On Making A Home Amongst Strangers: The Paradox of Group Psychotherapy

Speaker: John Schlapobersky
Respondent: Gwen Adshead

We work with the past in the present, with the play of words and the play of experience that may have no words. Our practice is charged with paradox. Strangers can create allies out of aliens, turn anonymity into security and make common cause of seemingly unrelated injury. In what Foulkes called the common zone we create a shared home for peoples’ private past that may have distorted their present and stands against their future. Can group analysis meet the challenge of equipping people to free their destiny from their history? The lecture will be illustrated with material from John’s new book:


Venue:
BRUNEI GALLERY LECTURE THEATRE, SOAS, UNIVERSITY of LONDON,
Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square,
LONDON WC1H 0XG

Please note that the Lecture starts at 7-9pm with drinks after ‘til 10pm

Tickets £25.00 inc. refreshments.
Tickets also at the door.
Concessions for GASi members & Students.
Further details can be found on www.groupanalyticssociety.co.uk
Mr John Schlapobersky qualified as a group analyst at the IGA, London. He has served on its teaching staff in different capacities and has been involved in training generations of students. He works privately at Bloomsbury Psychotherapy Practice and - over the years - with groups in many settings. He pioneered the application of group-analysis to the needs of refugees and asylum seekers. He convenes The Trans-Atlantic Dialogues - a forum at the annual meeting of the American Group Psychotherapy Association for the interchange of method and principle; and he convenes a Clinical Seminar annually for Israeli Group Analysts. He was Programme Chair for the GASI Symposium at Goldsmiths College London, 2011. As Robin Skynner’s editor he published his clinical papers in two volumes and his own writing, “The Language of the Group: Monologue, Dialogue and Discourse” is published in The Psyche and The Social World (eds.) D. Brown and L. Zinkin; and “Group Methods in Adult Psychiatry” (written with Malcolm Pines) in The New Oxford Textbook of Psychiatry.

Dr Gwen Adshead is a Forensic Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist. She trained at St George's hospital, the Institute of Psychiatry and the Institute of Group Analysis. She is trained as a group therapist and a mindfulness based cognitive therapist and has also trained in Mentalisation based therapy. She worked for nearly twenty years as a Consultant Forensic Psychotherapist at Broadmoor Hospital, running psychotherapeutic groups for offenders, and working with staff around relational security and organisational dynamics. She now works in a medium secure unit in Hampshire. Gwen also has a Masters’ Degree in Medical Law and Ethics; and has a research interest in moral reasoning, and how this links with 'bad' behaviour. Gwen has published a number of books and over 100 papers, book chapters and commissioned articles on forensic psychotherapy, ethics in psychiatry, and attachment theory as applied to medicine and forensic psychiatry. Gwen was a castaway on Desert Island Discs in 2010, and has made many appearances on Radio 4. She was honoured with the President’s Medal for services to psychiatry in July 2013.