

Journals

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Edited by *Paolo Migone**

Issue no. 1, 2015, Volume 49

Avgi Saketopoulou, *Mourning the body as bedrock: Developmental considerations in treating transsexual patients analytically*

Abstract: The concept of massive gender trauma, a clinical syndrome arising at the intersection of the misgendering of transgender patients and the anguished experience of the natal body, is introduced. Psychoanalysts have become increasingly aware of the complex interactions between psyche, soma, and culture, and of the psychic risks inherent in misgendering. However, patients' body dysphoria is often left unaddressed even by analysts who work within gendered experience. Through a detailed account of work with a five-year-old trans girl (female-identified, male-bodied), the developmental implications of the natal body's not becoming sufficiently mentalized are tracked and explored. Attention to unconscious fantasy and its transformations shows the importance of helping transgender patients whose bodies are a source of suffering to be able to psychically represent their pain as a critical step in the process of a psychologically healthy sexual transition.

Bernd Bocian, *Karl Landauer (1887-1945): A Frankfurt psychoanalyst almost forgotten by psychoanalysis and Gestalt therapy*

Abstract: The Frankfurt psychoanalyst Karl Landauer, who died in the concentration camp of Bergen-Belsen, is remembered. Landauer, who had been in analysis with Sigmund Freud, was a collaborator and close friend of Max Horkheimer, one of the analysts of Lore and Fritz Perls and an independent and creative thinker. After a brief description of his biography and of the history of the foundation of the Frankfurt Psychoanalytic Institute, some themes of Landauer's work, that have anticipated aspects of contemporary psychoanalysis and influenced Gestalt therapy, are discussed. These themes are, among others, the following: his soft application of active psychoanalysis, his emphasis on thinking and feeling in an independent way, his close attention to affects and body language (in a way that resembles the later developments of *infant research*), and a strong interest for social factors.

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Riccardo Gramantieri, *From Ferenczi to Reich: Analogies between physics and psychoanalysis*

Abstract: During the 1920s and 1930s physics offers a different view of reality, and psychoanalysis attempts to apply new scientific methods to the study of mind. Sándor Ferenczi called “utraqism” this similarity method used between disciplines, even very different ones. The application of thermodynamics’ laws in instinct theory is the most explored field of investigation. It was anticipated by Freud in the *Wolf Man* (1914 [1918]), and later C.G. Jung writes a paper that called the “Psychic energy” (1928), Bernfeld & Feitelberg (1930, 1931) try to prove the existence of the death instinct by the law of entropy, and finally Wilhelm Reich (1934-37, 1948) proposes a theory of energy that allows him to measure libido. All these attempts to apply the rules of physics to the unconscious were doomed to fail, but they pushed the psychoanalytic movement to discuss on the role of psychoanalysis among the sciences.

Adriano Zamperini & Marta Bettini, *Psychology and genocide. The development of a profession in Rwanda*

Abstract: Between April and July 1994, Rwanda suffered a genocide distinguished by its intensity and severity of violence: about one million people were killed. Given the large numbers of Rwandans who experienced major traumatic events, not surprisingly in the aftermath of 1994 numerous epidemiological studies showed high rates of psychological and psychosocial problems in the population of Rwanda. Social programs and mental health services established for genocide-traumatized Rwandans emphasize the role of clinical psychology as a profession. This article reflects on the potentialities and challenges of implementing psychological interventions in the aftermath of a genocide, focusing on group therapy. More specifically, this article explores the position of clinical psychologists among Western ‘medicalization’ of mental disorders and traditional healing mechanisms.

Antonella Mancini, *How to transform someone’s misfortune into a caricature. Notes on Mario Martone’s 2014 movie Leopardi*

Abstract: The long-awaited 2014 film by Mario Martone on Giacomo Leopardi – *Il giovane favoloso* (*Leopardi*, in the English edition) – gives the opportunity to make some critical considerations on the public disclosure of biographical information. At the basis there is the issue of subjectivity. With which instruments or methods should we deal with it? And what are the boundaries of the private life of a person we should not cross? What is “true” and what is “false” in this area? What are the responsibilities of psychoanalysis and of psychological disciplines in general? It is not questioned the usefulness of knowing and disseminating the details of a life, but the way in which this is done, keeping into consideration the laws of communication. Leopardi’s life, as recounted by Martone in this movie, is an example of what really should *not* be done on the subject of biography.

