

# AAGT

Association for the  
Advancement of  
Gestalt Therapy



An International Community

## **Spring, 2017 Newsletter**

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## Greetings from the Editor!



Spring is here! And so many plans are emerging for connections, networking, and learning in the Gestalt community! Please know that you are most welcome to send any submissions for the newsletter directly to my email: [aagt.emeyerstewart@outlook.com](mailto:aagt.emeyerstewart@outlook.com). I'm looking forward to working with you all to collaborate on this newsletter as a place for information and connection in the spirit of gestalt! Info, announcements, conferences, workshops, etc., may be edited to fit the spacing. Please keep your submissions to a maximum of 2 pages, knowing that the layout may be edited. Thank you!

Emily Meyer Stewart

Pittsburgh, PA USA

### Some examples of what you can submit to future newsletters:

- ⇒ *Your publishable photos from gestalt conferences, workshops, and training centers*
- ⇒ *Articles, books, or other publication announcements from AAGT members*
- ⇒ *Upcoming trainings, workshops, conferences that may be of interest to AAGT members*
- ⇒ *Academic networking opportunities*
- ⇒ *Artwork, poetry, or other media to encourage and connect with others!*

## SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

**FALL NEWSLETTER** — AUG. 25, 2017 (Publishing date: September 2, 2017)

**WINTER NEWSLETTER** — DEC. 25, 2017 (Publishing date: January 2, 2018)

**SPRING NEWSLETTER** — APRIL 25, 2018 (Publishing date: May 2, 2018)



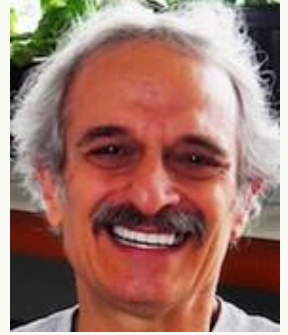
Pittsburgh, PA —  
PNC Baseball Park

*Home of  
Pittsburgh  
Pirates  
Baseball!*



*From AAGT Communications Director,  
Bob Witchel Pittsburgh, PA, USA*

[Bwitchel@iup.edu](mailto:Bwitchel@iup.edu)



We invite you to visit our new Facebook (FB) page for AAGT, the Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy: An International Community. The purpose of this FB page is to share information about AAGT and Gestalt Therapy on an international level and engage with others interested in Gestalt Therapy. As it is an "open" page, non-members who search for "Gestalt Therapy" on Facebook will also be able to access the contents of the page. This will serve as a way to promote AAGT and Gestalt Therapy as well as attract additional people to our activities.

The link to the FB page is: <https://www.facebook.com/AAGT.org>



This page will also be a mechanism to announce upcoming AAGT workshops, AGM's, member's Gestalt Therapy activities that may be of interest to persons following or visiting this page. (The AAGT Taormina Facebook page had 538 followers). If you have any questions contact me at any time.

*Bob Witchel*

***For those of you who are not Facebook users, all AAGT information will continue to be posted on the members Listserv, website and when information needs to reach all members, it will be emailed.***

### **2016 Taormina Conference Video**

The conveners of the Taormina conference have shared a video created from the conference. The Conveners said, "while we are aware that the beauty and richness of those days can never fully be included in a 14 minute video, we are convinced that to see it will let many feelings and nice memories emerge in the people who participated in the 'Taormina wave'." You can see it at this link at:

<https://youtu.be/sbnf-RgjsPY>



*From the AAGT President, Toni Gilligan*

[tonigilligan.gestalt@phonecoop.coop](mailto:tonigilligan.gestalt@phonecoop.coop)

AAGT 2018



CONFERENCE VENUE: TORONTO, CANADA

ANTICIPATED DATES: MID-AUGUST, 2018

Following our Board Meeting on Sunday 26th March, it is with much appreciation that we are very pleased to announce that the AAGT Biennial Conference of 2018 will take place in Toronto, Canada.

**Thank you** to Carolina Edwards, Heather Keyes, Jay Tropianskaia and their team, for a well-crafted and exciting proposal. We will let you know the dates as soon as they are confirmed, and you will hear in due course from the conveners about committee chairs and their requests for members to join them.

*Toni, on Behalf of the Board*





## *From the President-Elect, Tali Bar-Levine Yoseph*

[t\\_choice@013net.net](mailto:t_choice@013net.net)



Spring is so here that its almost over. Taormina is two seasons and a couple of Ethna eruptions away. It is hard to believe how much more troubled the world became during these months. To count just a few recent examples of countries torn by emotions regarding political decisions - the US, France, England, Germany, Netherlands, Turkey which voted for what is effectively a dictatorship on the last day of Passover - the 'from slavery to freedom' holiday, and even here at AAGT. Bridging differences and conflict between and within systems is an existential call for leaders.

