

Journals

Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane

["Psychotherapy and the Human Sciences"]

www.psicoterapiaescienzeumane.it/english.htm

ISSN 0394-2864 - eISSN 1972-5043

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(see also web page www.psicoterapiaescienzeumane.it/2020.htm)

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Edited by *Paolo Migone**

Issue no. 1, 2020, Volume 54

Aurel Kolnai, *Psychoanalysis and sociology (1920)*

Abstract. After a brief introduction by Paolo Migone and Ulrich Wienand, the first chapter (pp. 5-13) of Aurel Kolnai's book *Psychoanalyse und Soziologie. Zur Psychologie von Masse und Gesellschaft (Psychoanalysis and Sociology)* is translated into Italian. This book, that was published in 1920 by the *Internationaler Psychoanalytischer Verlag* of Vienna as volume no. 9 of the *Internationale Psychoanalytische Bibliothek*, was written by Kolnai when he was 20 years old at the request of Sándor Ferenczi (both Ferenczi and Kolnai were of Budapest). It shows how the topic of the relationship between psychoanalysis and sociology had been discussed, and competently, already one century ago.

Elizabeth Allison & Peter Fonagy, *When is truth relevant?*

Abstract. The experience of knowing and having the truth about oneself known in the context of therapy is not an end in itself; rather, it is important because the trust engendered by this experience ("epistemic trust", or trust in new knowledge) opens one up to learning about one's social world and finding better ways to live in it. The consequences of a lack of epistemic trust in terms of psychopathology are discussed. The role of mentalizing in the therapeutic relationship is emphasized, and it is suggested that although the *Mentalization-Based Treatment (MBT)* developed by Anthony Bateman and Peter Fonagy may be a specific and particular form of practice, the "mentalizing therapist" is a universal constituent of effective psychotherapeutic interventions.

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Discussions of the paper by Elizabeth Allison & Peter Fonagy “When is truth relevant?”:

Morris N. Eagle, *The relationship among epistemic trust, truth, and social learning*

Abstract. The article by Elizabeth Allison & Peter Fonagy “When is truth relevant?”, originally published in *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly* (2016, 85, 2: 275-303) and translated into Italian in the previous pages of this issue of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane* (2020, 54, 1: 17-44), is discussed. In particular, some critical reflections are made on the following issues: epistemic trust and social learning; forced choice between skeptical realism and belief in a truth to be found; the complex consequences of learning the truth about oneself; disorders of mental representation *versus* disorders of mental process; transference as a means to historical truth; moments of meeting as moments of truth; distinction between mentalizing and reflective function; observational learning and imitation; epistemic trust and truth; trust in the therapeutic situation.

Mauro Fornaro, *Which meaning of “truth” for psychoanalysis?*

Abstract. Allison & Fonagy (2016) do not define formally what do they mean by the term truth. After having reminded the classical distinction between truth as correspondence and truth as disclosure, it is argued that Allison and Fonagy oscillate between these two definitions. The central thesis of epistemic trust does not seem to imply the certainty in finding the truth that Allison and Fonagy seem to attribute to it, since the process of mentalization would require a series of intermediate steps and mental inferences.

George Silberschatz, *Reflections on epistemic trust and its role in psychotherapy*

Abstract. Fonagy and his colleagues have recently proposed that deficits in epistemic trust are a centerpiece of severe personality disorder and that therapists’ efforts to build epistemic trust are central to the psychotherapeutic process. Their model builds on solid developmental research but lacks clarity and precision in delineating the process of building trust. This is a unidirectional process whereby the therapist provides “ostensive cues” that enable the patient to temporarily suspend hypervigilance or epistemic mistrust. A bidirectional model that takes into account the patient’s ostensive cues or tests of the therapist would provide greater precision, clinical rigor, and empirical validity to the model.

Elizabeth Allison & Peter Fonagy, *Response to commentaries by Morris N. Eagle, Mauro Fornaro, and George Silberschatz*

Abstract. The article by Elizabeth Allison and Peter Fonagy “When is truth relevant?”, published on pp. 17-44 of this issue no. 1/2020 of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane* (and in its original edition published on pp. 275-303 of issue no. 2/2016 of *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*), has been discussed in the interventions by Morris N. Eagle (2020), Mauro Fornaro (2020), and George Silberschatz (2020), to whom Elizabeth Allison and Peter Fonagy here reply. Some problems raised in these three interventions are clarified. The following issues are discussed, among others: the relationship between transference and truth, the difference between mentalization and reflective function, the meaning of truth and epistemic trust, the role played by trauma, hypervigilance, the concept of “now moment”, etc.