Traces

Re-construction. The fate of mental health, today

Pier Francesco Galli, *Introduction*

Birth of the Movement against Psychiatric Hospitals in Umbria (Italy)

Tullio Seppilli, *Overall introduction*

Ferruccio Giacanelli, *Premise*

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Some publications by Ferruccio Giacanelli on psychiatry, history and socio-cultural anthropology

Abstract: After an introduction by Pier Francesco Galli, some parts of the first book of the series “For a History of Psychiatric Reform in the Italian Region Umbria (Italy) – *Studies and Materials on Anthropology of Health (SMAS)*”, by Ferruccio Giacanelli (1930-2012), titled *Birth of the Movement Against Psychiatric Hospitals in Umbria* and edited by the *Angelo Celli Foundation for a Culture of Health* of Perugia, Italy (Selci-Lama [Perugia]: Pliniana, 2014), are reprinted. The following parts are reproduced: the “Overall introduction” by Tullio Seppilli; the “Premise” by Ferruccio Giacanelli; part of Appendix B, titled “Reasons and developments of the great movement against psychiatric hospitals”, by Ferruccio Giacanelli; the “Presentation” of the book by the editors (Carla Nocentini, Francesco Scotti, and Tullio Seppilli); the table of contents; a list of some publication by Ferruccio Giacanelli.

Clinical cases

Fanny Guglielmucci & Antonella Granieri, *The case of L.*

Adriano Schimmenti, Paola Morra, *Comments on the case of L.*

Book Reviews

Otto F. Kernberg. *Amore e aggressività. Prospettive cliniche e teoriche*. Rome: Fioriti, 2013 (original edition: *The Inseparable Nature of Love and Aggression*. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing, 2012) (Silvia Marchesini)

Gian Paolo Scano, *La mente del corpo: intenzionalità e inconscio della coscienza. L'azione umana tra natura e cultura*. [The Mind of the Body: Intentionality and the Unconscious of Consciousness. Human Action between Nature and Nurture] Milan: FrancoAngeli, 2015 (Davide Cavagna)

Antonio Pérez-Sánchez, *Il colloquio in psicoanalisi e psicoterapia*. Preface by Jaqueline Amati Mehler. Rome: Astrolabio, 2014 (original edition: *Interview and Indicators in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy*. London: Karnac, 2012) (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Ciro Tarantino & Alessandra M. Straniero, *La bella e la bestia. Il tipo umano nell'antropologia liberale*. [Beauty and the Beast. The Human Type in Liberal Anthropology] Sesto San Giovanni (Milan): Mimesis, 2014 (Antonella Mancini)

Book notices

Glen O. Gabbard (editor-in-chief), *Gabbard's Treatments of Psychiatric Disorders. DSM-5 Edition*. Fifth Edition. Washington, D.C.: American Psychiatric Publishing, 2014 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Elisabeth Spillius & Edna O'Shaughnessy, *Il concetto di identificazione proiettiva. La sua nascita e la sua evoluzione*. Rome: Astrolabio, 2014 (original edition: *Projective Identification. The Fate of a Concept*. London: Routledge, 2012) (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Carmelo Di Prima, Simonetta Verdecchia, Fulvia Ceccarelli & Roberta Giampietri (editors), *Un mestiere “impossibile”*. [An “Impossibile” Profession] Milan: FrancoAngeli, 2014 (Pietro Pellegrini)

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The International Journal of Psychoanalysis, 2014, Volume 95, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (Pietro Pascarelli); *Comment on The International Journal of Psychoanalysis* (Pietro Pascarelli)

Studies in Gender and Sexuality, 2014, Volume 15, no. 4 (Paolo Migone)

Journal of Homosexuality, 2015, Volume 62, no. 6 (Paolo Migone)

Grounding, 2014, Year 9, nos. 1 & 2 (Paolo Migone)

Paolo Migone, *Editorial*

Lawrence Friedman, *Honey in the wormwood: Interruption of effort in analytic treatment*

Abstract: The concept of therapeutic alliance is revised by asking whether there is a uniquely psychoanalytic work that a patient can consciously carry out, such that we can say, “This patient is really working at being analyzed.” The challenge is to find the patient’s work that collaborates with the special action of psychoanalysis. It is proposed that the special action of psychoanalysis, the feature that qualitatively distinguishes it from other talking treatments, is interruption of the patient’s effort. In order to imagine an incentive the patient might have to endorse his own frustration, some pictures of effort and interruption are reviewed. A tentative answer has to do with the value of time travel.

Christopher Christian, *Convergences between modern conflict theory and intersubjectivity in contemporary psychoanalysis*

Abstract: Subjectivity and intersubjectivity, like countertransference, are terms that have come into their own, cutting across theoretical paradigms in psychoanalysis. Intersubjectivity is explored from the perspective of modern conflict theory, and it is argued that there is much in common between Charles Brenner and Jacob Arlow’s ideas about how the analyst’s mind works, on the one hand, and intersubjective and relational psychoanalysis, on the other. Where the concept of intersubjectivity becomes contentious is when we draw implications regarding the claims the analyst can make about ever knowing the analysand’s mind as a separate entity from his or her own.

Marco Solinas, *Patterns of psychoanalysis and theory of recognition. Axel Honneth’s intersubjective psyche*

Abstract: An overview of the several scopes and patterns used over time by Axel Honneth in his “theory of recognition” is presented. After a discussion of the use of object relations theory (especially with reference to D.W. Winnicott’s contributions) in Honneth’s 1992 book *Struggle for Recognition*, the theoretical revision of psychoanalysis in light of his theory of recognition is examined. Finally, Honneth’s suggestion of a new alliance between a renewed “critical theory” and psychoanalysis, which concerns also the dimension of political psychology, is discussed.