*Inherent dilemmas of leadership, as in leading and in being led, accompanied by an urgent need to contain torn communities are an emerging need across the globe.*

*While delighted by the opportunity to give back to the organization and with it to the field, it is with some trepidation that I look ahead at becoming the next president of AAGT. I feel blessed by our constitution that gives me time to grow into the role next to/under Toni and Patricia.*

*'The two years up to a presidency are easy' passed presidents said. Little did I know. The challenges that AAGT faced in the past months turned the above well-meaning statement on its head. The board composed of able dedicated members most of whom are veterans held fundamental dilemmas while the new-comers kept their heads above water. Each and all stood for own values and integrity concurrently keeping the greater good close to heart. Of course the challenge begins when what the greater good actually is becomes a meaningful argument.*



*Evidently preaching for dialogic relationship and co-existence is easier than being it and in it. There were moments that my heart ached with the sense that we could simply fall over and break shattered like a delicate glass.*

*When a few of you approached me with the conviction that what AAGT needs is leadership that is experienced in working with systems and cultural difference, I felt touched and obliged. The trust those of you who voted for me humbles me and keeps me hopeful at the more challenging moments. Thank you.*

*Attending to the beauty outside my window, the jungle of colours as nature throws them together, taking in how while keeping their uniqueness they all fit together into a moving picture - I believe that we can do the same: Co-exist as well as flourish and influence the field for the better. We have what it takes; the philosophy, the tools, the professional ability, the souls and hearts. Humaness.*

Tali

*From the AAGT Continuing Education Officer, Dina L. Miller*

[dinamiller3@aol.com](mailto:dinamiller3@aol.com)

## **Continuing Education Credits for 2016 Taormina Conference**

AAGT contracted with AMEDCO to provide Continuing Education (CE) credits for the AAGT/EAGT gestalt conference in Taormina, Sicily in fall 2016. This was only for USA based licensing boards (APA, ASWB, NY-SW).

For many conference participants who wanted CE credits, I gave you an AMEDCO "Participant Notification" paper at the conference CE table. Instructions are on that paper for getting your certificate.



Certificates will not be emailed by me for this conference. The AMEDCO system must be used to get your certificate.

Many of you got your certificates. Those who wanted CE credits and did not yet get your certificate (or lost the paper), please contact AAGT CE Officer at [dinamiller3@aol.com](mailto:dinamiller3@aol.com) or 614-563-6571 USA. I will email you the paper as an attachment and the link to get your certificate.



Also, you have been emailed a survey of CE needs. Please, complete this survey. It takes less than 5 minutes and will help the CE department to make future decisions regarding the use of AMEDCO again and what sponsorships we need. Click here for the [SURVEY LINK](#).

More information about CE changes will be on the AAGT website in the near future.

Dina





**2017 AGM**  
**Reading, UK**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2017**

**We are pleased to announce** that our 2017 Annual General Meeting will be held near London, following the UK Association for Gestalt Practitioners Conference: Celebrating our Community, which is planned as a celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the British Gestalt Journal. The Conference begins 3.00pm Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June and ends 4.30 Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, and is being held near Reading, which has very good links with Heathrow and Gatwick airports, as well as a frequent and fast rail link to London.

### **Conference Highlights** include:

- Papers from Lynne Jacobs, Joe Melnick, Peter Philipponson & Margherita Spagnuolo Lobb
- Community led workshops
- A World Cafe to discuss emerging themes
- Space for emergent interest groups & discussion
- Whole group activities and Process groups
- A 3 course community dinner, followed by a party with a live band.



UKAGP have very generously offered that **AAGT members may register for the conference at the UKAGP members' rate** which is less than the standard registration fee. AAGT members attending the AGM will have three choices for attendance: (a) UKAGP conference plus AGM - £485, (b) AGM only lodging (2<sup>nd</sup> July) – all meals provided by AAGT - £50 or, (c) AGM only – all meals provided by AAGT – no cost.

**Our AGM (Annual General Meeting)** will follow the conference, starting at 6.30pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> July with an evening session before dinner, and continuing on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm. AAGT's inter-conference AGMs are a vital part of our continuing contact and development. We aim to allow time for extended conversations about who and what we are as the AAGT, including how we can advance our vision into viable action. For most of the time we are informal, creating loose structures for exploration and review of our activities in order to provide the ground for the final more formal AGM time of making decisions. In the evening we have fun and play together! We invite you to join us at this vital period in our AAGT experiment and in the wider community!

For further information go to: <http://ukagp.org.uk/celebrating-our-community/>  
 To register for the conference and/or AGM go to:  
<http://ukagp.org.uk/aagt-members-agm-conference-booking/>

## *From the Scholarship Fund Committee*

Thanks to all of you who have generously contributed to the Scholarship Fund!

This Spring season we will be able to provide financial assistance to participants at the following AAGT sponsored event who otherwise could not attend:

**2017 AGM, Reading, UK**

**July 2nd - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(see flyer, page 7)**

If you would like to apply for a grant to attend this event,  
please go to this link:

[https://www.aagt.org/scholarship\\_fund\\_regional/](https://www.aagt.org/scholarship_fund_regional/)

Here, you will find the application form and a list of our criteria as well as the deadlines for submissions. Please be aware that grants for the AGM have a limit of 300 USD each.

