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THALASSA is the journal of the Sándor Ferenczi Society, Budapest.

THALASSA is the title of Sándor Ferenczi's classical work.

THALASSA symbolically refers to the sea, the womb, the origin, the source.

THALASSA is an interdisciplinary journal devoted to free investigations in psychoanalysis, culture and society.

THALASSA has roots in the historical traditions of Hungarian psychoanalysis, but is not committed to any particular school or authority.

THALASSA welcomes all original contributions, historical, theoretical, or critical, dealing with the common problems of psychoanalysis and the humanities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT ISSUE (2007/2–3)

The main focus of the present issue of *Thalassa* is **JULIA KRISTEVA's** work. In our **MAJOR ARTICLES** section we publish two essays by the Bulgarian-French writer, literary critic and psychoanalyst: **The object of love** and **On melancholic imagery**. In her article **A Kristevan journey between philosophy of art, psychoanalysis, and literature** **TÍMEA GYIMESI** analyses Kristeva's main concepts (such as *abject* and *signifiance*) in their relationship to her biography and her life work. **FERENC ZSÉLYI's** essay **Kristeva and Colette** reviews Kristeva's book on the French poetess Colette. Kristeva reconstructs Colette's stylistically progressive regress to the primal narcissism of early childhood both in Colette's oeuvre and in her life (in fact Kristeva does not distinguish between the two of them). The central enigma is the mother-daughter relationship which is extending into the experience of having been "all". The Oedipal is displaced by the pre-linguistic somatic featuring an asexual and polymorph self like a "mère-version" of Pan with a discourse of enchantment full of the natural and toxic (per)version of bourgeois life that is narrated in the form of a textual fetish in place of the Symbolic Order. The increasingly self-reflective forms of sexuality reaching "desexualized ego orgasm" save fiction and writer, together with the commentator(s) from neurosis. Words remain infantile and eroticised hieroglyphs. The body is not in surveillance of the subject and the self behaves like a "mental hermaphrodite" changing its sexual discursivity all the time. Birth seems to be the closure of life.

In our **WORKSHOP** section we publish three original articles.

BARBARA MIKLÓS's article **Facing the Lacanian 'Real' – a reading of Charles Baudelaire's *Exotic Perfume*** presents a possible reading of Charles Baudelaire's poem *Exotic Perfume*, based on the concept of the 'Real' by Jacques Lacan, and the 'text-theory' by Julia Kristeva, that argue on the productivity of the literary text, and

permit to find new significances, that reveal the fugitive subject. The author analyses Baudelaire's sonnet in an original way, and finds a hidden sentence, fragmented in the rhymes, that permits a reinterpretation of the whole poem.

In his essay **The faces of the "Stekels" from Vienna and Budapest in the Freud-Ferenczi correspondence** GYÖRGY PÉTER HÁRS focuses on the role of Sándor Feldmann, a Hungarian follower of Wilhelm Stekel in the history of early psychoanalysis. Although there was only one Stekel – from Vienna – Ferenczi calls Feldmann the "Stekel from Budapest", or "our [that is, Hungarian] Stekel". Feldmann had been originally discovered by Ferenczi as a potential follower of psychoanalysis, but in 1923 there was a sudden break between himself and Feldmann, a conflict the real cause of which we know almost nothing. However, it is a fact that Freud, on Ferenczi's request, personally forced Feldmann to leave the Hungarian association. After this event Feldmann soon founded the Hungarian Association of Active Analysts, a society which was, in its time, more significant than the Hungarian Psychoanalytic Association itself, in terms of its professional organization and the number of its members. Judgments on Feldmann in the Freud-Ferenczi correspondence mainly depend on the relation of both Freud and Ferenczi to Stekel, but the whole story says more for us about the history – especially the Hungarian history – of psychoanalysis.