Dario Alparone, *Stupidity and psychoanalysis: An ethical problem*

Abstract. Intellectual inhibition may fall into the categories of mental retardation or mental debility. These categories are discussed from the viewpoint of dynamic psychology with contributions of post-Freudian approaches, reinterpreted in light of the Lacanian theorization of the concept of mental debility. From this perspective, mental debility is not only a specific psychopathology, but also a potentially constitutive condition of anyone’s mental life and, since stupidity concerns ethics, it is the political aspect of mental debility. In contemporary society, social relations are founded on an imaginary level, encouraging defense mechanisms in subjective mental functioning which are connected with a limitation of mental functions. The result of this restriction of thinking can be political, as the Adolf Eichmann’s case seems to show.

Traces

Pier Francesco Galli, *Tales of war. Psychoanalysis, mental health and institutional practices, yesterday and today, in Italy*

Abstract. After a brief introduction, the first chapter of the book edited by Paola Cuniberti & Luigi Caparrotta *Psicoanalisi in trincea. Esperienze, pratica clinica e nuove frontiere in Italia e nel Regno Unito* (Milan: FrancoAngeli, 2012) is reprinted. In this chapter, Pier Francesco Galli traces his professional itinerary and his cultural and scientific approach regarding some fundamental issues of psychiatry and psychoanalysis. Also with excerpts of previous works, the following topics, among others, are discussed: historical aspects, issues of method, technique and theory of psychoanalysis, therapeutic identity, psychiatric and psychoanalytic diagnosis.

Clinical Cases

Comments on the case of Linda [n. 4/2019]: Jeanne Magagna; Luisa Bonfiglioli; Cristiano Lastrucci; Eleonora Marcelli

Book Reviews

Book Review Essay

Renato Foschi & Marco Innamorati, *Storia critica della psicoterapia*. [A Critical History of Psychotherapy] Milan: Raffaello Cortina, 2020 (Vittorio Lingiardi)

Book Reviews

Luisa Brunori, *La città ideale. Tra psicologia, neuroscienze ed economia, alla ricerca di una formula win-win della convivenza*. [The Ideal Town. Psychology, Neuroscience and Economy in Search for a Win-win Formula of Knowledge] Milan: FrancoAngeli, 2019 (Vittorio Gallese)

Luigi Antonello Armando, *Passaggi ponti pontefici. Viaggio tra le religioni*. [Passages, Bridges, Popes. A Voyage Among Religions] Rome: Armando, 2019 (Giorgio Meneguz)

Forgotten Books

Ralph R. Greenson, *Esplorazioni psicoanalitiche*. Turin: Boringhieri, 1984 (original edition: *Explorations in Psychoanalysis*. New York: International Universities Press, 1978) (Antonella Mancini)

Book Notices

Roger A. MacKinnon, Robert Michels & Peter J. Buckley, *Il colloquio in psichiatria e psicologia clinica*. [The Interview in Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology] Preface to the Italian Edition by Filippo Di Pirro. Florence: Giunti Psychometrics, 2019 (original edition: *The Psychiatric Interview in Clinical Practice*. Third Edition. Washington, D.C. American Psychiatric Publishing, 2016) (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Gilberto Corbellini, *Nel paese della pseudoscienza. Perché i pregiudizi minacciano la nostra libertà*. [In the Country of Pseudoscience: Why Prejudices Are a Threat to Our Freedom] Milan: Feltrinelli, 2019 (Silvia Marchesini)

Massimo Recalcati, *Le nuove melanconie. Destini del desiderio nel tempo ipermoderno*. [The New Melancholies. Fates of Desire in the Hypermodernity] Milan: Raffaello Cortina, 2019 (Mario Mattioda)

Daniel J. Siegel, *Diventare consapevoli. Una pratica di meditazione rivoluzionaria*. Milan: Raffaello Cortina, 2019 (original edition: *Aware: The Science and Practice of Presence. The Groundbreaking Meditation Practice*. Los Angeles, CA: Mind Your Brain, 2018) (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Nicola Palumbo, *Maria Montessori e Anna Freud: una storia femminile della psicologia del bambino*. [Maria Montessori and Anna Freud: History of Women in Child Psychology] Rome: Edizioni Universitarie Romane, 2019 (Adriana Grotta)

Books Received

Journals

The International Journal of Psychoanalysis, 2019, Volume 200, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (Pietro Pascarelli)

Pietro Pascarelli, *Comment on The International Journal of Psychoanalysis*

Bulletin of the Menninger Clinic, 2019, Volume 83, no. 4 (Paolo Migone)

Psychological Review, 2019, Volume 126, no. 6 (Paolo Migone)

Journal of Counseling Psychology, 2020, Volume 67, no. 1 (Paolo Migone)