Please consider a donation to the AAGT Scholarship Fund so that we may continue with our tradition of helping persons who are financially challenged to attend our conferences.

No matter the size it will be greatly appreciated! You can do this by going to the link below:

<https://www.aagt.org/contributions/>

*Adam Kincel and Dominique Chabre, Co-Chairs*

*Bud Feder and Cathy Gray, Members*





*From the Membership Chairs*  
*Jon Blend and Maryanne Nicholls*

[jon.blend335@gmail.com](mailto:jon.blend335@gmail.com)



[maryanne.nicholls@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.nicholls@gmail.com)

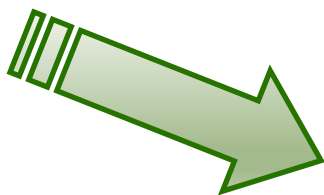


***As a member of AAGT you can....***

- Connect with, network with and learn from fine gestalt therapy theorists, practitioners, researchers and scholars.
- Participate in a rapidly developing international and intergenerational coalition of creative individuals influencing the present and future expansion and integration of gestalt theory, philosophy and practice into the wider field.
- Receive the AAGT Newsletter to keep you updated on organizational and individual issues, projects, activities and discussions.
- Join or form interest groups and regional liaisons to share information and support, develop joint activities and projects, and widen your circle of friends and associates.
- Receive discounts on AAGT conference fees, publications and materials.

AAGT invites Gestalt students and trainees from all countries to become members. Student receive their first year of membership free of charge by signing up on the website at <https://aagt.org/aagt-memberships/> and clicking on "subscribe". Thereafter student fees/dues are charged at \$25 dollars ( or equivalent) per annum. At our biennial conferences students can reduce the cost of admission by participating in the 'work-for-study' scheme and/or applying for a scholarship. To learn more about the advantages of student membership contact -

Jon Blend (UK: [jon.blend335@gmail.com](mailto:jon.blend335@gmail.com)) or  
Maryanne Nicholls ( Canada : [maryanne.nicholls@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.nicholls@gmail.com)).



## *From the AAGT Archivist, Ansel Woldt*

### **40 Themes Proposed for Our 2018 Biennial Conference (to be held in Toronto, Canada)**



Hopefully most members know from following the AAGT Members' Listserv, there has been considerable interest and many ideas generated for the theme of our 2018 Toronto Conference. Considerable thought has been given to what might best represent AAGT's immediate past (*i.e.*, cancelling plans to have the conference in Asheville, NC), AAGT's present (*i.e.*, *USA political influences on international travel*), and our future existence as an international, volunteer-run, member organization.

If the number of themes suggested is any indication of the vast interest in our 2018 conference, it should be a booming success. As of April 25th, there were a total of 40 theme-names submitted following the convener's welcoming input from the membership followed by Jim Battaglia's encouraging submissions in behalf of the organizing committee. In addition, Victor Daniels (*with 'tongue-in-cheek'*), brain-stormed another 31 short (2 to 5-word) titles that are not included here.

After the themes started appearing on our members' Listserv, everyone was invited to vote on their "favorites". These votes were recorded as they came in. Of course the themes that were proposed later on did not appear on the listserv until after a number of members had voted. Therefore, themes following number 23 received very few votes; there being one exception, namely No. 38, ***"Radical Respect: Gestalt Dreaming in a Troubled World,"*** which was submitted on the last day by Zelda Freidman, one of AAGT's founders, that immediately struck a chord -- gaining 8 votes in one day.

Charlie Bowman thought to list the conference themes from past biennial conferences to provide that perspective for the organizing committee charged with theme selection.

### **Previous AAGT Biennial Conference Themes**

- 1) **Bringing us Together. 1995 in New Orleans, LA**
- 2) **Different Meanings, Common Ground. 1997 in San Francisco, CA**
- 3) **Gestalt in the World and the World of Gestalt. 1998 in Cleveland, OH**
- 4) **Expanding our Vision: Bridging our Diversity. 1999 in New York, NY**
- 5) **Social Vision and Personal Growth. 2000 in Dallas, TX**
- 6) **Holding the Heat: Conflict, Creativity, Contact. 2002 in St. Pete Beach, FL**
- 7) **Re-Creation: Transforming the Field. 2004 in St. Pete Beach, FL**
- 8) **Dreaming the Future: Expanding our Consciousness. 2006 in Vancouver, BC, Canada**
- 9) **Borders and Bridges: Differentiation in Contact. 2008 in Manchester, England, UK**
- 10) **Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Now. 2010 in Philadelphia, PA**
- 11) **Cultures, Contact, Change. 2012 in Puebla, Mexico**
- 12) **Exploring the Diversity of Gestalt Therapy . 2014 in Asilomar, CA**

