



Maja Apolonia Rodé, PhD

Feb. 2021

Curriculum Vitae

Bio



Maja Apolonia Rodé, PhD, is a multi-faceted creator, community weaver, and enthusiastic advocate of our most noble potentials.

Founder and host of Our Awakening World, Maja's passion is to inspire and support the flourishing of human potential — individually and collectively — for the benefit of all. She holds a PhD in Transpersonal Psychology and is a lifelong student of both the creative process and contemplative self-inquiry.

In the early 2000s, Maja played a foundational role in supporting one of the most respected teachers in the field of nondual awareness. She has presented her insights on the nature of the creative process and contemplative inquiry at the Science and Nonduality conferences and the Nondual Wisdom and Psychology conferences, and has served on the boards of Open Circle and The Center for Nondual Awareness.

The daughter of a technology pioneer, Maja grew up immersed in the true heart of Silicon Valley with its innovative creative spirit and its world-changing impact. She continues to create and contemplate in the San Francisco Bay Area, now a mecca for both technological innovation and the human consciousness movement.

Education & Training

- Ph.D. in Transpersonal Psychology. Doctoral Dissertation: *What Is Beauty? A Living Inquiry for the Mind and Heart*, Chair, Dr. Jill Mellick. Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, Palo Alto, CA (2000)

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- M.A. in Transpersonal Psychology, with Certificate in Creative Expression
Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, Palo Alto, CA (1994)
- Hypnotherapy Certification
Palo Alto School of Hypnotherapy, Palo Alto, CA (1990)
- B.A. in Art Education & Industrial Design – Graduated Cum Laude
San Jose State University, San Jose, CA (1989)
- Saint Francis High School, Mountain View, CA (1985)
National Merit Scholarship Finalist

Online Teaching

- Our Awakening World, OurAwakeningWorld.com (2020-2021)
Co-Designer and Co-Teacher of 9-month online meditation course with Roma Hammel: *Embodying Our Essence: Enter Transformative Depths in Sacred Heart Space*
- Our Awakening World, OurAwakeningWorld.com (2020)
Co-Designer of the 3-month Virtual Retreat with Kate Foley: *The Self Love Sanctuary*
- Our Awakening World, OurAwakeningWorld.com (2019-2020)
Producer and Host of the online course and dialogue series: *The Reality of Self Love: Staying True To What's True In You*
- Center for Nondual Awareness (2017)
Teacher of the 9-week series: *Marketing for Spiritual Teachers*.

Professional Employment

Creative Director, Open Gate Sangha, San Jose, CA (2000–2016)

- As the first employee of the organization with direct insight into the esoteric teachings of Adyashanti, a deep understanding of his target audience, and an array of technical and artistic skills, played a foundational role in the development of the organization, helping to shape its live events, publications and marketing, administrative systems and procedures, data management, and community culture.
- Oversee strategy, planning, and execution of all publications, communications, and marketing to the general public including: website structure and content; DVDs, CDs, books, and downloads; online courses; email broadcasts; printed newsletter and flyers.

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- Work with Adyashanti directly to plan and design online courses and other online offerings as well as sacred-space creation for retreats through music and ritual.
- Work closely with Executive Director on marketing direction, company culture development, work environment, website redesign.
- Key player on website redesign team, involved in data management and structure, user experience, and visual presentation.

Teaching Assistant, Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, Palo Alto, CA (1993–1996, 2006)

- Supported Dr. Jill Mellick in teaching self-discovery through creative arts.

Administrative Assistant, MindCenter Corporation, Menlo Park, CA (1990-1991)

- Supported client services at a pioneering brainwave biofeedback training company.

Logic Lab Tutor, San Jose State University (1986-1987)

- Coached university students in developing logic and practical reasoning skills.

Engineering Assistant, Sielox Systems, Inc. (1984-1985)

- Technical drawing, electronics assembly, and integrated circuit testing for a pioneering RFID technology company.

Speaking & Presenting

- Science and Nonduality Conference, San Jose, CA (Oct. 2017)
Presentation: *Creating a Field of Emergence.*
- Science and Nonduality Conference, San Jose, CA (Oct. 2016)
Conversation: *The Evolution of Nondual Community.*
- Science and Nonduality Conference, San Jose, CA (Oct. 2016)
Channels of Sacred Communication: How To Grow A Conscious Community.
- Open Circle Center, Berkeley, CA (2016)
Our Evolving Consciousness.
- Open Circle Sebastopol, Sebastopol, CA (2016)
Our Evolving Consciousness.