Enfance, 2019, Volume 74, no. 4 (Paolo Migone)

Metapsychologica. Rivista di psicanalisi freudiana, 2019, Year 1, no. 1 (Paolo Migone)

2020 Program: “International Seminars of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*”

Information for subscribers and readers

Issue no. 2, 2020, Volume 54

Paolo Migone, *Editorial*

Morris N. Eagle, *Interests as object relations*

Abstract. Neither traditional psychoanalytic theory nor psychoanalytic ego psychology adequately accounts for the development and psychological significance of having interests. Both developmentally and in terms of ongoing everyday functioning, interests are best understood as object-relational phenomena. As is the case with more traditionally understood object relations, interests and related phenomena play a central role in maintaining personality intactness and integrity, particularly in extreme circumstances. It is suggested that neither traditional Freudian instinct theory nor ego psychology does justice to the object-relational nature of interests or to the critical role that interests play in personality functioning. It is concluded that an interest in objects is a critical feature of the development of object relations, based on the inborn propensity to establish cognitive and affective links to objects in the world.

Alberto Angelini, *Sergej M. Ejzenštejn, psychology and psychoanalysis*

Abstract. Sergej M. Ejzenštejn was very much involved with psychology and psychoanalysis. He was an important friend of Lev Vygotskij, founder of cultural-historical psychology, and of Aleksandr Lurija, father of modern neuropsychological assessment: both Vygotskij and Lurija in the early 1920s were among the supporters of psychoanalysis in Russia and members of the Moscow Psychoanalytic Society. In Ejzenštejn’s writings on film language we find psychological concepts of Vygotskij, such as “agglutination” and “internal speech”, that were present in the theory of film editing. As far as psychoanalysis is concerned, Ejzenštejn was very much interested in the concept of regression: the art lover, including the movie spectator, must regress and at the same time activate the most mature part of the psyche. Ejzenštejn was friend of Hanns Sachs and knew Otto Rank, Sándor Ferenczi, Franz Alexander, and Wilhelm Reich. In 1929 he gave a lecture at the Berlin Psychoanalytic Institute. In the USSR and in the USA he had two short experiences of psychoanalytic therapy.

Cesare Romano, “*The Uncanny*” (1919) and *Freud’s family secrets*

Abstract. Freud’s 1919 paper *The Uncanny*, written during troubled times after First World War and often considered problematic and confused, is discussed. This paper deals with the interpretation of E.T.A. Hoffmann’s 1815 novel *Der Sandmann*, where the recurrent reference to the eyes is brought back by Freud to the castration complex. Discussing Kohon’s (2016) paper on aesthetic

experiences where he states that (whether for the writer-artist or the reader-spectator) these experiences will always be autobiographical, and Rand & Torok (1994) for whom Hoffmann's novel has no reference to castration but to a family secret, it is argued that Freud's concern with this novel could be unconsciously rooted in some family secrets related to his childhood that the little Sigmund was not able to uncover. Freud must have read the novel *Der Sandmann* autobiographically according to Kohon's theory. In reference to Jentsch's (1906) paper "On the Psychology of the Uncanny", where the source of the uncanny is seen in the intellectual uncertainty whether an object is alive or not, it is argued that this statement could have brought back unconscious memories of the brother Julius' death, from whom Freud would have protected himself moving to the castration topic. Some scholars found in Hoffmann's novel a hidden reference to the primal scene, that is another uncanny background in Freud's childhood. Another uncanny episode occurred to the little Sigmund when he lost his beloved nanny. It is argued that these three topics were the unconscious factors that compelled Freud to write about the uncanny choosing Hoffmann's novel.

Traces

Aurel Kolnai, *Psychoanalysis and Sociology* (1920): Chapters 2, 3, and 4. With an introduction by Pier Francesco Galli

Abstract. After an introduction by Pier Francesco Galli, the first Italian translation of chapters 2, 3, and 4 (pp. 14-70) of Aurel Kolnai's book *Psychoanalyse und Soziologie. Zur Psychologie von Masse und Gesellschaft* (Wien: Internationaler Psychoanalytischer Verlag, 1920; English translation: *Psychoanalysis and Sociology*. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1922) is published (chapter 1, with an introduction by Paolo Migone and Ulrich Wienand, was published in the previous issue of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*, 1/2020, pp. 9-16). This book was written exactly 100 years ago, when Kolnai was 20 years old, at the request of Sándor Ferenczi (both were of Budapest); it shows how the relationship between psychoanalysis and sociology had been discussed, and competently, already at the origins of psychoanalysis.