**40 THEME PROPOSALS FOR 2018 CONFERENCE IN TORONTO, CANADA**

- 1) Open Borders, Worlds in Conflict: Gestalt Therapy Contacts an Array of Difference [1]
- 2) Social Change Begins with Two--An Embodied Relational Approach [6]
- 3) Gestalt Therapy in a Crazy Dangerous World [1]
- 4) Repression and Resistance: The political forces at play in the Shaping and Existence of Gestalt Therapy [3]
- 5) Worlds in Conflict: Gestalt Therapy Contacts an Array of Differences [5]
- 6) Contemporary Gestalt Therapy: New Integrations in Mindfulness, Awareness and The Relational Dialogue [6]
- 7) Social Change and Our Connections [1]
- 8) Gestalt Therapy in the Global Field: Exploring Similarities and Differences [5]
- 9) A Troubled Globe as a Challenge Presented to the Gestalt Practitioner [2]
- 10) The Globe as an Endangered Species – An Urgent Call to the Gestalt Practitioner to Inflict Change [2]
- 11) Humanity as an Endangered Species: An Urgent Challenge to Gestalt Therapy (or to Gestalt Therapists) [3]
- 12) The New ISM = "It-ism" -- Endangering Human Species: An Urgent Challenge to Gestalt Therapists [0]
- 13) Social Evolution through Healing Relationships: An Embodied Relational Exploration of Compassion for Our Differences [2]
- 14) A Gestalt Approach to Social Activism in These Hard Times [1]
- 15) Social Evolution through Healing Relationships: Gestalt Therapy Contacts an Array of Differences [2]
- 16) Embodied Gestalt: Our Approach to Social Change [5]
- 17) Gestalt, Ubuntu and Social Change: The Challenge of Praxis in a Troubled World [0]
- 18) Gestalt Practice: Process & Change in a Troubled World [15]
- 19) Gestalt Processes, Practices and Communitas in Our Troubled World [17]
- 20) Gestalt Praxis for Communitas in a Troubled World [3]
- 21) Living in a World of Difference: Acceptance and Conflict [4]
- 22) Gestalt Praxis and Communitas for Active Hope in a Troubled World [5]
- 23) Social Evolution through Healing Relationships: An Embodied Relational Exploration of Compassion for Our Differences [0]
- 24) Gestalt Practice: Supporting Process, Connection, and Change in a Polarizing World [1]
- 25) Personal Growth and the Community-at-Large (or Culture-at-Large) [0]
- 26) Practicing Gestalt in a Polarizing World: I.C.A.R.E. [1]
- 27) Worlds in Conflict: Gestalt Practices Contact an Array of Differences [0]
- 28) Gestalt Practices Contact an Array of Differences [0]
- 29) Gestalt Practice: Process and Change in a Polarized World. (or Connecting in a Polarized World) [1]
- 30) Discordant Voices, Imperfect Choices: Championing Contact and Process in a Turbulent Field [1]
- 31) Gestalt Therapy in a Troubled World: Dealing with *Difference* and Differences in *Dealing* [5]
- 32) Contemporary Gestalt Therapy: Exploring the Interplay between Personal Relational Healing and Social Evolution [0]
- 33) Gestalt therapy meets the challenge of a world going to pot [0]
- 34) I'm '*ganja*' to Toronto in 2018 -- c'mon along [0]
- 35) In an M.T. World, You can't beat GT coupled with MJ [0]
- 36) Contemporary Gestalt Therapy: Exploring Similarities & Differences within an Embodied Relational Approach [0]
- 37) Contemporary Gestalt Therapy: An Embodied Relational Approach [0]
- 38) Radical Respect: Gestalt Dreaming in a Troubled World [8]
- 39) Dialogue, Healing and Renewal [1]
- 40) Gestalt Process in a World of Conflict [1]





# New Contemporary Gestalt Therapy Demonstration Films

Robert W. Resnick, Ph.D.

Gestalt Associates Training Los Angeles

(Subtitles in 7 languages - available online on Vimeo and/or as DVD's)

[www.vimeo.com/ondemand/gestaltfilms](http://www.vimeo.com/ondemand/gestaltfilms)

DVD's: [resnickfilms@gmail.com](mailto:resnickfilms@gmail.com)

## DESCRIPTION OF SERIES:

Eight unedited Gestalt Therapy sessions with Robert W. Resnick, Ph.D. (until now an "under the radar" Gestalt and Couples Therapist and Trainer for over 50 years) that demonstrates a very powerful applied phenomenological and dialogic process therapy in action - including subtitles in 7 languages - English, Russian, German, Italian, Spanish, French and Brazilian Portuguese.) Subtitles in 7 more languages to follow soon with updated translator credits for all languages: Czech, Polish, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Dutch and Hungarian.

