

## Introduction to “A tribute to Freud”

Esther Faye

I extend a very warm welcome to you all to this celebration of the **sesquicentenary** of Freud’s birth, 1856–2006, and of the field of psychoanalysis that he created and devoted his life’s work to developing and sustaining.

My name is Esther Faye and I am the current president of the Australian Centre for Psychoanalysis. The ACP, which is also celebrating a special birthday this year – it was born here in Australia 20 years ago – is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the **teaching of psychoanalysis** – and I’m pleased to note that there are many of our past and present students here today, of which I am one – to the **training of analysts** and to **research in the psychoanalytic field within the Lacanian tradition**. It’s also appropriate for me to note that this year also marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Jacques Lacan, whose teachings, which began with a systematic and rigorous return to the works of Freud, orient the praxis of the analysts associated with this Centre.

We have organised what I hope you will agree looks like a gem of a program of short papers to honour the work of Sigmund Freud. This work which stretches from his very first papers in neurology, through to those major works which established the field of psychoanalysis proper and onto his very last works on culture and civilisation, remarkably, continues both to inspire the love and admiration of those who learn how to read him – and to incite the ire and contumely of those who don’t.

We hope that what you hear today from those of us who have wished to testify to the varied ways in which Freud and his work have influenced and shaped our work and life will direct you to the former and not to the latter view of Freud.