Clinical Cases

Leonarda Galiuto, Annamaria Mandese, Piero Petrini & Luigi Janiri, *The case of Elena*
Comments on the case of Elena: Giorgio Meneguz; Piero Porcelli; Gaia Cattadori; Cinzia Zuchi, Isabella Tritto & Giuseppe Ambrosio; Paola Morra; Alessio Gori; Leonarda Galiuto, Annamaria Mandese, Piero Petrini & Luigi Janiri

Book Reviews

Book Reviews

Nicoletta Gosio, *Nemici miei. La pervasiva rabbia quotidiana*. [My Enemies: The Pervasive Daily Anger] Turin: Einaudi, 2020 (Simona Argentieri)

Antonello D'Elia, *La realtà non è per tutti. Voci dalla legge Basaglia quarant'anni dopo*. [Reality is Not for Everybody. Voices from the Basaglia Law Forty Years Later] Catania: Edizioni Villaggio Maori, 2019 (Paolo Migone)

Giorgio Meneguz, *Le straordinarie cognizioni di un gatto morente*. [The Extraordinaire Knowledge of a Dying Cat] Viterbo: Alter Ego, 2019 (Luigi Antonello Armando)

Benoît Verdon & Catherine Azoulay (editors), *Psychoanalysis and Projective Methods in Personality Assessment. The French School*. Göttingen: Hogrefe, 2020 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Forgotten Books

Viktor Tausk, *Scritti di psicoanalisi* [Collected Psychoanalytic Papers] Rome: Astrolabio, 1979 (original edition: *Oeuvres psychanalytiques*. Paris: Payot, 1975) (Antonella Mancini)

Regarding "forgotten" books: A conversation between Antonella Mancini and Gioele P. Cima

Book Notices

Marco Conci, *Freud, Sullivan, Mitchell, Bion, and the Multiple Voices of International Psychoanalysis*. Preface by Stefano Bolognini. New York: International Psychoanalytic Books, 2019 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Elvio Fachinelli, *Grottesche. Notizie, racconti, apparizioni*. [Grotesques: News, Tales, Appearances] Edited by Dario Borso. Trieste: Italo Svevo, 2019 (Gioele P. Cima)

Rita Biancheri, *L'epoca dell'individualismo affettivo. Come cambiano le dinamiche di coppia*. [The Age of Affective Individualism: How Couple Dynamics Change]. Pisa: ETS, 2019 (Antonella Mancini)

Edward R. Shapiro, *Finding a Place to Stand*. Bicester, UK: Phoenix Publishing House, 2020 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Andrea Castiello d'Antonio & Luciana d'Ambrosio Marri, *Conflitti. Come leggere e gestire i contrasti per vivere bene*. [Conflicts: How to Read and to Handle Them in Order to Live Well] Preface by Silvia Bonino. Florence: Giunti, 2019 (Antonella Mancini)

Books Received

Journals

Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association, 2019, Volume 67, 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, 2019, Volume 88, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Andrea Castiello d'Antonio, *Comment on The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*

Culture & Psychology, 2020, Volume 26, no. 1 (Paolo Migone)

aut aut, 2020, Year 70, no. 385 (Paolo Migone)

La Psicomotricità, 2020, Volume 2, no. 1 (Paolo Migone)

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Issue no. 3, 2020, Volume 54

David Rapaport *et al.*, *David Rapaport's seminars of 1957 on psychoanalytic metapsychology*.

Introduction by Pier Francesco Galli.

Presentation by Paolo Migone.

Seminars on elementary metapsychology.

Seminars on advanced metapsychology.

First pages of Volume I of Seminars on advanced metapsychology

Abstract. In 1957 David Rapaport (1911-1960) gave a series of seminars on psychoanalytic metapsychology to the first year candidates of the *Western New England Institute for Psychoanalysis* (New Haven, Connecticut). These seminars were never published, but only audio-recorded and then typewritten and assembled in seven folders edited by Stuart C. Miller in 1959: three volumes on “elementary metapsychology” and four volumes on “advanced metapsychology”, for a total of about 700 typewritten pages. The participants, beside Rapaport who was always present, were Helen G. Gilmore, Nathaniel J. London, Seymour L. Lustman, George F. Mahl, Stuart C. Miller, John P. Plunkett, Herbert S. Sacks, Roy Schafer, Virginia Sutfenfield, and Robert B. White (in some seminars there were also Paul E. Emery, Jean Schimek, David Shapiro, Eugene Talbot, Eugene E. Trunnel, and Ess A. White Jr.). After an introduction by Pier Francesco Galli and a presentation by Paolo Migone, the detailed programs of the seminars

of all seven volumes, with the bibliographies and the assignments, are published. At the end there is also the translation of the first pages of the first of the four volumes of “advanced metapsychology”. This publication aims at showing the method that David Rapaport had in studying theoretical problems, based on a careful conceptual clarification, analysis of original texts, comparison of the definitions of different authors etc.

