

**Vancouver Island Psychoanalytic Interest Group
Ferenczi Seminar
October 2010 to May 2011
Rose Vasta, PhD
Catherine Young, PhD**

Preamble:

The Vancouver Island Psychoanalytic Interest Group, in conjunction with the Western Branch of the Canadian Psychoanalytic Society (WBCPS) is pleased to offer a preparatory seminar in anticipation of the October 2011 WBCPS conference titled "Ferenczi's Contribution to Contemporary Psychoanalysis".

Sandor Ferenczi was arguably second only to Freud in his contribution to the development of psychoanalytic theory and technique in the early part of the 20th century. However, Ferenczi's theories and technical innovations historically have been bypassed in favor of Freud's metapsychological conceptualizations of mental functioning. Recently, clinicians have rediscovered Ferenczi's clinical wisdom demonstrated in his important writings, as relevant to their clinical work with more regressed and traumatized patients. A short list of Ferenczi's ideas on trauma and psychopathology, countertransference analysis, flexibility of analytic technique, the importance of spontaneity and genuineness, active therapy, analysis of the negative transference, and "return to the womb", gives the clinician an impression of how Ferenczi heralded debates on various aspects of contemporary psychoanalytic technique. This study group will introduce the participants to Ferenczi's important writings dovetailed with contemporary psychoanalytic literature elaborating on Ferenczi's original ideas. While the world was introduced to Freud's concepts of thinking in the 20th century, the 21st century may represent Ferenczi's turn to show us how to focus more on clinical technique and empirical concepts of being.

Recommended Readings:

Ferenczi's *Clinical Diary* is an intimate chronicle of a clinician's self-analysis while working with difficult clients and struggling to both understand and heal troubled spirits. It should be read in conjunction with all the selected readings as it gives the reader insight into Ferenczi's thinking processes while treating patients. The suggested readings are pages 1-111, although the reader is encouraged to read the whole book starting in September. It can be read in parts over a period of time. Ferenczi's *Turn in Psychoanalysis* is a compilation of contemporary papers by analysts illustrating the application of Ferenczian techniques in current day practice. *Psychoanalysis as a Journey* is Franco Borgogno's account of his journey through psychoanalytic theory and technique. He elaborates on the influence of Ferenczi's ideas on his practice illustrating its relevance on contemporary analytic practice. Ferenczi's papers are a selection of his better-known works. Although the quantity of the readings per session seems ambitious, the text is not challenging and easily accomplished spread over a month.

Schedule:

The seminars will be held monthly on Thursdays from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Dates: October 28th, November 18th, January 20st, February 17th, March 10th, April and May

Location: Esquimalt Military Base (specific directions to follow)

Cost: \$ 250 (plus Xerox and three books) Paid directly to the WBCPS.

Faculty: Rose Vasta, PhD, Catherine Young, PhD

Texts:

1. "Psychoanalysis as Journey" by Franko Borgogno, 1999.
2. "Ferenczi's Turn in Psychoanalysis" edited by Peter Rudnytsky, Antal Bokay, and Patrizia Giampieri-Deutsch, 1996.
3. "The Clinical Diary of Sandor Ferenczi" edited by Judith Dupont, 1985.

Course Outline**Session 1: Date: October 28, 2010**

Faculty: Rose Vasta, PhD and Catherine Young, PhD

1. Borgogno – Chapter 8, pp. 150-170
2. Ferenczi, "Psychoanalysis and Education" (1908) in *Final Contributions to the Problems and Methods of Psychoanalysis*, pp. 280-290
3. Ferenczi, "The Elasticity of Psychoanalytic Technique" (1928) in *Final Contributions*, pp. 87-102
4. Ferenczi, "Introjection and Transference" (1909), *First Contributions to Psycho-Analysis*, pp. 35-93

Session 2: Date: November 18, 2010

Faculty: Rose Vasta, PhD

1. Borgogno – Chapter 9, pp. 171-186, Ferenczi,
2. Ferenczi, "The Confusion of Tongues Between Adults and the Child" (1933), *Final Contributions*, pp. 156-167
3. "Return of the Trauma and the Later Work of Ferenczi" 2004, pp. 83-102, in "The Confusion of Tongues" by Philip Van Haute, and Geyskens
4. Ferenczi, "Child Analysis in Analysis of Adults" (1931), *Final Contributions*, pp. 126-142

Session 3: Date: January 20, 2011

Faculty: Catherine Young, PhD

1. Borgogno – Chapter 10, pp. 187-199.
2. Ferenczi, "The Effect of Women on Premature Ejaculation in Men" (1908), *Final Contributions*, pp. 291-294
3. Ferenczi, "The Principles of Relaxation and Neo Catharsis" (1930), *Final Contributions*, pp. 108-125
4. Ferenczi, "Transitory Symptom Constructions During the Analysis" (1912), *First Contributions*, pp. 193-212
5. "The Dream of the Occlusive Pessary" (1915), *Further Contributions to the Theory and Technique of Psycho-Analysis*, pp. 304-310

Session 4: Date: February 17, 2011

Faculty: Catherine Young, PhD

1. Borgogno – Chapter 11, pp. 200-223
2. Ferenczi, “Stages in the Development of a Sense of Reality” (1913), *First Contributions*, pp. 213-239
3. Ferenczi, “The Problem of Acceptance of Unpleasant Ideas” (1926), *Further Contributions*, pp. 366-378
4. Ferenczi, “Thalassa – A Theory of Genitality” (1923), pp. 20-43

Session 5: Date: March 10, 2011

Faculty: Catherine Young, PhD

1. Borgogno – Chapter 12, pp. 224-240
2. Judith Dupont, “Clinical Diary” 1985, pp. 1-111

Session 6: Date: April 28, 2011

Faculty: Rose Vasta, PhD

Ferenczi’s “Turn in Psychoanalysis” 1996:

1. Axel Hofer, “Asymmetry and Mutuality in the Analytic Relationship: Contemporary Lessons from Freud-Ferenczi Dialogue” pp. 107-119
2. Thierry Boknowski, “Sandor Ferenczi: Negative Transference and Transference Depression” pp 120-144
3. Christopher Fortune, “Mutual Analysis: A Logical Outcome of Sandor Ferenczi’s Experiments in Psychoanalysis” pp. 170-188

Session 7: Date: May 26, 2011

Faculty: Rose Vasta, PhD

1. “The Influence of Ferenczi’s Ideas on Contemporary Standard Technique,” Patrizia Giampieri-Deutsch, pp. 224-247
2. Rebecca Curtis, “A New World Symphony: Ferenczi and the Integration of Non-Psychoanalytic Techniques into Psychoanalytic Practice” pp. 248-265
3. Judith Vida, “Wise Baby Grows Up: The Contemporary Relevance of Sandor Ferenczi,” pp. 266-286