

C.G. Jung is one of the most influential figures of the 20th century. He was the closest disciple of S. Freud's and he was to become a second leader of the psychoanalytic movement, until he decided that Freud's view of religion, myth, and philosophy doesn't give justice to the significance of those areas of culture and experience. After his break up with Freud, Jung became an expert in religion, mythology, and mysticism, even though he was a psychiatrist and has never pursued an academic career in those fields. His erudition and influence on religious studies of the 20th century was so great that the first codex of the ancient Gnostic papyri found by accident in the Egyptian Nag Hammadi in 1945 was given to him as a gift by the editors and is still called the "Jung codex".

Jung was inspired by Plato in developing his concept of the archetypes existing in the collective soul of humanity, but there are not many studies devoted to the reception of Platonism in his works. Two recent studies on this topic focus either on comparing Jung's ideas to some aspects of Platonic philosophy, or on the method of psychotherapeutic practice. This project will focus on a different aspect, namely, the peculiar way of writing, characteristic to Jung. It was described by C.S. Lewis as "enchanting", "magic", and "mystagogic" and he claimed that every reader of Jung experiences this particular quality of his style even before he decides whether analytic psychology is intellectually convincing or not. The project will demonstrate that Jung's way of writing is influenced by the ancient Platonic concept of image, metaphor, and myth as the way to truth and the way to express it.

The project will study the newly edited, personal and autobiographical writing of Jung, such as *Liber novus* (or *Red Book*, 2009) and the *Black Books* (2020), in order to find to what extent Jung's style and rhetoric is influenced by the Platonic tradition. Then it will take into account also other, more academic writings of Jung. Finally, the doctoral thesis will provide us with an synthetic account of Jung's "magic" style and his place within a broadly conceived Platonic tradition. The project will be conducted in cooperation with the scholars from the Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism, most notably, Douglas Hedley (the head of the centre and an expert in the Platonic views on image and imagination) and Alan Cardew (University of Essex, an expert in the modern Platonism, English literature and C.G. Jung).