

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the diversity of *Existential Analysis*, 22, Volume 2. We inaugurate this volume with two papers from the successful *Society of Existential Analysis* annual conference, “Sexistential”, held in London, November 20-21, 2010. This was the first two-day conference held by the Society and judging from the positive feedback, this has set a trend towards expanding our annual gatherings. While London is an expensive conference destination, the two-day format seemed to attract more of our international members and this year we were especially glad to see so many of our Portuguese colleagues participating in the event.

Our first two conference presentations are Meg Barker’s paper on *De Beauvoir, Bridget Jones’ Pants and Vaginismus*, followed by Manu Bazzano’s *Sex and Circuses*. Later in the journal we are also pleased to have conference submissions by Colin Clarke and Richard Pearce. After every SEA conference we welcome each of the main presenters to submit a paper based upon their conference contribution. These are included in the journal, bypassing the review process, as an opportunity for those who could not attend to get a flavour of what they missed. Christina Richards, following the broad theme of sexuality, offers a thought-provoking exploration of transsexualism, a topic still too neglected in our community of existential therapy. Though not a conference paper, one other presentation reaches our readers in this issue, Carla Willig’s *The Ethics of Interpretation*. This is a version of Professor Willig’s inaugural professorial talk and we are proud to be able to include it.

Jiří Růžicka’s *The Ten Deadly Sins of Psychotherapy* challenges us not to fall from grace as therapists by unthinkingly aligning ourselves with pervasive views that are nonetheless anti-therapeutic. Peter Wilberg, no stranger to the Journal, offers a comprehensive account of an existential form of medicine by suggesting that existential analysis has a role to play not only in therapy but in the practice of medicine as well. We also include captivating articles by Belassie, Voller, and Berguno, each touching upon how an artistic sensibility can impact upon our work, and the therapeutic value of themes found within literature. These articles offer a welcome shift from the more arid world of scientific evidence to which we are increasingly urged to confine ourselves. This issue also includes an interesting model by Susan Iacovou, attempting to distinguish between different forms of anxiety. The issue closes with a new research paper by João Fonseca, a poignant account of the phenomenology of finitude as one comes towards the end of life. We are always eager to publish original research articles such as this.

We would like to once again acknowledge the substantial support we receive from the members of our Editorial Board and Reader's Panel, all established psychotherapists or psychologists with expertise in existential-phenomenological theory and practice. These volunteers continue to read an increasing number of submissions and their time and thoughtful reviews are much appreciated by the journal editors. We would also like to acknowledge our debt to Simone Lee, who has very capably fulfilled the role as our first ever Review Coordinator but has now decided to hand over the reigns. Simone, with great sensitivity, has been able to organise us into a more efficient team and we will miss her upbeat humour. We would therefore like to hear from anyone who might feel able to pick up where Simone left off. The Review Coordinator distributes articles for anonymous review, collates the results and communicates them to authors, in effect managing communication from submission onwards. The person who will fit this role will be diplomatic, fluent in English, familiar with email and attachments, and able to meet with the Journal team twice a year. While we are thanking the people behind the scenes at the Journal, we should also extend our sincere appreciation to Ian Jones-Healy and Martin Adams, without whose work the Journal could not flourish.

We aim to encourage dialogue and debate within the Journal, so if an article inspires or provokes you, please do consider submitting a response.

Simon du Plock

Greg Madison