 374-4782**



Aperture  
PO Box 381  
East Windsor Hill, CT 06028  
USA

FORWARDING SERVICE  
REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #1040 LEESBURG, FL 34748
--