Daniela Mario, *Mirroring processes in human development, education and psychotherapy*

Abstract: Recent advances in different disciplines (neurosciences, quantum physics, biology, philosophy, etc.) highlight the “relational” aspect both at the infinitely large and the infinitely small levels. In particular, the mirror neurons discovery contributed to clarify the sub-personal (neural) mechanisms that underlie the relational and embodied aspects of human nature. Mirroring processes in human development, education and psychotherapy are examined, i.e., where these processes are implied both intentionally and automatically in a pre-reflexive way. A “good mirroring” implies the “intentional attunement”, understood as a consequence of the “mirroring field” created between the two poles of the relationship. These two poles resonate with each other with sequences of goal directed inter/actions and intentional use of metaphorical processes which are intrinsic to the nature of language and cognition.

Traces

Remembering Franco Fornari, 1921-1985. “Martin Buber’s influence on modern psychiatric thought” (1962): A round table chaired by Franco Fornari, with Pier Francesco Galli, Virgilio Melchiorre, Mara Selvini Palazzoli, and Enzo Spaltro; Interventions by Leonardo Ancona, Enzo Codignola, Gianfranco Garavaglia, and Silvia Montefoschi.

Pier Francesco Galli, *Postscript*

Abstract: On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Franco Fornari's (1921-1985) death, a debate that occurred at a round table titled "Martin Buber's influence on modern psychiatric thought" is reprinted. This round table was held at the "First training course on problems of psychotherapy", organized in Milan on December 11-14, 1962, by the "Milan Group for the Advancement of Psychotherapy" (which later took the name of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*). The round table was chaired by Franco Fornari, and the panelists were Pier Francesco Galli, Virgilio Melchiorre, Mara Selvini Palazzoli, and Enzo Spaltro; interventions were made also by Leonardo Ancona, Enzo Codignola, Gianfranco Garavaglia, and Silvia Montefoschi. In particular, Martin Buber's positions on the concept of "I-Thou" and his idea of dialogical principle are discussed. At the end there is a Postscript by Pier Francesco Galli, who was among the organizers of that round table.

Clinical cases

Guido Medri, Salvatore Freni, Simona Gatta, Antonino Tovo, Chiara Morandi, Rosita Monica Digioia, *Comments on the case of L.*

Book Reviews

Book review essay

Adriano Zamperini, *La bestia dentro di noi. Smascherare l'aggressività*. [The Beast Within Ourselves: Unmasking Aggression] Bologna: Il Mulino, 2014 (Mauro Fornaro)

Book reviews

Elisabeth Roudinesco, *Sigmund Freud en son temps et dans le nôtre*. [Sigmund Freud in His Time and in Our Time] Paris: Seuil, 2014 (Luigi Antonello Armando)

Isabel Sanfeliu, *Karl Abraham. The Birth of Object Relations Theory*. Preface to the English Edition by Nicolás Caparrós. Preface by Luis Fernando Crespo. London, Karnac, 2014 (original edition: *Karl Abraham o el descubrimiento de la melancolia*. Madrid: Biblioteca Nueva, 2002) (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Book notices

Sigmund Freud, Anna Freud: Correspondence 1904-1938. Edited by Ingeborg Meyer-Palmedo. Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2014 (original edition: Sigmund Freud - Anna Freud Briefwechsel 1904-1938. Frankfurt a.M.: Fisher, 2006) (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Richard Sterba, *The First Dictionary of Psychoanalysis. A Gift for Sigmund Freud's 80th Birthday*. Preface by Salman Akhtar. Epilogue by Katherine J. Michels, Robert Michels & Verena Sterba Michels. London: Karnac, 2013 (original edition: *Handwörterbuch der Psychoanalyse*. Wien: Internationaler Psychoanalytischer Verlag, 1936) (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Gabriele Cassullo, *L'uomo dietro al lettino. Charles Rycroft e la psicoanalisi indipendente britannica*. [The Man Behind the Couch. Charles Rycroft and the British Independent Psychoanalysis] Lecce: Frenis Zero, 2015 (Alberto Stefana)

John Foot, *La "Repubblica dei matti". Franco Basaglia e la psichiatria radicale in Italia, 1961-1978*. Milan: Feltrinelli, 2014 [English edition: *The Man Who Closed the Asylums: Franco Basaglia and the Revolution in Mental Health Care*. London: Verso Books, 2015] (Francesca Tondi)

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Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association, 2014, Volume 62, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (Jutta Beltz & Luisella Canepa); Jutta Beltz & Luisella Canepa, *Comment on the Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*

The Psychoanalytic Quarterly, 2014, Volume LXXXIII, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio); Andrea Castiello d'Antonio, *Comment on The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*

The New England Journal of Medicine, 2015, Vol. 372, no. 17 (Paolo Migone)

Archives of Sexual Behavior, 2015, Volume 44, no. 4 (Paolo Migone)