

XXth ISA congress, 14-17. July, 2014, Brussels

Nice weather, more than 70 participants from all over the world, 25 lectures, and a most pleasant atmosphere, those were the features of this anniversary happening of the Szondi community at the Brussel's Institut Libre Marie Haps. The ISA congresses started in 1963 and took place since then every three years. At first always in Zürich, but later on they moved to different places in Europe. We could trace the following : XII Liège (1990), XIII Budapest Centennial Anniversary of L. Szondi (1993), XIV Kraków (1996), XV Louvain-la-Neuve (1999), XVI Zürich (2002), XVII Pécs (2005), XVIII Lisbon (2008) and XIX Nice (2011).

We commemorated of course Szondi's 120th anniversary, but also the presentation of Schotte's homage to Szondi for his 70th birthday in 1963, announcing and preparing Schotte's own development of pathoanalysis and finally anthropopsychiatry. The untranslated French homage was published in Szondiana IV.¹ The subtitle of the XXth congress was: to play, build, interpret and create. Each of these verbs appears in psychoanalytic writings of e.g. S. Freud, M. Klein, D. Winnicott, F. Dolto. And in major philosophical one's of the phenomenological school we end this evocation with. The tetrad appealed to many of the speakers.

A great diversity of contributions covered the wide range of approaches that started from Szondi's Schicksalsanalyse: theoretical and clinical explorations; test results examinations for depression, schizophrenia and cross-cultural studies; critical and ethical considerations in the field of mental health, and further developments starting from Szondi's work. Next Szondiana will contain the Acta of the congress. All participants expressed their satisfaction and positive appreciation for the quality of the conferences and for the opportunity of expanding their network.

But Analysis of Destiny and Pathoanalysis share an uncertain future since the mainstream approaches have developed in a direction that rejects the psychoanalytic findings and concepts that start from a recognition of every single person as a consciously and unconsciously driven yet free choosing subject, and not just as a general indistinct prototype of a living species.

This could be one of the meanings of 'playing' by Eugen Fink « Spielend verbleibt der Mensch nicht in sich, nicht im geschlossenen Bezirk seiner seelischen Innerlichkeit, - er tritt vielmehr ekstatisch aus sich heraus in einer kosmischen Gebärde und deutet sinnhaft das Ganze der Welt. »; of Martin Heidegger's building : « Was das Bauen von Bauten in seinem Wesen sei, können wir nicht einmal zureichend fragen, geschweige denn sachgemäß entscheiden, solange wir nicht daran denken, dass jedes Bauen in sich ein Wohnen ist. Wir wohnen nicht, weil wir gebaut haben, sondern wir bauen und haben gebaut, insofern wir wohnen, d. h. als die Wohnenden sind. » ; of interpreting as speaking if we remember the triad Schotte proposed for speaking : to say – talk – speak. Sayings are depleted in the thing to say. Speeches target the intersubjective relationship, and thus an effect in the other or others to win their consent. And speaking, which involves both saying and talking, implies allowing the experience of encounter and transformation of listeners and of the speaking subject. Withdrawing horizon of speaking, interpretation and translation at the risk of missed encounters and destructive transformations. Finally for creating we are referring to Henri Maldiney deceased last year : « Quand je dis le monde, le Y du « il y a » ne peut pas être dans le monde ; il est l'ouvert dans l'éclaircie duquel le monde s'ouvre. »

Let us hope that the ISA can preserve this opening that welcomes both the known and the unknown, the expected and the unexpected, favoring true encounter.

Dr. Robert Maebe

1 SCHOTTE, J., Notice pour introduire le problème structural de la Schicksalsanalyse, Szondiana IV, Beiheft zur Schweizerischen Zeitschrift für Psychologie und ihre Anwendungen Nr.46, pp. 144 – 201, 1963, (*Note to introduce the structural problem in analysis of destiny*)