

# Editorial

*Keith Tudor and Alayne Hall (Ngati Whatua, Te Rarawa, Tainui)*

E ngā waka, e ngā mana, e ngā hau e wha, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou arā me to whānau hoki. Tenā koutou tenā koutou, tenā koutou, katoa. He tino hari maua, i te tari putanga tuatoru na Ata: *Journal of Psychotherapy Aotearoa New Zealand*. To the many talented and esteemed who are propelled together by the four winds, spread throughout the islands we greet you and your families.

This issue is the third special themed issue of Ata, and reflects the themes of the 2013 NZAP Conference: “Ko Rangitoto te Maunga, Ko Waitematā te Moana | Figure and Ground”. That the Conference — and this issue — has two themes, and that the English phrase was — and is — is not a direct translation of the te Ao Māori theme, reflects the bicultural commitment of the NZAP, the Conference and the journal, and makes the point that things (words, concepts, ideologies, worldviews) cannot be directly translated or transposed — though, of course, they may be imposed. We are grateful that three of the keynote speakers have “translated” their keynotes from the oral medium in which they were delivered (see <http://nzap.org.nz/conference/2013/presentation-videos-public>) to the written form in which they appear in this issue. We are also grateful for the response of a number of the presenters at the Conference who have submitted articles for this issue, some of which will appear in the next, generic issue. We hope that this response and submissions continue to and for the next issue, which is due to be published in July 2014, and, indeed, subsequent issues.

The first article, based on the opening keynote speech of the Conference given by Alayne Hall, takes as its theme “Ko Rangitoto te Maunga, Ko Waitematā te Moana”. Taking Rangitoto and Waitematā as cultural landmarks, Alayne presents an integration and application of a Māori whakapapa construct as a part of a broader project of developing a Māori indigenous psychotherapy in this country. She does this through three discussions: firstly, understanding whakapapa as a social and whānau systems construct; secondly, understanding and integrating Māori methods in the practice of psychotherapy; and thirdly, through a discussion of pūrākau, an indigenous Māori storytelling approach. I (Keith) find Alayne’s korero informative, stimulating and challenging, and particularly appreciate her thoughts about kaupapa research methodologies and method, and the link between these and kaupapa methods in psychotherapy.

The second article, by Dr Farhad Dalal, concerns the psychology, ethics and politics of tolerance and discrimination. In it, he takes issue with the principle of tolerance, and subjects this to a psychological and political analysis. He argues that the ideals of “respecting difference”, “inclusivity”, and “tolerance” “are not only ethical but also always

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political” (p. 159); and for the virtues of discrimination over those of tolerance. Farhad’s article — and his work in general — is wide-ranging, encompassing the significance of the Enlightenment for Western thought; the contribution of philosophical logic and, specifically, what he refers to as the fallacy of the superior virtue of the oppressed; the impact of colonisation on psychology and politics and, specifically, the politics of discrimination and tolerance.

It is a tribute to Farhad’s original and provocative thinking that this article has provoked the first response to an article published in *Ata*. As is usual for a peer-reviewed journal, we asked two colleagues to review Farhad’s (then anonymous) article. One of them gave us a robust critique of Farhad’s article which, in the usual way, we passed on to him, at that stage also anonymously (which is why this process is referred to as “double-blind peer review”). Farhad’s response was equally critical, at which point we asked each party if they would be willing to be revealed to each other so that we could create what we now have in print which is, following Farhad’s article, an extended review/response from Dr Jonathan Fay, and, following that, a brief rejoinder from Farhad. We are grateful to both Farhad and Jonathan for being willing to go “head to head” and, as a result, to give us the benefit of their robust dialogue, a process which we think is stimulating and healthy for the journal and for the profession. In his response Jonathan takes issue with Farhad with regard to the philosophical heritage of psychotherapy which, he argues, is the child of Romanticism; and, more specifically, with regard to the significance of context and of the suffering of the oppressed. For his part, in his final word, Farhad takes issue with Jonathan’s critique and responds by clarifying his thinking about context, power, and culture and biculturalism.

Through this dynamic interaction concerning context, power, culture and biculturalisms we are simultaneously reminded that the influential voice of analytical expertise must be tempered with the bicultural voice of partnership. This is where Māori experiences and the complexities of Māori realities are expressed and legitimised and, in doing so, power differentials elaborated upon within their own terms of understanding. In this the ideas of Heshusius (1994) are useful to encourage a shift from an alienated mode of consciousness to a participatory mode of consciousness.

