

Abstract for

**20th WADP congress / XXXIII International Symposium of the German Academy
for Psychoanalysis (DAP) e.V., 16.04.2024 to 20.04.2024, Marrakech, Morocco
"Social Challenges - Shared Responsibility in Psychiatry and Psychotherapy"**

Key Lecture

Male / Female / Diverse

Name: **Alfonso**

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Title / Position:

Prof. Dr./ M.D. M.D.

Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center

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Country:

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Presentation title:

**Architecture: Psychoanalytic Insights on the Aesthetics of Living Spaces and
Social Responsibility**

Abstract text up to 20 lines in English:

Architecture, like psychoanalysis, evolved as a discipline broadening its scope beyond responsibility towards individuals to attend to the social needs of communities at large. As a psychoanalyst interested in the creative process, and having worked collaboratively with architects psychotherapeutically, I will share some insights specifically focusing on areas of convergence and the cross-fertilization between our fields of work. Drawing from psychoanalytic formulations that emphasize proxemics and the psychology of space, developmental milestones in adulthood, and theories that view generative altruism and prosocial behaviors as highly adaptive, I will discuss socially responsible designs of living spaces within this context. I will refer to the body of work of contemporary architects when using illustrative examples to show how the design of living spaces may psychologically impact individuals and the collective psyche of groups, cities, and nations. I will also describe the health promoting aspects of architecture beyond the dimension of Aesthetics.