The Interlaken affaire. Second episode

Introduction by Pier Francesco Galli

Berthold Rothschild, *The Interlaken affaire. Second episode*

History of a “canceled congress” (1974)

Abstract. Three papers are published. In the first paper Pier Francesco Galli, in a brief introduction, emphasizes the importance of the historical role played by Swiss psychoanalysis in the training of many Italian colleagues. In the second paper Berthold Rothschild describes, also with the reproduction of a correspondence, the vicissitudes that brought to the cancellation of his invitation to a meeting titled “Psychoanalysis, culture, and politics” that was planned for June 6, 2020, in Geneva, sponsored by the *Centre Psychanalytique Raymond de Saussure* (CPRS) of the Swiss Psychoanalytic Society (*Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Psychoanalyse* [SGPsa]); this cancellation was due to the protest of some German speaking psychoanalysts of the Swiss Psychoanalytic Society who still remember the split that occurred in 1977 between the “Zurich Psychoanalytic Seminar” (*Psychoanalytisches Seminar Zürich* [PSZ]), of which Rothschild is a member, and the Swiss Psychoanalytic Society; this split followed the controversies that ended up with the cancellation of a meeting that was planned in 1974 in Interlaken (this is the reason why the words “second episode” appear in the title). In the third paper, the material of the “Interlaken affaire”, which originally appeared in issues nos. 4/1975 and 3/2015 di *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*, is reprinted; this material, that contains also the reproduction of several letters exchanged in 1973 and 1974, has been published only in Italian.

Mario Erdheim, *Paul Parin, hunting and ethnopsychanalysis*

Abstract. The practice of ethnopsychanalysis means also, as ethnopsychanalysts such as Paul Parin and Mario Erdheim have emphasized, the freedom to follow our own curiosity (Erdheim for example did field research also on high school students). A book by Paul Parin on hunting (*Die Jagd. Licence for Sex and Crime. Erzählungen und Essays*. Wien: Mandelbaum Verlag, 2018) is discussed not simply as an appreciation of Parin’s literary work, but as contribution to ethnopsychanalysis and its methodology. Paul Parin (1916-2009) had often talked about the project of writing a book on the issue of power, but he believed he could not write it. However, in 2003 he wrote this collection of tales on hunting which is in effect also a book on power. It is an important study on power fantasies and processes, to the point that it can be somehow associated to Elias Canetti’s 1960 book *Crowds and Power* and also to Sigmund Freud’s 1910 essay *Psychoanalytic notes on an autobiographical account of a case of paranoia (dementia paranoides)* (Case history of Schreber). A version of this paper was presented at a meeting for the 100th anniversary of Paul Parin’s birth at the *Sigmund Freud University* (SFU) of Vienna, September 1-4, 2016.

Aristide Tronconi, *Aspects of transsexuality. From the first interview to the analytic relationship*

Abstract. The DSM-5 and ICD-11 manuals of psychiatric disorders have not only replaced the terms transsexuality and transsexualism with other words, but have also conceived this behavior out of the pathological context in which it was included in previous editions. This revision can be considered an important stimulus in looking at the phenomenon of transsexualism with different eyes. This line of thinking is followed, and it is suggested that also in psychoanalytic treatment the therapist should not try to bring the patient back to the straight path of so-called normality, regarding both gender identity and sexual orientation. On the contrary, it should be given the transsexual person the opportunity to meet a therapist who is able – as much as possible – to be free from conscious or unconscious prejudices coming from culture, education, and professional

training. To this regard, a clinical case is illustrated, with considerations on transference and countertransference dynamics; the patient is a twenty-year-old man who requests a psychoanalytic consultation in order to receive a certificate for sex reassignment surgery. During the consultation, both therapist and patient are able to better explore the wish for sex reassignment before taking a decision, knowing that it is a choice that is not only important, but also irreversible.

Traces

Marianna Bolko & Alberto Merini, *The frame of psychoanalytic therapy* (1988)

Abstract. After an editorial note, a paper by Bolko & Merini on the frame of psychoanalytic therapy (originally published in issue no. 2/1988 of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*) is reprinted. Reflections on this aspect are useful especially today when, after the COVID-19 pandemic, on-line therapy has become widespread and this “new” therapeutic setting is often discussed. After having defined the psychoanalytic frame as the setting and the time of therapy, some discussions of this concept that have been put forward by several authors, beginning with Freud, are discussed, namely Balint, Bergeret, Bion, Bleger, Eissler, Galli, Greenacre, Greenson, Heimann, Macalpine, Meltzer, Stone, Menninger, Modell, Rycroft, Thomä & Kächele, Winnicott, etc. It is argued that while originally the psychoanalytic frame was conceived as the background of therapy, with little influence of the psychoanalytic process, since the 1950s it changed its meaning and has become a therapeutic agent in itself, important especially in severe psychopathologies.