**Note: 30-minute theory synopsis film available *free* on Video On Demand and included on all therapy DVDs ordered.**

## PRICES

- Individuals: US\$59.99 (each)
- Universities, Training Centers and Organizations: US\$159.99 (each)
- Special Package: All 8 films US\$350.00 (Ind.), US\$950.00 (Organizations)

**Further discounted price (DVDs only) for Gestalt Therapists and all Students Individuals: US\$50 (each), or US\$250 (for the set of eight) Organizations: US\$750 (for the set of eight)**

All Therapy films include the Introduction to Gestalt Therapy Theory synopsis (30 minutes) at no additional charge- for educational and training purposes.

Available: Online download purchase, contact Vimeo at: [www.vimeo.com/ondemand/gestaltfilms](http://www.vimeo.com/ondemand/gestaltfilms)  
For DVD's Contact: [resnickfilms@gmail.com](mailto:resnickfilms@gmail.com) or [BobResnick360@gmail.com](mailto:BobResnick360@gmail.com)

[resnickfilms@gmail.com](mailto:resnickfilms@gmail.com)



# GROWTH & RENEWAL IN COMMUNITY

## A Gestalt Therapy Retreat & Training

with Peter Cole, LCSW • Eva Gold, PsyD • Daisy Reese, LCSW • Steve Zahm, PhD

At Shambhala Ranch Retreat Center in beautiful Mendocino County, CA | August 9-13 2017

Limited to 24 participants - early application is recommended!

### OUR VISION

#### RETREAT

To create a space for participants to recharge and rejuvenate in a beautiful location with good food, in a community of others who are also seeking renewal and connection.



#### TRAINING

For those who wish to deepen their understanding and practice of Gestalt therapy, this experience will be especially rich. Faculty all have many years of experience as Gestalt therapists and trainers. In addition to maintaining private practices, they have written about Gestalt therapy theory and practice, have presented and trained nationally and internationally, and have taught for many years at institutions including Pacific University School

of Professional Psychology, Stanford University, the UC Davis School of Medicine and The Wright Institute.

*This retreat and training is open to mental health professionals and others who have done extensive psychological growth work.*

*Psychotherapists from any therapy orientation interested in learning more about Gestalt therapy are welcome.*

### ABOUT THE FACULTY

**Eva Gold and Steve Zahm** are Co-Directors of Gestalt Therapy Training Center-Northwest in Portland, OR, and Senior Faculty for the *Buddhist Psychology and Contemporary Gestalt Therapy: Bringing Mindfulness to Psychotherapy Practice* program. In addition to practicing and teaching Gestalt therapy for decades, they have studied Buddhist psychology and practiced Vipassana/Insight meditation for many years.

Their recently completed book is *Buddhist Psychology & Gestalt Therapy Integrated: Psychotherapy for the 21st Century*, and they will bring this perspective to the training retreat.

**Peter Cole and Daisy Reese** are Co-Directors of the **Sierra Institute for Contemporary Gestalt Therapy** in Berkeley, CA. In addition to practicing and teaching Gestalt therapy, they specialize in Gestalt Group Therapy and are graduates of the Washington (DC) School of Psychiatry's Group Therapy training program. They will bring an emphasis on group process to the training retreat.

They have two current writing projects: A new edition of their 1998 book on the business aspects of psychotherapy private practice, and a book on Gestalt Group Therapy.



### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Faculty will lead morning process groups. Two tracks will be offered in the afternoon:

- 1) A didactic and skill building track, including experiential
- 2) A personal growth track

Evening activities will include the whole community.

#### CE INFORMATION

SICGT maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Continuing Education for Psychologists, CA MFTs and LCSWs 12 hours. SICGT is an approved continuing education provider (PCE 349) by the CA BBSE.

SICGT is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists.

**COST** \$1450 (double room) \$1650 (single room)  
\$250 non-refundable application deposit holds your space.  
*Price reductions are available for dorm style accommodations.*

For further information or application  
please contact Daisy Reese (916)444-1786  
or email [sicgt.gestalt.training@gmail.com](mailto:sicgt.gestalt.training@gmail.com)



**We look forward to having you join us!**

## Two New Books from Illawarra Gestalt and Ravenwood Press

### ***The Las Meninas Suite:***

### ***Reflections in Poetry on a Painting, Two Painters and a Dog***

***Authored by Sean Gaffney***

Las Meninas talks back : Gaffney invites the reader to go with him inside this enigmatic and mysterious painting as his "Reflections" record the murmurs and whisperings of each of the protagonists. This is a unique way of experiencing an artwork from inside out. It might just beg a visit to Madrid to see Las Meninas for yourself.

