

Editorial

*Fabio Vanni**

What you have in your hands, or on your screen, is an edition filled with a wealth of valuable content, which comes to publication after the recent death of Pier Francesco Galli, a highly esteemed colleague and much-appreciated founder of one of the most authoritative Italian journals in our field. His last book ‘Seventy years in and around Psychoanalysis’ is testimony to Galli’s depth and capacity for cultural stimulation that he exercised throughout his long professional and scientific life. We publish here Pietro Pellegrini’s comment which marks his passing and serves as a tribute to his illustrious career.

In this issue, we have a dual thematic focus and columns which contain many contributions that merit a few words of introduction.

Let’s begin by talking about ‘Dialogues about care relationships’. We introduced the column a few years ago to offer readers food for thought on various, varied clinical material. It provides a space for colleagues to sit around a virtual table and discuss the many forms that human malaise and its treatment take today. The material is provided by a recently established group of well-known colleagues within Italian relational psychoanalysis. They propose a clinical situation from a family-like perspective. The commentators, from the psychodynamic and systemic areas, bring their perspectives, and the authors have the opportunity to further and, we believe, to usefully define their thoughts and their clinical action. To put forward one’s thoughts on psychological treatment in a public form is neither easy nor to be taken for granted, nor is it easy to go beyond one’s affiliations with a particular school to bring a different observational perspective to the clinicians themselves. The formula we have used for this case, and for the previous cases, is certainly not the only formula. It requires great care on everyone’s part to build a truly useful dialogue, especially for our readers. However, we believe that on this occasion, as on some other occasions, we have reached our goal.

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Comments on three books, two films, and the ‘Transformations’ column project are also useful contributions to a descent of psychoanalysis into the concreteness and complexity that reality offers us. We are particularly pleased when colleagues, some illustrious, some unknown, elicit our comments on a book or a conference. There is no academic advantage in this, but what prevails is the intellectual desire to put forward and share one’s own view of things; it may be what one is currently experiencing, or a nascent thought that perhaps that particular film or that particular book lends itself to encouraging. Starting with this issue, and in this perspective, Pietro Roberto Goisis enters into a collaboration with our journal on the subject of cinema and psychoanalysis. This cannot fail to broaden our perspective on the connection between these two worlds which we know to be contiguous.

Finally, in addition to the ‘free’ article, we present two thematic focuses: the first includes three internal contributions from the Italian Society of the Psychoanalysis of Relationships which focus on some central concepts of the model.

The group, headed by SIPRE, has – and lays claim to – a history and specificity of thought that needs to be expressed, as well as continually developed. Here, these aspects have been dealt with thanks to three small groups of authors who already show evidence of collective processing which RP is happy to host.

The second focus, also consisting of three contributions, returns to a conceptual and clinical area to which we have often dedicated space in recent years: gender. Aside from its relevance in pop culture, the theme of gender is food for debate both in psychoanalysis and in other diverse disciplinary domains, which merit attention, not least for their reciprocal interaction.

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