Discussions

Saverio Ruberti, *A cognitivist view on truth and epistemic trust. Comment on the paper by Elizabeth Allison and Peter Fonagy (2016) “When is truth relevant?”* [no. 1/2020]

Abstract. The paper by Elizabeth Allison & Peter Fonagy (2016) “When is truth relevant?” (translated in issue no. 1/2020 of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*) is discussed from the viewpoint of cognitive therapy, in particular of the recent cognitivist perspective influenced by the contributions of the Italian researchers Vittorio Guidano and Giovanni Liotti and by attachment theory. This new perspective within cognitive therapy includes a constructivist approach to knowledge and values the intersubjective dimension of mental processes, with an emphasis to the role of the therapeutic relationship in the treatment strategies. The theoretical and clinical aspects of a dialogue between the cognitivist and the psychodynamic approaches are discussed, in particular regarding the concepts of “truth” and “epistemic trust”; the cognitivist and the psychodynamic approaches have specific differences, but old oppositions could be overcome and these two approaches can come closer to each other.

Clinical Cases

Marco Piccinelli, *The case of Atride*

Comments on the case of Atride: Pietro Pellegrini; Paolo Migone

Book Reviews

Book Review Essay

Sonia Gojman De Millán, Christian Herreman & Alan L. Sroufe (editors), *Attachment Across Clinical and Cultural Perspectives. A Relational Psychoanalytic Approach*. London: Routledge, 2017 (Daniela De Robertis)

Book Reviews

Giuseppe Craparo, Francesca Ortu & Onno van der Hart (editors), *Riscoprire Pierre Janet. Trauma, dissociazione e nuovi contesti per la psicoanalisi*. Milan: FrancoAngeli, 2020 (original edition: *Rediscovering Pierre Janet. Trauma, Dissociation, and a New Context for Psychoanalysis*. London: Routledge, 2019) (Davide Cavagna)

Book Notices

Gian Paolo Scano, *Leggendo Freud. Nascita, costruzione e sviluppo della teoria psicoanalitica (1892-1939)*. [Reading Freud. Birth, Construction, and Development of Psychoanalytic Theory (1892-1939)] Carbonia (South Sardinia): Susil, 2020 (Silvia Marchesini)

Journals

Contemporary Psychoanalysis, 2019, Volume 55, nos. 3 & 4; 2020, Volume 56, no. 1 (Paolo Migone)

Paolo Migone, *Comment on Contemporary Psychoanalysis*

Revue Française de Psychanalyse, 2019, Volume 83, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 (Mauro Fornaro)

Mauro Fornaro, *Comment on the Revue Française de Psychanalyse*

Psicologia Sociale, 2020, Year 15, no. 2 (Paolo Migone)

PreText. Libri & Periodici, del loro passato e del loro futuro, 2020, Year 8, no. 12 (Paolo Migone)

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Issue no. 4, 2020, Volume 54

Arnold D. Richards, *The left and far left in American psychoanalysis: Psychoanalysis as a subversive discipline*

Abstract. This article – that originally appeared in *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 2016, 52, 1: 111-129 (DOI: 10.1080/00107530.2015.1126690) – explores the political commitments of the European-born *émigré* psychoanalysts in the United States and a group of American-born psychoanalysts who had a far left (Communist or fellow traveler) past. It describes the national and local struggle for power and ascendancy in these two groups. Also, the article explores the impact that Marxism had on the theory and practice of what I call “American Communist Psychoanalytic Thought Collective”, in particular on pragmatic optimistic and dialectical theory. The downside was rigidity, a sense of certainty, and lack of tolerance of dissent and organizational authoritarian power structures. The article ends with a plea to restore the balance between control and risk in order to restore the vitality of psychoanalysis and assure its growth. After years of repression, exclusion, and schisms, we need to subvert entrenched power and advance the thesis of rigid institutional roles and the antithesis of insurgency. At the end of the paper (pp. 545-547) there is a *Post Scriptum* added by the author on October 19, 2020, with some additional information.