*This book was created, designed and produced by Gestalt therapist and poet*

*Seán Gaffney: The Nine Reflections*

*Gestalt Practitioner and artist, Iréne Grönwall:*

*The Cover Painting*

*Gestalt therapist and artist, Perry Gunther:*

*The Foreword*

*Gestalt therapist and artist, Lars Berg:*

*Graphic design, Layout, Drawings*



Available through Ravenwood Press <http://illawarragestalt.org>

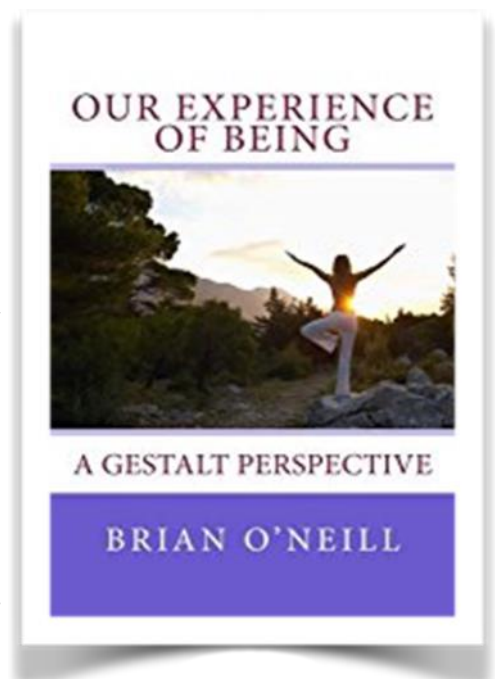
And CreateSpace <https://www.createpace.com/6813977>

### ***Our Experience of Being: A Gestalt Perspective***

***By Brian O'Neill***

This book brings together the authors work in training gestalt therapists and experience as a gestalt therapist and trainer across 37 years into a profoundly simple dialogue with the reader about our awareness and experience of reality. It offers numerous experiments used by the author in training gestalt therapists and currently with his clients in his practice in Australia.

This is a book particularly useful for students and the general public yet offers the depth of the work from the original text of Perls, Hefferline and Goodman.



Available through Ravenwood Press

<http://illawarragestalt.org>

And CreateSpace



## ***Borderline, Narcissistic, and Schizoid Adaptations: The Pursuit of Love, Admiration, and Safety***

In this book, Elinor Greenberg demystifies the diagnosis and treatment of personality disorders. She offers clear and practical advice on how to differentiate and treat clients who have Borderline, Narcissistic, or Schizoid characteristics. The book begins with an overview of the topic of personality disorders, reframes these disorders as adaptations, and then explains the treatment interventions that work best for each type of adaptation.

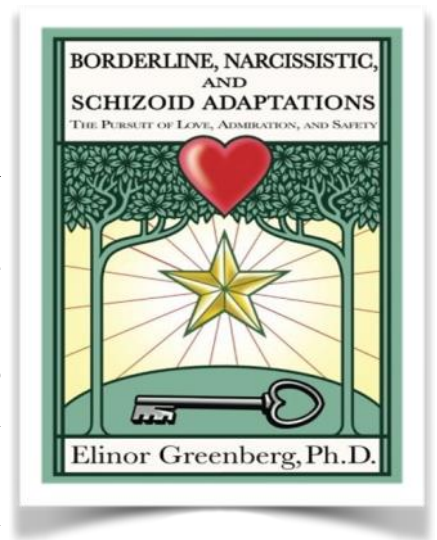
Later chapters describe how to do specific interventions that deal with commonly encountered treatment issues. Each type of intervention is explained in detail, ample clinical examples are given, as is how and when to utilize the method in the client's treatment. Both beginning therapists and experienced clinicians alike will find this book a useful resource that will expand their understanding and effectiveness with this often challenging group of clients.

*Elinor Greenberg, Ph.D., CGP, is a psychologist and an internationally renowned Gestalt therapy trainer who specializes in teaching the diagnosis and treatment of Borderline, Narcissistic, and Schizoid clients.*

To Purchase: Available on Amazon, Amazon Europe, and CreateSpace.

20% Discount Code for Create Space-Code# AFWRKHX9

Available at CreateSpace <https://wwwcreatespace.com/6519950>



## Workshop Announcement

### Finding Oasis: Music-Making and Poetry at the Well

June 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 11am - 4pm

Fee £45

This workshop, the first in a series, invites you to set aside your busy schedule and focus awhile on your own restoration, refreshment and renewal. This CPD event, led by psychotherapist and [Lifemusic\\*](#) practitioner Jon Blend, is an inter-disciplinary nurture day for therapists, counsellors, trainees and others working with people in a therapeutic or pastoral capacity. We will explore a variety of music-making and creative-writing activities working in pairs, solo and as a group.

No previous knowledge or experience of music –making or writing ability is needed for this inclusive, fun workshop, which aims to foster ‘communitas’ and wellbeing. ‘Instant access’ instruments are provided; you are also welcome to bring your own.

