

Ricerca Psicoanalitica.
Clinical practice, clues, transformations

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The *Focus* of the third issue of *Ricerca Psicoanalitica* is oriented toward a clinical practice that is attentive both to signs and to minimal details, and to those phenomena that are always in the process of being defined and which – often after having been extensively addressed over time – oscillate between the temptation to cease defining them and the need to redefine them, given their profound clinical implications. The issue moves across heterogeneous fields – ranging from psychoanalysis to literature, from art to neuroscience, from reflections on the unconscious to contemporary therapeutic practices – held together by a vision of psychic experience understood as a continuously evolving process, intrinsically relational and open to transformation.

The section opens with a contribution by Daniela De Robertis, who offers an original reflection on the deep connections between psychoanalysis, detective fiction, and art criticism. The common denominator among these fields is identified by the author as the “aesthetics of the clue”, grounded in the semiotic-hermeneutic code and the method of abduction. She shows how attention to minimal details – only apparently marginal – allows access to alternative planes of meaning. The contribution concludes with significant excerpts of clinical material, which make the therapeutic value of this approach clearly visible.

This is followed by Paolo Cozzaglio’s work, *An intentional pre-reflection: the prospective unconscious*, which addresses the theme of the unconscious in a rigorous and articulated manner through a close comparison between Freud and Jung, weaving together psychoanalysis, analytical psychology, neuroscience, and complexity theories. The author highlights two radically different visions of the human being and of psychic suffering: on

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the one hand, the Freudian unconscious as the site of repression and instinctual conflict; on the other, the Jungian unconscious as a creative, prospective matrix teleologically oriented toward development. In critical dialogue with contemporary neuroscience, the contribution brings timely reflections into the work conducted within the analytic setting.

The issue continues with Michele Di Salvo's contribution, *Past, present, and future of conversion disorders*, which proposes a historical and neuropsychological rereading of a clinical category central to the history of psychoanalysis. By revisiting classical definitions and placing them in dialogue with the most recent neuroscientific findings and with the field of psychosomatics, the author advances a unified vision of the body-brain-mind axis, reconceptualizing conversion disorder as an embodied "message".

The *Focus* section concludes with an insightful and highly topical contribution by Simone Cheli, who addresses the role of the interpersonal domain in psychopathology, questioning whether mental disorders should be considered partially or entirely relational phenomena. Through a critical comparison of theses and antitheses and drawing on Sullivan's tradition, the author proposes an evolutionary and interpersonal perspective that conceives mental health as emerging from the intersection between individual style and social context. Clinical examples are provided and discussed from the perspective of Evolutionary Systems Therapy, highlighting how therapeutic change is inseparable from the real relationships in which the subject lives.

The *Writings* section further broadens the horizon of the issue. Pasquale Scarnera, in *Perversion and social innovation*, offers a decoding of the myth of the Labyrinth and the Minotaur by integrating historical, literary, and psychoanalytic data, showing how symbols of perversion can be understood only within the narrative structure that sustains them.

Fulvio Frati, on the other hand, reconstructs the contribution of the Argentine School of Psychoanalysis – particularly that of José Bleger – to the development of Fairbairn's metapsychological theory, offering a reading that highlights its clinical and theoretical relevance for a more articulated understanding of personality structure.

The issue is completed by the regular sections: *Psychoanalysis and Research*, a remembrance of Michele Di Francesco by Maria Pia Roggero on behalf of the SIPRe Department of Studies and Research; the *Clinical Cases* section, introduced by Francesca Piazzalunga, featuring a case consisting of a single session presented by Simone Provenzano and commented on by Paolo Milanese, Daniele Rovaris, and Irene Lumina.

The *Transformations* section, edited by Fabio Vanni, includes a contribution in which Francesco Bocci explores Video Game Therapy® as an innovative clinical device capable of generating individual and collective transformative experiences through co-active flow.

In the *Lectures* section, Giuseppe Martorana reviews the book *Trans-for-*

mation: *the being and becoming of transgender people. Theories, contexts, and interventions*, edited by Fabio Rapisarda (Franco Angeli, Milan, 2024), while Sara Bui discusses *Neuroticism. A new framework for emotional disorders and their treatment* by Shannon Sauer-Zavala and David H. Barlow, published by Giovanni Fioriti Editore and edited in its Italian edition by Simone Cheli.

As customary, the issue concludes with the *Glances* section, curated by Goisis, which offers a reflection on *Lovable* by Lilja Ingolfssdottir (2024).

This third issue of *Ricerca Psicoanalitica* invites readers to linger in the interstices: between theory and clinical practice, between past and future, between what is already visible and what is still taking shape, between what has been defined and what must be defined anew. It is an invitation to think of psychoanalysis as a living practice, capable of renewing itself without losing the rigor of its tradition.

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