Discussions of the paper by Arnold D. Richards “The left and far left in American psychoanalysis: Psychoanalysis as a subversive discipline”:

Mauro Fornaro, *Authoritarianism: A disease of left-wing psychoanalysts?*

Abstract. That conservative and authoritarian psychoanalytic institutions open to innovation in theory and pluralism in the management of power is Arnold Richards’ strong commitment. According to the Author, however, substantial innovations are unlikely as long as psychoanalysts linger on embroidering on the Master’s thought and struggling in internal feuds, rather than seriously confronting research methods alternative to the clinical one, as well as the results of neighboring disciplines (which have made important progress since Freud’s time). With regard to the adherence to Marxism and Communism of many North American psychoanalysts, the Author shows – working on four *topoi* that we can see in the background

of Richards' paper – how mild is the influence of this adhesion on their conceptions of mental processes; furthermore, the correlation of the same adhesion with the authoritarian practice, once those psychoanalysts reach power, is questionable.

Luciano Mecacci, *The psychoanalytic “thought stile” and the risk of self-referentiality*

Abstract. In Arnold Richards' (2016) analysis of the psychoanalysts linked to the *Communist Party of the United States of America* (CPUSA) there are three themes that deserve to be explored. In the first place, there are complex historical-political factors dependent on the peculiarity of American communism, in relation both to the emigration of the left intelligentsia between the two World Wars and to the formation of *élite* groups in which the Jewish component is fundamental. The second critical aspect concerns the fact that it is not sufficient to consider a perspective as Marxist if it incorporates the concepts of conflict and dialectics, but without specifying what concrete effects they have at the level of social praxis. Finally, precisely the concepts of “style of thought” and “collective of thought”, which Richards borrowed from Ludwik Fleck, lead to a reflection on the historical reconstructions of psychoanalysis understood as a self-referential conceptual system.

Giorgio Meneguz, *Subversives in the ivory tower*

Abstract. Arnold D. Richards' (2016) article “The left and far left in American psychoanalysis: Psychoanalysis as a subversive discipline” is discussed, and some aspects deemed to be more interesting are analyzed, namely the following: (1) the methodology based on sociology of science; (2) the questionable discussion on the consequences of the ideological change on the part of some Marxist psychoanalysts; (2) the constructive suggestion that, on the basis of the illusory idea that psychoanalysis is a subversive discipline, the psychoanalysts' subversive passion should be revitalized.

Maria Luisa Mantovani & Maria Maffia Russo, *Gender violence: Strategies for recognition and prevention*

Abstract. The actuality of gender violence is analyzed, with its interpretative categories. The focus is on the consequences of gender violence on women's health, particularly at the psychological level. The *World Health Organization* has been very active in providing the relevant information in preventing violence and suggesting the “Ecological Model”. The concept of “Intimate Partner Violence” (IPV) is particularly helpful in understanding and helping women who have been raped in intimate relationships. A reference point is the “cycle of violence” studied by Lenore E.A. Walker in 1984. The feminist movement played an important role in seeing gender violence as a social problem and in identifying its roots in the gender power gap on a social, cultural, economic and political level. In the 1980s, with the second wave feminist movement, Anti-Violence Centres were created.

Giuseppina Romeo, Rossana Borsi, Karen Di Prisco & Paolo F. Peloso, *What remains under the Morandi Bridge of Genoa. The effects of a collective trauma on the work of a Community Mental Health Center*

Abstract. Aim of this paper is to reflect on the work at a Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) on the occasion of a recent catastrophe. Although the involvement started from the first moment, it focused in the post-emergency and was implemented in a range of interventions, from ordinary psychological consultations, to mixed psychological and psychiatric consultation, individual psychotherapy, group psychotherapy, EMDR technique or the intensification of ordinary assistance for residents already followed by the CMHC. In the debate on trauma during and immediately before WW1 as in this experience, the mismatch between the entity of the trauma and the intensity of the symptoms, and the complex emotional dimension of the issue of financial compensation, tend to constantly clutter the post-traumatic scene. At times this complicates both the relationship between groups affected by the same trauma in different ways and extent, and the therapeutic relationship itself.

Stefano Terenzi, *An introduction to Schema Therapy*

Abstract. Schema Therapy is a cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) approach that integrates theoretical assumptions, empirical acquisitions, methodologies and therapeutic procedures derived from different psychological and psychotherapeutic approaches (it incorporates also aspects of psychodynamic approaches, such as Gestalt therapy, Transactional Analysis, attachment theory, etc.). Schema Therapy has proven to be an effective psychotherapy in patients with personality disorders or highly resistant to change. A brief and general update on the state of the art of Schema Therapy and of the different clinical areas of its application is presented, with the description of the theoretical model and of its therapeutic procedures: Limited Reparenting, Imagery with Rescripting, and Chair Work.