MELINDA FRIEDRICH's contribution **The revolt of Otto Gross** is based on the presentations of the 6th International Otto Gross Congress organized in Vienna in September 2006 (and also on those of earlier congresses) that put the focus on Otto Gross's relationship to some of the analysts of his age. First, by providing some insight into the relationship between the father Hans Gross, Freud and Otto Gross, she shows why the repression of Otto Gross was necessary from the point of view of Freud and psychoanalysis. Then, by examining the problematic relationship between Jung and Gross and the consequences of the mutual analysis between them, the author illuminates Otto Gross's role in the fratricide committed upon him by Jung and the influence of his revolt against society's norms on the development of the relationship between Jung and Sabina Spielrein. Finally, through the demonstration of the analytic relationship between Stekel and Gross, she explores how Stekel, who was then already excluded from the psychoanalytic movement, related to Gross.

In the FORUM section we publish two contributions. The first study, **Oedipus complex, mate choice, imprinting: a possible reinterpretation of a Freudian concept** deals with issue of the problematic relationship between psychoanalysis and sociobiology. The authors, TAMÁS BEREZKEI and PETRA GYURIS argue that Freud's assumption that the oedipal relationship plays an important part in shaping the future character of mate choice may need a scientific reconsideration that, in turn, requires setting an empirically testable explanation. The authors hypothesize that the close physical and emotional attachment between the mother and her son

include sexual imprinting-like mechanism that influence the processing of childhood experiences. Here they present a set of experiments showing that adults prefer long-term partners who resemble the mental representation of their parent of the opposite sex. Furthermore, mating preferences were found to be shaped in the process of attachment; those mothers were most frequently used as mental model for their son's mate choice who provided more emotional warmth and less avoidance to their son during childhood. The implications of our results on the contemporary interpretation of the Freudian theory are discussed.

The second study, **ANDRÉ HAYNAL's** essay **On fanaticism. A psychoanalytic approach** argues that the disposition to become a fanatic is present in all of us. It was denounced first by the Enlightenment with emphasis on religious fanaticism. In the 20th century, the secular *pseudo-religions* with their social utopias and more recently again the *religious* fanaticism presented and present tremendous problems incompatible with civilized social conditions. Psychoanalytical aspects behind this phenomenon are discussed.

In the ARCHIVES section **KRISZTIÁN KAPUSI's** article **Sándor Ferenczi and the Pálos (Propper) family** reconstructs, on the basis of archival sources, the family background of Mrs. Gizella Pálos (born Altschul), the later Mrs. Ferenczi.

In the BOOK REVIEWS section **ATTILA BÁNFALVI** reviews **MÁRTA CSABAI's** book *Tünetvándorlás. A hisztériától a krónikus fáradtságig* (Wandering symptoms. From hysteria to chronic fatigue), and **MELINDA FRIEDRICH** reviews **MICHAEL ROHRWASSER's** book *Freuds Lektüren. Von Arthur Conan Doyle bis zu Arthur Schnitzler* (Freud's readings. From Arthur Conan Doyle to Arthur Schnitzler).

We accept contributions in Hungarian, English, German or French. Authors are requested to provide their papers with an English and/or Hungarian summary. Original articles, reviews, reflections, and suggestions should be sent to Dr. Ferenc Erős, Institute for Psychological Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Victor Hugo u. 18–22, H-1132 Budapest. Phone/fax: (36-1) 239-6043. E-mail address: thalassa@mtapi.hu and erosf@mtapi.hu

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B U D A P E S T I K Ö N Y V S Z E M L E

BIHUKISZVA

KRITIKAI ÍRÁSOK

A TÁRSADALOMTUDOMÁNYOK

KÖRÉBŐL

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Erős Ferenc

TRAUMA és TÖRTÉNELEM

Szociálpszichológiai és
pszichoanalitikus tanulmányok

jószöveg

műhely kiadó

MEGJELENT A JÓSZÖVEG MŰHELY KIADÓ GONDOZÁSÁBAN

A könyv egyik fő törekvése, hogy megmutassa: a pszichoanalízis és a szociálpszichológia között nem csupán lehetséges, hanem szükséges is a termékeny dialógus. Ennek a dialógusnak éppen a történelem lehet a kitüntetett terepe, egyrészt azért, mert mindkét tudományterületnek nagy jelentősége van a történelmi folyamatok megismerésében és értelmezésében, másrészt azért, mert mindkettő maga is történelem. A kötet írásai a szociálpszichológia és a pszichoanalízis történelemszemléletet formáló jelentségére hívják fel a figyelmet.