#### ***Lifemusic has four precepts:***

1. Everyone is musical
2. There are no ‘wrong’ notes
3. Every sound carries meaning
4. Music-making involves trust



**Venue: 17 Myrtle Road, Acton, London W3 6DX**

Free on-street parking in Myrtle Rd /adjoining streets. Nearest rail link: Acton Central Overground (3 mins walk). Connects Euston, Highbury, Richmond, Stratford. *Bring your own lunch or sample our local cafés / gastropub.*

Buses: 207, 266

#### **Booking/ details:**

contact **Jon Blend** *Member of Vox Anima/ Guild of Lifemusic Practitioners*

Email: [jon.blend335@gmail.com](mailto:jon.blend335@gmail.com)

Tel: 020 8992 1982

# News from the Gestalt Institute of Nepal

I am very happy I am so happy to send you some news from our Institute.

In March 12 students of our first gestalt group graduated after 4 years of gestalt education.

You can see them on our facebookpage /gestaltinnepal or on [www.gestaltinnepal.com](http://www.gestaltinnepal.com) Please take a look.

There are some beautiful photos! It was great!

5 of them have given a presentation.

The rest of them will do it in November.

4 of them are following a training as junior trainer. They are doing very well! In March we also started with a 3<sup>rd</sup> group of students.

We are also very happy that we are able to support two of the graduates to go to the research conference in Paris in May with some of the money we got from the AAGT committee. Hopefully it goes better with the visa this time. We do not give up.

The latest good news is that the institute has been nominated this month for the Dr. Guislain Award in Belgium by our Belgian Gestalt colleagues. [www.drguislainaward.org](http://www.drguislainaward.org)

This is an annual award for a person or organization who do something extra ordinary in the field of mental healthcare to break the chains of stigma.

Even when we don't win it, the nomination is great and the staff and the students feel very thankful with the recognition for their work.

I am very happy to let you know this, because your committee also gave us already recognition and support. We still appreciate it.

Our website: [www.gestaltinnepal.com](http://www.gestaltinnepal.com)

Thank you so much for your support

Kind regards,

Greet Cassiers





NEW FROM MANCHESTER GESTALT CENTRE

# TOPICS IN GESTALT THERAPY

## Occasional Kindle Papers by Peter Philippson

The first 6 papers are online at the Amazon Kindle store, for around £2 or local equivalent in other countries. Many of the papers are being translated into different languages. Kindle articles can also be read on computers and tablets. There is also a linked online discussion group. For a list of papers and available translations go to

<<http://www.mgc.org.uk/publications/topics-gestalt-therapy/>>

Contact for the discussion group: [topicsingt@gmail.com](mailto:topicsingt@gmail.com)



Use this link for more information: [topicsingt@gmail.com](mailto:topicsingt@gmail.com)



## GESTALT ASSOCIATES TRAINING LOS ANGELES

### *46<sup>th</sup> Annual European Summer Residential Gestalt and/or Couples Therapy Workshops*

#### **Couples Therapy Training Workshop:**

**July 9 – 15, 2017**

The Couples Program has two levels of training – Basic and Advanced – and offers participants an opportunity to see experienced Couples Therapists (Bob and Rita Resnick) present their model of couples therapy and work live with real couples. Participants will work "hands on" with role-play or model couples with live supervision from faculty. Theory, demonstrations and supervised practice will be part of each day. Additional information: [www.gatla.org](http://www.gatla.org)

**ONE ADDITIONAL MODEL COUPLE NEEDED.**

#### **Gestalt Therapy Training Workshop:**

**July 16 – 28, 2017**

The Gestalt Program has five levels of training from Basic to Master Class (8 -16 participants in a group) and includes daily theory lectures as well as the option of daily individual therapy, practice in trios/quartets and the opportunity to see International Trainers work and relate clinical work to theory. Participants work with live faculty supervision. More than 100 participants attend the program from 30 + countries. Additional information: [www.gatla.org](http://www.gatla.org)

#### **2017 Distinguished Gestalt Visitors:**

Willi Butollo (Germany), Toni Gilligan (UK), Laurence Hegan (UK), Gaie Houston (UK), Malcolm Parlett (UK), Jasenka Pregrad (Croatia), Erik Smith (Denmark).

#### **Meadowlands Hotel Tralee, Ireland**

These two training programs take place at the Meadowlands Hotel: <http://www.meadowlandshotel.com> It is a charming and intimate hotel with Jonny Frank's Bar featuring an open fire and a cascading staircase leading to the Library and many traditional music sessions. There are endless activities for free days: the Ring of Kerry, the Dingle Peninsula with its stunning views of hills, mountains, cliffs, sandy beaches and the charming town and harbor of Dingle, the Skellig Islands just 12 km from the South West Coast, hiking, walking, cycling, horse riding, kayaking, fishing.

#### **Limited Space Still Available**

**Contact:** Rita Resnick, Ph.D., Faculty Chair  
Bob Resnick, Ph.D.

[ritaresnick@gatla.org](mailto:ritaresnick@gatla.org) +1 (310) 826-7700  
[BobResnick360@gmail.com](mailto:BobResnick360@gmail.com) +1 (310) 826-7750

Some partial scholarships available

For additional information, please click on the links, below.