Traces

Alberto Merini, *Introduction*

Abstract. The paper “A country psychiatrist”, that anticipates some excerpts of a forthcoming book by Margherita Galeotti, is introduced. The period in which Margherita Galeotti was trained in psychiatry by Alberto Merini in the 1970s and 1980s, when he was the Director of the Service of Community Psychiatry of the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Bologna (Italy), is remembered. Those years were characterized by great enthusiasm because the community mental health movement was just beginning in Italy, and psychiatric hospitals were gradually closed down due to the Italian Law no. 180/1978. Italian psychiatry of the 1970s and 1980s, mostly based on careful attention to the patient/therapist relationship, on team work and on supervisions, is contrasted with the psychiatry practiced today, based mostly on medication; this change is seen also within the social and political transformations of the last fifty years.

Margherita Galeotti, *A country psychiatrist*

Abstract. Excerpts of some chapters of a forthcoming book entitled *Una psichiatra di campagna* (“A country psychiatrist”) are pre-published. After a brief introduction, parts of chapters 7 (“New York”), 17 (“Scandiano”), 18 (“The Support Center”), 26 (“The transition to the new residential facility”), 27 (“The group on subjectivity”), and 28 (“The Cybercafé”) are published. Chapter 7 contains an account of some aspects of an internship in 1977 at the *St. Vincent’s Hospital* of New York. The other five chapters deal with the work done since 1980 in the Community Mental Health Center of Scandiano (Reggio Emilia, Italy), in a period in which there was much enthusiasm for community psychiatry, and psychiatric hospitals were gradually closed down due to the Italian Law no. 180 of 1978. In particular, daily work is described (team meetings, supervisions, discussions with colleagues, etc.), and the cultural climate of those years is emphasized, characterized by a strong motivation for a project of psychiatric reform and by a shared approach based on the importance of the patient/therapist relationship and on the understanding of mental disorders in light of the patient’s life history and social environment.

Clinical Cases

Comments on the case of Atride [n. 3/2020]: Pierrette Lavanchy; Cinzia Giubbarelli; Pier Francesco Galli

Book Reviews

Book Reviews

Michael Tomasello, *Diventare umani*. Milan: Raffaello Cortina, 2019 (original edition: *Becoming Human: A Theory of Ontogeny*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2019) (Paolo Migone)

Forgotten Books

Georg Groddeck, *Il linguaggio dell'Es. Saggi di psicosomatica e di psicoanalisi dell'arte e della letteratura*. Milan: Adelphi, 1969 (original edition: *Psychoanalytische Schriften zur Psychosomatik. Psychoanalytische Schriften zur Literatur und Kunst* [1917-1933]. Wiesbaden: Limes Verlag, 1964); Georg Groddeck, *Il libro dell'Es. Lettere di psicoanalisi a un'amica*. Preface by Lawrence Durrell. Milan: Adelphi, 1966 (original edition: *Da Buch vom Es. Psychoanalytische Briefe an eine Freundin*. Wien: Internationaler Psychoanalytischer Verlag, 1923) (Antonella Mancini)

Book Notices

Melanie Klein, *Lezioni sulla tecnica* [1936-58]. Milan: Raffaello Cortina, 2020 (original edition: *Lectures on Technique by Melanie Klein*. London: Routledge, 2017) (Francesca Tondi)

Vamik D. Volkan, *Large-Group Psychology: Racism, Societal Divisions, Narcissistic Leaders and Who Are We Now?* Bicester, UK: Phoenix, 2020 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Silvia Amati Sas, *Ambiguità, conformismo e adattamento alla violenza sociale*. [Ambiguity, Conformism, and Adaptation to Social Violence] Preface by Anna Ferruta. Introduction by Federico Perozziello. Milan: FrancoAngeli, 2020 (Silvia Marchesini)

Franca Feliziani Kannheiser, *Sigmund Shlomo Freud. Le radici ebraiche della psicoanalisi*. [Sigmund Shlomo Freud. The Jewish Roots of Psychoanalysis] Presentation by Silvia Vegetti Finzi. Livorno: Belforte, 2019 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Roger Amos, *Portrait of a Life. Melanie Klein and the Artists*. Bicester, UK: Phoenix, 2019 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Books Received

Journals

Psyche. Zeitschrift für Psychoanalyse und ihre Anwendungen, 2019, Volume 73, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9/10, 11 & 12 (Silvano Massa)

Silvano Massa, *Comment on Psyche*

British Journal of Clinical Psychology, 2020, Volume 59, no. 4 (Paolo Migone)

The International Journal of Forensic Psychotherapy, 2020, Volume 2, no. 1 (Andrea Castiello d'Antonio)

Clinical Social Work Journal, 2020, Volume 48, no. 3 (Paolo Migone)

The Lancet, 2020, Volume 396, October 19 (Paolo Migone)

Nunatak, 2020, Year 16, no. 56 (Paolo Migone)

Contents and indexes of Year 2020, Volume 54

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Referees and proofreaders of year 2020

Information for subscribers and readers