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***RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART PRESENTS
FIRST PUBLIC SHOWING OF JUNG'S RED BOOK,
A FOUNDATIONAL TOME OF CONTEMPORARY CULTURE***

***Exhibition Makes Visible the Visual Oeuvre of
A Founding Father of Modern Psychology***

New York, NY — The preeminent psychologist C. G. Jung (1875-1961) considered his *Liber Novus*, the famous *Red Book*, to be the “*prima materia* for a lifetime’s work.” Many contemporary scholars regard it as the most influential unpublished work in the history of psychology.

Now this cultural touchstone—in which Jung developed his principal theories of archetypes, collective unconscious, and the process of individuation—is to go on public view for the first time in a special showing at the Rubin Museum of Art, West 17th Street and Seventh Avenue. Entitled *The Red Book of C. G. Jung: Creation of a New Cosmology*, the exhibition from October 7, 2009, to February 15, 2010, coincides with a major event in publishing: W.W. Norton & Company’s publication of a facsimile and translation of Jung’s original.

For a book that would transform psychotherapy from a practice concerned with the treatment of the sick into a means for the higher development of the personality, the *Red Book* is a strange hybrid of thought and image taking the form of a 11.57 x 15.35 inch red leather-bound manuscript. In more than two-thirds of its pages, Jung paired his abstract and narrative brightly hued graphic forms with thoughts written in a beautiful calligraphic style.

The work has never been seen in public before, outside the circle of Jung's family. Alongside the 95-year old volume which Jung worked on from 1914-1930, the Rubin Museum will present a number of oil, chalk, and tempera paintings and preparatory sketches related to the *Red Book* and other original manuscripts, including the *Black Books*, which contain ideas and fantasies leading up to the *Red Book*. In addition, copies of the new publication will be available for perusal in a reference area in the gallery.

"This exhibition will cast new light on the genesis of Jung's work and the making of modern psychology, and open up possibilities for understanding how mandalas and mandala-like structures are understood across cultures," says Martin Brauen, Chief Curator, Rubin Museum of Art.

Dr. Brauen, who is particularly interested in the mandala-like paintings in the *Red Book*, first encountered Jung's work as a student at the Jung Institute in Zurich and in his own research into mandalas. *Mandala: The Perfect Circle*, an exhibition he is organizing, will be on view concurrently at the museum with the *Red Book* this fall.

"Jung described the mandala as an 'archetype of wholeness,'" continues Brauen. "*The Red Book of C. G. Jung* is in some way the focal point of all of the exhibitions we will present in Fall and Winter 2009/2010."

(As well as *Mandala: The Perfect Circle* [August 14, 2009 – January 11, 2010], the Rubin Museum exhibition schedule includes *Victorious Ones: Jain Images of Perfection* [September 18, 2009 – February 15, 2010] and *Visions of the Cosmos: From Milky Ocean to Black Hole* [December 11, 2009 – May 10, 2010].)

Visitors to the Rubin Museum will be invited to see the ways in which Jung sought to translate the symbols he encountered in dreams and fantasies into contemporary graphic form, often using

the circular diagrams of the mandala, which resembles structures represented in Tibetan Buddhist art. On display will be Jung's first known mandala-like work: *Systema mundi totius* (1916), a cosmic representation of his reflections on spirituality and the soul, drawn from a series of recorded personal fantasies. Jung considered this work—along with about 25 mandala sketches that he created while serving as a Medical Corps Doctor and Commander of a British internment camp in Switzerland during the last two years of World War I—to be important documentations of his psychological and spiritual development.

The works of art and archival materials included in *The Red Book of C.G. Jung* are on loan from the Foundation for the Works of C. G. Jung, the Jung family private archive, and private collections.

The Red Book of CG Jung is made possible in part by contributions from the Jungian Psychoanalytic Association, New York and the International Association for Analytical Psychology, and by grants from the Oswald Family Foundation and the Ann & Erlo Van Waveren Foundation Inc.

The Book

The Red Book (October, 2009) published by W.W. Norton & Company, is a scholarly and historical edition made accessible to the general reader by an introduction that sketches the social and intellectual context of the work, its history, and the circumstances in which it arose. The volume is edited by Dr. Sonu Shamdasani, General Editor of the Philemon Foundation and Philemon Reader in Jung History at the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College, London. *The Red Book* is one of the volumes of the Philemon Series, sponsored by the Philemon Foundation.

The folio volume consists of 205 pages of Jung's original text and images, of which 53 are images, 71 contain both text and image, and 81 are pure (calligraphic) text pages. The English edition will include more than 200 additional pages including translation of the text, and introduction, by Dr. Shamdasani that will outline the structure of the work and give an overview of its contents. It will indicate its significance for the genesis of Jung's later work.

The publication of the *Red Book* has already been hailed as a major event in the understanding of the cultural history of the 20th century.

About RMA

RMA holds one of the world's most important collections of Himalayan art. Paintings, pictorial textiles, and sculpture are drawn from cultures that touch upon the arc of mountains that extends from Afghanistan in the northwest to Myanmar (Burma) in the southeast and includes Tibet, Nepal, Mongolia, and Bhutan. The larger Himalayan cultural sphere, determined by

significant cultural exchange over millennia, includes Iran, India, China, Central Asia, and Southeast Asia. This rich cultural legacy, largely unfamiliar to Western viewers, offers an uncommon opportunity for visual adventure and aesthetic discovery.

Admission to RMA is \$10 for adults; \$7 for seniors, middle- and high-school students, and artists (with ID); \$2 for college students (with ID); \$7 for neighbors (zip codes 10011 & 10001 with ID); free for seniors the first Monday of every month; and free for children under 12 and for museum members. Gallery admission is free to all on Fridays between 7 pm and 10 pm.

Open Monday 11 am to 5 pm, Wednesday 11 am to 7 pm, Thursday 11 am to 5 pm, Friday 11 am to 10 pm, Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm; closed on Tuesday. To reach the museum by subway, visitors may take the A, C or E to 14th Street; the 1 to 18th Street; 1, 2, 3 to 14th Street; F and V to 14th Street; N, R, Q, W, 4, 5 and 6 to 14th or the L to 6th Avenue. By bus, visitors may take the B20 to the corner of 7th Avenue and 17th Street.