

Although he is often called the “founding father of the New Age,” Carl Jung, the legendary Swiss psychologist best known for his groundbreaking concepts like the collective unconscious, archetype theory, and synchronicity, often took pains to avoid any explicit association with mysticism or the occult. Yet Jung lived a life rich in paranormal experiences—arguing for the existence of poltergeists in a debate with Sigmund Freud, participating in séances, incorporating astrology into his therapeutic work, reporting a near-death experience, and collaborating with the pioneering ESP researcher J. B. Rhine. It is these key experiences—often fleetingly referenced in other biographies or critical studies, and just as frequently used to make a case against Jung and his philosophies—that form the core of this exciting new biography, *Jung the Mystic*.

While Jung’s ghostwritten memoirs, *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*, touch on the role his mystical and occult experiences played in his life, Gary Lachman’s *Jung the Mystic* completes the circle: Lachman assesses Jung’s life and work from the viewpoint of Western esoteric tradition and helpfully places Jung in the context of other major esoteric thinkers such as Rudolf Steiner, G. I. Gurdjieff, and Emanuel Swedenborg.

In engaging and vivid prose, Lachman shows how Jung, journeying from Freudian disciple to creator of a psychology focused on the significance of dreams and mythology, embodied the Western mystical path. Through his ideas, Jung inspired other intellectuals, scientists, and philosophers to embrace mythical and spiritual inquiry, thus laying the groundwork for the revival of mysticism in the modern West.

Tracking the arc of Jung's life, struggles, and human relationships (and taking a critical sounding of Jung's newly released *The Red Book*), this important volume clearly and concisely examines the central role that mystical ideas, practices, and experiences played in the career of one of the greatest thinkers of the modern era.

**GARY LACHMAN** is one of today's most widely read and respected writers on esoteric and occult themes. His writing has appeared in several national journals on

philosophy, esotericism, and modern culture, and his books—including *Rudolf Steiner; Politics and the Occult; Turn Off Your Mind; and A Secret History of Consciousness*—have been published to acclaim in both America and Europe. In his musical career, Lachman has been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a founding member of the pioneering rock band Blondie. Lachman was born in New Jersey and currently lives in London.