The third article, by Dr Chris Milton, also based on his keynote speech to the Conference, is an enquiry into “What Analysis Is”. In another wide-ranging contribution, Chris argues that analysis is a phenomenological approach/process of a “living encounter with the unconscious” (p. 193). Central to analysis, a term he uses to encompass different forms of analysis, analytic psychology, and psychotherapy, is the “equilibrium point” which Chris describes as a point between two processes: the manifestation and encounter with the unconscious, and client’s narrative and formulations of narrative about that process (manifestation and encounter). Chris illustrates this point with reference to his own journey in becoming an analyst, and to a fictionalised case vignette.

Some of the NZAP 2013 Conference Organising Committee had attended the Conference of the World Congress of Psychotherapy, held in Sydney in 2011, including the morning Social Dreaming Matrix (SDM) sessions; as a result, they decided to invite Servaas Van Beekum, who had been one of the conductors of the sessions in Sydney, to work together with Hinewirangi Kohu-Morgan and Margaret Bowater (both of whom

had attended the SDM sessions at the Sydney Conference), to facilitate a similar SDM at the NZAP Conference in Auckland. This “Dream Team” accepted the invitation, and conducted the SDM over the three mornings of the Conference; and Servaas has written up his reflections on the process in an article entitled “The Infinite Possibilities from the Ground: Social Dreaming at the 2013 NZAP Conference”. It is, again, both a thoughtful and a provocative contribution; we are grateful to him for presenting this material from the SDM; and we echo his acknowledgement of both Hinewirangi’s and Margaret’s contributions to the SDM which gave rise to the material in the article.

Following this are three articles from three workshop presenters.

In the first, “Is the Earth Dreaming Through Us?”, Margaret Bowater explores dreams as figures that arise out of the ground of sleep. Against this (back)ground, Margaret illustrates major concerns which she sees as facing our profession and our nation at this time, namely the ecological crisis, and the challenge of bicultural engagement, with dream reports. Margaret’s work represents a different approach to working with dreams than that of the SDM, and, again, it is good to have such differences so well illustrated in the journal.

Mary Farrell is well-known to NZAP members for her presentations on psychotherapy and films and TV series. Her article, “Stranger in Paradise”, explores the phenomenon of mixed marriages and, specifically interracial and intercultural marriages, against the background of Shakespeare’s *Othello*. Mary illustrates her paper with quotations from the play, case material and her own experience as a child of a mixed marriage.

Presenters at the 2013 Conference were offered the opportunity to give a Technology, Entertainment, Design (or TED) Talk, which are timed at 18 minutes or fewer. Rod Sandle was one of three presenters who took up this challenge (all of whom delivered on time). In the third and final article from a conference presentation, Rod explores the sexual aetiology of violence and, in doing so, weaves together Freud and Reich, symbols and logic, and relationships between Māori and Pākehā.

A special, themed issue of a journal is just that: an issue which especially focuses on and invites articles to focus on and explore that theme. As part of supporting the congruence and consistency with the theme, we are keen that the selection of “Abstracts” also focuses on the theme. To that end we asked Teresa von Sommaruga-Howard to select articles on the theme of figure and ground; she responded with generosity and speed, for which we are most grateful, and has provided us with a stimulating choice of abstracts woven together with personal, historical and theoretical threads.

We have not included a Glossary in this issue as we think that most of the Māori words used by the contributors are translated, interpreted and/or explained in the context of the article itself. As preparing the Glossary takes some additional time for each issue, it would be useful to have feedback from readers about the usefulness of this feature. As this is the second issue of the Volume, we include indexes (which encompass both authors and subjects in both issues of this Volume of *Ata*), as well as our thanks to the peer reviewers (in addition to the members of our Editorial Board) for their reviews of articles in this Volume:

## EDITORIAL

A. Roy Bowden, Private Practice, Plimmerton  
Louise Embleton Tudor, Youth Horizons Trust, Auckland  
Dr Jonathan Fay, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland  
Dr Gottfried Heuer, Association of Jungian Analysts, London, UK  
Colin Lago, Private Practice, Sheffield, UK  
Dr Andrew Samuels, University of Essex, Colchester, UK  
Charlotte Sills, Private Practice, London, UK  
Margot Solomon, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland

We have had some movement on the Editorial Board since the last issue: we have said goodbye to Dr Jenny Re who has returned to Australia, and we welcome Jacqueline Hielkema in her role as the NZAP Newsletter Editor.

As ever, we thank Hineira Woodard for her interpretations of the abstracts; tena koe, Hineira.

Finally, we thank you, the reader (NZAP member or subscriber), for your continuing support for the journal; we hope you enjoy this issue; and we look forward to editing the next issue.

## Reference

Heshusius, L. (1994). Freeing ourselves from objectivity: Managing subjectivity or turning toward a participatory mode of consciousness? *Educational Researcher*, 23(3), 15-22.