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- Center for Nondual Awareness Retreat, Portland, OR (2016)
The Field of Evolving Consciousness.
- Co-Master of Ceremonies, New Frontiers Conference, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand (2016)
- Co-Master of Ceremonies and Speaker Introductions, Science and Nonduality Conference, San Rafael, CA and San Jose, CA (2010-2015)
- Urban Awakening, San Francisco, CA (2015)
Paradox, Courage, and the Unknown: Foundations of Awakened Living and Relating.
- Urban Awakening, San Francisco, CA (2015)
The Power of Perspective: Awakening in the Space of Community.
- Science and Nonduality Conference, San Jose, CA (Oct. 2015)
Creativity, Consciousness, and Inspired Action, panel moderator.
- Science and Nonduality Conference, San Jose, CA (Oct. 2015)
Playing with Presence: Who Am I?
- Science and Nonduality Conference, San Jose, CA (Oct. 2015)
God and Goddess: Two Waves One Ocean – a Conversation with Maja Apolonia Rode and Jeff Brown.
- Wisdom Movement retreat, Mill Valley, CA (Sep. 2015)
Reflections on Wisdom and Well-being in the Workplace.
- Center for Nondual Awareness Retreat, Portland, OR (2015)
Channels of Sacred Communication: Seven Steps for Cultivating Conscious Community.
- Center for Nondual Awareness Retreat, Portland, OR (2014)
Playing with Presence: Exploring the Lighter Side of Nonduality.
- Open Circle Center, Palo Alto, CA (2013)
The Flowering of Dharma and Core Being Alignment.
- Science and Nonduality Conference, San Rafael, CA (2010)
Expressing the Inexpressible: Nondual Creativity in Action.
- Nondual Wisdom and Psychotherapy Conference, San Francisco, CA (2009)
Expressing the Self: Creative Expression and Inquiry from a Nondual Perspective.

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- Nondual Wisdom and Psychotherapy Conference, San Francisco, CA (2008)
Zen and the Art of Mandalas: Opening the Creative Channels of Consciousness.

Retreats & Workshops

- New Frontiers, Whitemans Valley, Aotearoa New Zealand (2017)
Assistant teacher for Charles Eisenstein: *The Space Between Stories* 3-night Retreat
- Esalen Institute, Big Sur, CA (2014, 2015, 2017)
Assistant teacher for Charles Eisenstein: *The Space Between Stories* and *The More Beautiful World Our Hearts Know is Possible* 5-night Retreats
- Esalen Institute, Big Sur, CA (2016)
Assistant to Lissa Rankin: *The Anatomy of a Calling* 5-night Retreat
- Yoga Source, Los Gatos, CA (2012)
Restorative Yoga and Soul Soothing Chanting Workshop
Co-designed and facilitated with Jeanette Goudallier.
- Mount Madonna Center, Watsonville, CA (2007)
Co-designer and co-teacher with Dr. Judith Cornell. *The Sacred Art of Awakening* 5-night Retreat
- Institute of Transpersonal Psychology and numerous private venues (1994-2009)
Mandala Meditation Workshops.
- Institute of Transpersonal Psychology (1995)
Poetry In Motion Workshop.

Interviews & Dialogues

- *Creativity and the Call of Spirit.* In dialogue with Adyashanti. Open Gate Sangha, San Jose, CA (2016)
- *Belonging: The Sacred Core of Community.* In dialogue with Adyashanti. Open Gate Sangha, San Jose, CA (2016)
- *21-Day Compassion Challenge.* Online course by Lissa Rankin. Rodale Press (2016)
- *Presence and Insight in the Creative Process.* Doctoral dissertation (in process) by Suzy Adra. California Institute for Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA (2015)

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- *Nonduality Talk*, "On Running a Nonduality Group." Interview by Jerry Katz, nonduality.com (2014)
- *The Experience of No Self*. Doctoral dissertation by Laurel McCormick. Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, Palo Alto, CA (2010)
- *Convergence with John Carosella*. Interview by John Carosella, fireflywillows.com (2010)
- *Living Reality: Authentic Awakening in Action*. In dialogue with Adyashanti. Open Gate Sangha, San Jose, CA (2009)

Consulting & Advising

- Board of Directors, Open Circle Center, Inc., Berkeley, CA (2016-2017)
- President, Center for Nondual Awareness, Inc., Portland, OR (2015-2017)
- Marketing Consultant for various spiritual teachers, authors, and healers.
- Instructional Design Consultant, *The Mandala Healing Kit*. Dr. Judith Cornell. Sounds True Publishing, Boulder, CO (2006)

