

THE ISR IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE 12th

Summer Seminars to be held on 20th, 21st and 22nd July 2018

in Montreux, Switzerland

About our theme: When the Body Speaks: Somatic Issues and Projective Methods

By F. Barton Evans, Ph.D

Somatic issues and somatization have become an increasingly important focus for modern psychodynamic and other comprehensive neuroscience based personality models in understanding expression of unprocessed experiences of anxiety and depression into bodily manifestations. Conversely individuals experiencing overwhelming health problems undergo internal psychic changes as their illness impacts on their core sense of self, which is fundamentally rooted in bodily experience. As was so aptly stated in van der Kolk's great paper tying psyche to soma, *the body keeps the score*. Because somatic communications of inner conflict, psychological trauma, and physical endangerment often escapes the individual's capacity to mentalize and speak their inner experience, self-report methods such as interviews and questionnaires are limited in their ability to join the individual psychotherapeutically. One of Hermann Rorschach's great discoveries was that his deeply troubled clients found such a voice through the Rorschach Inkblot Method. This year's Summer Seminars explore how the RIM and other projective techniques aid in a careful assessment of somatic issues and somatization and can provide a voice for clients' soma-psychic suffering.

Lecturers and Presentations

F. Barton Evans, Ph.D, Asheville, NC, USA



F. Barton Evans, Ph.D. is a clinical and forensic psychologist in private practice in Asheville, NC and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, East Tennessee State University College of Medicine. He has published 4 books including one on the work of Harry Stack Sullivan, co-authored two books on the Rorschach in forensic practice, and co-authored a book on forensic psychological assessment in Immigration

Court. He has published numerous book chapters and papers on the Rorschach and other personality assessment in psychological trauma.

The case of a young woman with chronic debilitating physical complaints of unclear medical origin.

Dr. Evans's presentation will focus on the embodiment of psychological trauma as it presents on the Rorschach. He will begin with a review of psychological literature on the Rorschach and psychological trauma. He will then present a Therapeutic Assessment case of a 20-year-old woman with plaguing, though indistinct, physical and psychological symptoms. Dr. Evans will show how the Rorschach assisted this young woman to "find her voice" to describe previously inchoate and "locked in" inner suffering.

Tevfika Ikiz, Istanbul, Turkey



Professor at Istanbul University, Department of Psychology, Psychoanalyst, Founder and President of the Turkish Society for Rorschach and Projective Tests. Working with psychosomatic patients and member of IPSO (Paris Psychosomatic School).

The Sick Body in Adolescence: Obesity and Family Relations.

In obese families, food and its consumption aim to fill internal gaps and avoid the existential emptiness of family members. The parents' anxiety and inability to contain the affective states of their children seem to relate to conflicts around narcissism, orality, emptiness and separation. The morning session will focus on difficulties in coping with this disorder, as well as their multifactor etiologies (hereditary, socio-logical, cultural, environmental and psycho-emotional). In the afternoon session, the case of an adolescent will be presented: Rorschach and TAT, as well as other projective tests taken by the whole family.

Sylvie Gosselin, M. Ps, Quebec City, Canada



Sylvie Gosselin is a psychologist in a Chronic Pain Center, dealing mainly with adult and elderly patients. She conducts multidisciplinary work with anesthesiologists, physiotherapists, pharmacists and occupational therapists. The psychologist's main

functions are evaluation and psychotherapy to improve patients' quality of life. These patients suffer from different medical pathologies (such as back pain, pelvic pain, CRPS).

The contribution of projective methods to the multidisciplinary treatment of chronic pain.

Psychic issues and somatization are frequently ignored in the treatment of patients who suffer from chronic pain and their impact tends to be misunderstood. The contribution of projective techniques in the treatment of those patients will be demonstrated with different case studies and theoretical concepts. The case of a woman with an interstitial cystitis will be analyzed in the afternoon session, to show how a better understanding of her personality organization led to a drastic rethinking of her treatment.

Discussant: Bruce Smith, Ph.D

Discussant for Sylvie Gosselin's presentation: F. Barton Evans, Ph.D