



# The Divided Brain:

The importance of division and fusion in bringing about the world

## EVENING WORKSHOP

Presented by **Dr Iain McGilchrist**

Tuesday 27 September

Michael Chamberlain Lecture Theatre,  
St Vincent's Hospital, Fitzroy, Melbourne

5.30pm-9.00pm (registration and afternoon tea from 5.00pm)

Secure online registration for those paying by Mastercard or Visa is available at:

<https://www.secureregistrations.com/Psy2011/>



The Royal  
Australian &  
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College of  
Psychiatrists

Section of Psychotherapy

**We now know that each hemisphere plays a role in everything the brain does: the old dichotomies do not hold. Most neuroscientists have therefore abandoned the attempt to understand why nature has so carefully segregated the hemispheres – despite a large, and expanding, body of evidence about their differences at every level.**

On the basis of research in birds, animals and humans, Iain McGilchrist suggests in a new book that there is an evolutionary advantage to the division, originating in the need to pay two quite different types of attention to the world simultaneously. In human consciousness, these two modes of attention give rise to two different versions of the world, with different qualities, as well as different sets of preoccupations and values. The relationship between these two modes is asymmetrical, as is the brain that permits them to come into being. Both are necessary, but one of them sees less than the other, while nonetheless believing that it sees everything.

This hypothesis has implications for the development of the self, and it is suggested that an understanding of the implications of this attentional divide may cast light on some of the ultimate metaphysical questions, such as the nature of our minds and bodies, and our relationship with the world.

#### REGISTRATION FEES (Inc. GST)

	Payment received by 5 September	Payment received after 5 September
Member, RANZCP Section of Psychotherapy	\$140	\$205
RANZCP Trainee or Other Student	\$110	\$175
Others	\$155	\$220

#### RANZCP CPD PROGRAM

Participants in the RANZCP CPD Program may include hours spent in this activity as part of their 2011 CPD program. Evidence of attendance should be retained for use in the case of an Audit of Claim.

#### CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations must be advised in writing by 5 September 2011; there is a \$75 cancellation fee per registration. After that date, refunds will only be issued in exceptional circumstances, but substitute delegates will be accepted.

#### MORE INFORMATION

The Conference Organiser. 146 Leicester Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053

Phone: (03) 9349 2220 Email: [info@conorg.com.au](mailto:info@conorg.com.au) Fax: (03) 9349 2230

PRESENTER:

## Dr Iain McGilchrist



Dr Iain McGilchrist began his academic career as a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, teaching English literature.

He published a book, *Against Criticism*, which tried to articulate his misgivings about the academic study

of literature, in particular the neglect of the way in which we as individual, embodied beings encounter the unique, incarnate work of art. In an attempt to get a better immediate understanding of 'the mind/body problem', he studied philosophy, trained in medicine, and became a psychiatrist. He has since twice been re-elected to Fellowships at All Souls, and has been a Research Fellow in Neuroimaging at Johns Hopkins, as well as a Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director at the Bethlem & Maudsley Hospital. He now works privately as a psychiatrist in London.

He has published original articles in a wide range of papers and journals on topics in literature, medicine and psychiatry, has published research on neuroimaging in schizophrenia, the phenomenology of schizophrenia, and other topics, and contributed to TV documentaries.

His latest book, *The Master and his Emissary: The Divided Brain and the Making of the Western World*, was published by Yale in November 2009.

Secure online registration (with Mastercard or Visa) is available at: <https://www.secureregistrations.com/Psy2011/> or complete and return this form by fax / post (details above).

## Registration Form

(Fees include 10% GST) ABN: 22 099 354 060

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Section of Psychotherapy

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