

Editorial

We are writing in the midst of a planetary upheaval, navigating in a sea of uncertainty, while at the same time, trying to imagine the possible transformative scenarios that will affect each one of us.

Last year, we thought of a project for the renewal of our journal which would, after thirty years, collocate it within a broader cultural spectrum; but in 2020, a historic event unfolded in its path and ours, a discontinuation, whose reach and course are difficult to determine.

In addition, at the onset of the ecosystem crisis, we had to face another event, more circumscribed certainly, but particularly significant and painful for our journal community. Michele Minolli, co-founder of SIPRe and Editor in Chief of *Ricerca Psicoanalitica* from 1998 to 2009, who dedicated forty years of his working life to SIPRe and Italian relational psychoanalysis, died January 4, 2020. Michele will be remembered for his innovative ideas and his provocative, intellectually courageous style.

We have lost a father and we feel like orphans, yet we are conscious of a legacy that, here and now, can launch us towards a new and important stage in our journey.

In the pages that follow the reader will note that the journal has kept the tried and tested pattern of recent years: focus, free articles, comments on books and artistic works, presentation of experiences. Now, in addition, it offers articles in both Italian and English, and is available in digital format, free of charge. You will notice an increase in the number of international contributions and, through the year, you will see a significant expansion and a greater professional competence on the Scientific Board.

As testimony to the evolution of the journal, to the continuity of a narrative, and as a posthumous tribute to its editor, our intention is to publish the editorial that Michele Minolli wrote in 1990 for Edition n. 1; it was an editorial which laid down our programmatic *Manifesto*.

Thirty years later, also thanks to Minolli, the program which saw the need to construct new psychoanalytic thinking from the critical analysis of a century of psychoanalysis, contains a proposal: the psychoanalysis of relationships; certainly, in the making, certainly imperfect, but present and worthy of inhabiting the psychoanalytic world, and not only that. This world,

which has changed profoundly in the meantime, recognizes, for example, many of the critical issues on which that project was based, and lends value to the subject-relationship combination that constituted the founding epithet of the group.

It is clear that the project cannot be the same today as it was then. Today, we introduce the knowledge and operation of psychoanalysis into a much richer and more unitary and complex cultural space. Psychoanalysis is now part of a whole universe of theories and methods of psychological treatment that owe it much; an interweave of disciplines increasingly in conversation with one another, inhabiting a society-world which no longer recognizes internal boundaries.

We could perhaps consider the virus that oppresses us as a ‘negative’ metaphor of our vital presence in the world, where there may still be a need, indeed perhaps an even greater need, to understand and take care of the human subject, or, as Michele would say, of the Ego-subject, not in its individualistic or narcissistic form, but in ways that lend value to its relationality in unitarity.

It is no accident, then, that in this new phase we set the ball rolling with development, and a contribution by Stephen Seligman which reveals a stimulating way of thinking about children and their relationships. There follow three comments of Giuliana Barbieri, Silvia Bertoli and Anna Lisa Mazzoleni that help to clarify some aspects of Seligman’s proposal, and then author’s reply. Then we have two interesting articles by Laura Ambrosiano and Laura Corbelli, and several comments on volumes that have recently been published in our country and which have raised questions and reflections.

It seems such a long time has gone by since you received, by mail, RP no. 3/2019, just before Christmas, and yet it is only the following year, our thirty-first, and we have a new, young publisher, in a world that we still wish to inhabit and comprehend.

Best wishes,

Fabio Vanni

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