Editing & Publishing

- Managing Editor, *The Way of Liberation* by Adyashanti. Open Gate Publishing (2011)
- Copy Editor, *This Is Always Enough* by John Astin. Non-Duality Press (2007)
- Copy Editor, *Too Intimate For Words* by John Astin. Non-Duality Press (2005)
- Managing Editor, *Emptiness Dancing* by Adyashanti. Open Gate Publishing (2004)
- Managing Editor, *My Secret Is Silence* by Adyashanti. Open Gate Publishing (2003)
- Copy Editor, *The Impact of Awakening* by Adyashanti. Open Gate Publishing (2000)
- Producer, 80+ DVDs and 100+ CD Albums by Adyashanti and Mukti, Open Gate Publishing (2000-2015)

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Art Exhibits

- Nonesuch Space Gallery, Oakland, CA (2008)
Solo exhibition.
- Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, Palo Alto, CA (1994, 1997, 2007)
Solo exhibitions.
- Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, CA (1996)
Group exhibition.
- International Transpersonal Association Conference, Santa Clara, CA (1995)
Group exhibition.

Art Publications

- Cover Artist, *Facets of Integrity and Guided Meditations, Volumes 1 & 2* (CD Albums).
Adyashanti. Open Gate Sangha (2011-2012)
- Featured Artist, *Energie du mandala* (French). Marlis Laurdée. Courrier Livre (2010)
- Contributing Artist, *The Mandala Healing Kit*. Dr. Judith Cornell. Sounds True
Publishing (2006)
- Contributing Artist, *Mandala: Luminous Symbols for Healing*. Dr. Judith Cornell. Quest
Books (1994, 2006)
- Cover Artist, *Mantra for Healing*. Sacred Sound Productions (2002)
- Cover Artist, *Transpersonal Research Methods for the Social Sciences*. Sage Publications
(1998)
- Artist/Designer, *Mandala Meditations Calendar*, Self-Published (1995, 1996)

Concerts and Performances

- Soul Sanctuary with Jeannie Zandi, Online (2020)
- New Frontiers Conference, Whitemans Valley, Aotearoa New Zealand (2017)
- Retreats and events with Adyashanti, at various venues and retreat centers
(1999–2016)

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- Rumi's Caravan, Santa Rosa, CA (2013, 2015, 2017)
- Nondual Wisdom and Psychotherapy Conference, San Francisco, CA (2009, 2010, 2013)
- Science and Nonduality Conference (2010, 2011, 2012)
- New Campus Inauguration, Sofia University, Palo Alto, CA (2012)
- "Songs from the Silence" Concert Tour with Amitabhan -- 25 public and private venues in Northwest and Western States (2011)
- Dr. Gabriel Cousens' Tree of Life Center, Patagonia, AZ, with Amitabhan (2011)
- Center for Spiritual Living, San Diego, CA, with Amitabhan (2011)
- Salt Spring Island Centre of Yoga, Salt Spring Island, BC, with Amitabhan (2011)
- Esalen Institute, Big Sur, CA, with Amitabhan and Eric Schneider (2010)
- Bread for the Journey, Seattle, WA, board of directors retreat (2010)
- Firefly Wilows, Los Altos, CA, solo concert (2010)
- Diamond Heart Graduation Celebration, San Rafael, CA, with Eric Schneider (2010)
- Dharma Lounge, San Rafael, CA, multiple performances (2008-2009)
- "Sounds of Silence" concert series with Steven Walters, private venues in the Greater Bay Area (2008-2009)
- John Astin CD Release Concert, Kuumbwa Jazz Center, Santa Cruz, CA. Guest rapper (2008)

Music Publications

- *Radio Adyashanti* pre- and post-program music (2005-2015).
Contributing musician.
- *Songs of the Heart* CD. Self-Published (2009)
- *The Mandala Healing Kit*. Dr. Judith Cornell. Sounds True Publishing (2006)
Contributing musician.

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- *Om Namah Shivaya* CD. Self-Published (2001)
- *Sacred Words*, by Sabina Cox. Bodhi Mandala (2000)
Vocal harmonies and percussion.

Bibliography

- *Nexus Magazine*. "Critic's Picks" by Amber Terrell. (Jan/Feb 2012)
5-star rating and review of Songs of the Heart music CD.

Other Information

- The creatively empowering "How to Grow a Mandala" video, was the first of its kind, inspiring more than 750,000 views on Youtube.
- Spiritual background includes Catholic upbringing with explorations of Sufi, Buddhist, Pagan, Hindu traditions.
- Former member of the Mensa Society.
- Voted Top-10 All-American Collegiate Bowler 3 out of 4 years, as the intercollegiate bowling team captain of 3rd-ranked team in the US. (1985-1989)
- International travels: India, Japan, Guatemala, New Zealand, Slovenia, England, Spain.
- Creator of the Core Being Alignment experience for clarifying and empowering our deepest soul intentions.
- Performed voice-overs and recorded announcements for Radio Adyashanti and audio publications of Open Gate Sangha. (2005-2016).

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