Bob Resnick [BobResnick360@gmail.com](mailto:BobResnick360@gmail.com)

Rita Resnick [ritaresnick@gatla.org](mailto:ritaresnick@gatla.org)





*Janet Ruckert, Ed.D.*

*June 6, 1926 – February 24, 2017*

Janet Ruckert was born in Reno, Nevada and spent her entire youth in Pasadena, California. She majored in history at UC Berkeley, loved the liberal political atmosphere, and “had a lot of fun as an undergraduate”, she says with a twinkle. Rather than finish her masters, she earned a teaching credential to fulfill her dream of living in Europe. She taught with an American staff in Germany and bought a white Speedster Porsche, traveled to Italy to ski, played tennis, and had a good time “without getting into too much trouble.”

Jan moved back to Balboa to enjoy the beach party life. She became bored with teaching 6th grade and enrolled at UCLA to study education and psychology. As a school psychologist in El Segundo (there was a lot of oil money in those days), she gave tests to kids, consulted with teachers, interviewed parents and wrote up the cases, all at one school - unheard of today.

Jan met Bob Martin MSW and Eric Marcus MD at the Westchester Clinic. They were going to Gestalt therapy training in West LA with Jim Simkin once a week. “We need women. Why don’t you come?” She jumped at the chance. Jan Rainwater and Arnold Beisser were participants in the group and Jan became good friends with both of them. Bob Resnick and Gary Yontef, also joined the group. By that time, Fritz Perls’ lectures and demonstrations of the Gestalt method were exciting hundreds of people in LA. Fritz trained in Jim’s group as well as at Esalen. The Gestalt Therapy Institute of Los Angeles was formed in 1969 and Jan was one of its early faculty members. She was a trainer with GTILA for twenty-five years and on the Board for twenty-four more. She continued training with the Pacific Gestalt Institute through 2016. She was also a faculty member of Gestalt Associates Training Los Angeles European Summer Residential Training Program.

Jan’s private practice extended over fifty years. She supervised at the Southern California Counseling Center for over twenty. Jan was Co-Chair of the Scholarship Committee for the first four international conferences for the Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy. In addition to being one of our most creative therapists and trainers, Jan studied watercolor at Venice Art Studios and wrote poetry with Jack Grapes’ UCLA class for decades. She led writing workshops as well.

In the late 70s, a burglary at Jan’s Brentwood home prompted her to look for a security system. When she heard the Beverly Hills police chief was raising Rottweilers and saw her first puppy, Lorelei, she was permanently smitten – the beginning of a deep love for her many furry friends and the end of robberies.

Taking Lorelei to her office led Jan to write *The Four-Footed Therapist: How Your Pet Can Help You Solve Your Problems* and, the following year, *Are You My Dog?* Jan was dedicated to training her many Rottweilers and her last dog, Riley (a poodle). She was a long-time member of the WLA Dog Obedience Club.

Jan had a light touch as a therapist, bringing awareness with humor and a turn of words. She was a patient, warm, and supportive mentor. Her reputation for being able to get people to do things is well known. Last December she said, “My greatest gift was being able to foresee someone’s unrecognized talents and to inspire and challenge the person to realize their full potential.”

“You’d be good at that!” still resonates after she is gone. Jan leaves many friends and colleagues who benefitted from her joy, support, and wisdom.

***Submitted by Liv Estrup April 2017***



## IN THE SILENCE OF HER NEST

By Janet Ruckert

In the cup of her hand, the doggy mid-wife holds the first one, dark face, rust markings, small black lines along the toes. Following each direction according to the manual  
she swings the body up and down      pinches the nose      waits for the breath      waits for the squeal that doesn't come.

Nearby, the mother dog pants      licks the puppy exit on her body,      she issues no more.

After the surgery, after the unborn puppies are removed,  
my dog comes home shaved and without wound.

Her stomach sags with sacks of milk that still believe in miracles of birth,  
she moves into her bed      digs a shallow nest for shadows      that she still believes will come,  
then, just a few feet from my pillow, she falls asleep.

Next morning, she adopts a green, spiked rubber ball which she places between her front feet  
growls when the other dog comes near, carries it from room to room.

At night, it lies near her protruding stomach.  
They say it will takes weeks before she gives it up.

In the silence of her nest,  
I sit beside her,  
stroke her head,  
massage her ears,  
feel the warmth of her body.  
I tell her I will help protect her green ball.  
I tell her that her wound will heal.



*Thank you to Liv Estrup for this submission of Janet's touching poem... Editor*



## Gestalt Prayer

*I do my thing and you do your thing.  
I am not in this world to live up  
to your expectations,  
And you are not in this world to live up to mine.*

*You are you, and I am I,  
and if by chance we find each other,  
it's beautiful.*

*If not, it can't be helped.*

*Fritz Perls, 1969*

# AAGT

Association for the  
Advancement of  
Gestalt Therapy



An International Community

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