



English Summaries

Psychoanalysis and Anthropology

ESSAYS

JÚLIA GYIMESI: On the “Sacred Disease”: The Psychodynamics of Epilepsy in Cesare Lombroso’s Criminal Anthropology

Cesare Lombroso was undoubtedly one of the most influential thinkers of his time, whose work had a lasting impact on the emerging fields of psychiatry, psychology, and particularly criminal psychology, despite considerable criticism. His theory of the “epileptic criminal” offered a vivid portrayal of the psychological and psychiatric characteristics of offenders, bringing the psychodynamics of crime to life for his readers. At the same time, the assumed link between epilepsy and criminality was not original to Lombroso but had deep roots in 19th-century medical thought as well as in broader Western cultural traditions. Lombroso’s ideas contributed significantly to the long-lasting stigmatization and social exclusion of people with epilepsy. The persistence of the association between epilepsy and violence throughout the 20th century – despite a growing body of empirical evidence refuting it – can likely be explained by multiple factors, including the historical mystification of epilepsy, the appeal of biological reductionism, and the disorder’s heterogeneous symptomatology.

ÁKOS KORMÁNYOS: A dialogue on development: The early Ferenczi and evolutionary theory at the turn of the century

In this study, we read an early writing of Sándor Ferenczi from the perspective of a cultural historian. Through his writing, we present the new challenges of the history of evolution and explain why it is essential to be aware of them. The text reveals which evolutionary schools reached the young doctor and which of them were close to him. However, through his example, a larger interpretative framework unfolds, which we can apply to the cases of thinkers of the time.

Keywords: Sándor Ferenczi, Darwinism, Lamarckism, catastrophism, evolution, psychoanalysis

RÁHEL CSIZMADIA: Psyche and space: Attempts at reconnection

This study explores how the relationship between psyche and space can be rethought through approaches that reject space as a neutral and static backdrop and instead understand it as a dynamic meaning-making medium. Drawing on the anthropological place-making theories of Keith H. Basso and the phenomenological writings of Edward S. Casey, the paper presents place as a relational and embodied field in which humans and environments are mutually constitutive. Walking then emerges not as mere movement from one point to another, but as a practice of place-making and sense-making. From Michel de Certeau to psychogeography, urban walking appears as a creative and socially critical practice that unsettles dualistic assumptions about space and subjectivity. The final section turns to Martyna Chrzescijanska's concept of psychogeotherapy and examines how therapeutic space changes when the closed logic of containing space is replaced by a more open, relational model shaped by the *dérive* and other psychogeographical ideas. Ecopsychology extends this inquiry beyond built environments toward living landscapes and reconnection with the more-than-human world. Across these perspectives, the study argues that psyche is best understood not as isolated from place, but as formed through ongoing interaction with spatial and bodily relations.

Keywords: place-making, phenomenology, psychogeography, psychogeotherapy, containing space

WORKSHOP

VLADIMIR GLAZUNOV – ELENA BELYAKOVA: Genotropism, Freedom, and Heritability: A Philosophical–Genetic Reconstruction of Leopold Szondi's Fate Analysis

Szondi's concept of genotropism proposes that inherited tendencies bias decisive life choices without abolishing responsibility. This article offers a philosophical-psychological reconstruction of genotropism that preserves the central dialectic of fate analysis while bringing it into dialogue with contemporary behavioural genetics and sociogenomics without reducing it to either field. The reconstruction centres on the familial unconscious, the distinction between compulsive and freely chosen fate, and the mediating role of the Pontifex ego, before turning to behavioural-genetic accounts of structured choice. A vocational case drawn from Achtnich's BBT tradition illustrates how inherited salience, family-mediated expectation, and ego-mediated commitment may converge in the formation of a vocational path. The article argues that genotropism remains conceptually viable not as a literal hereditary theory but as a non-deterministic interpretive framework capable of resisting genetic exceptionalism, genetic fatalism, and fantasies of reproductive optimisation.

Keywords: Szondi, genotropism, fate analysis, familial unconscious, Pontifex ego, behavioural genetics, vocational choice, Berufsbilder-Test, genetic fatalism, bioethics

MÁRTON IVÁNYI: Luther's psychology of rebellion? An interdisciplinary complement to Erikson's perspective – aspects of the history of religion, neurology and other fields in the light of the reformer's life course

Although psychoanalytic interpretations have frequently approached Luther's alleged or actual personality dispositions through the lens of youthful rebellion and identity crisis, such explanations do not exclude, but rather complement, approaches that emphasize the role of socialization and ideological influences. According to Erikson's conception, the identity crisis is not a contingent phenomenon but a normative – indeed, ontological – moment of human development. In this sense, Luther may be regarded as exceptional precisely because he rendered a universal human experience visible: the paradigmatic process of crisis and the search for selfhood. In what follows, we advance several hypotheses – by no means intended as definitive conclusions, but rather as contributions to an ongoing scholarly discussion. Our aim is to supplement the well-established findings of psychological literature with relevant biographical evidence to illuminate further connections. By adopting this perspective, we underscore the inherently interdisciplinary character of the subject, drawing not only upon the insights of psychology but also upon the fields of religious studies, literary history, and theology. Alongside the classical biographical literature, we make particular use of Hungarian-language scholarship published in recent years.

Keywords: Luther, psychobiography, psychoanalysis, youth rebellion, reformation

HANGA TÓTH – YOHANA BENATTAR: Reflective glances: Research-based artistic practices in healthcare institutions

The article reflects on *Cinéma Botanique*, a research-creation project developed within nursing homes, exploring filmmaking as a space of encounter that creates conditions for expanding regimes of attention. Grounded in the philosophy of care and reflexive approaches in anthropology, the article addresses the ethical and methodological tensions that emerged throughout the process. Neither anthropologists nor art therapists, artists are increasingly invited to work within healthcare institutions without a predefined framework of intervention, which calls for an ethics that must be continuously invented, questioned, and negotiated between different actors. Through four propositions developed as an “anti-guide”, the article argues for artistic research that resists standardized methodologies and measurable outcomes. Instead, it conceives filmmaking as a situated, collective practice capable of transforming relationships of care, perception, and coexistence within institutional environments.

Keywords: ethics of attention, care, research-creation, documentary cinema, reflexive anthropology, nursing homes

ARCHIVES

We are publishing **Géza Róheim's letters to classical-philologists Károly Kerényi and Károly Marót, and psychoanalyst Vilma Kovács**. The correspondence between Róheim and Kerényi dates from 1947, during their time in exile in the United States and Switzerland. We are publishing the letters accompanied by a thorough and wide-ranging introduction and notes by **Gabriella Narancsik**, which bring to life the relationship between the two scholars, their academic views and their differences of opinion.

Róheim's letters to the classical philologist Károly Marót reflect their friendship spanning several decades and their scholarly debates. These too are accompanied by an introduction and notes by Gabriella Narancsik.

Róheim's letters to Vilma Kovács are largely accounts of his fieldwork in Australia and Oceania. Another section was written in the late 1930s, during the early years of his emigration to the United States, revealing many disappointments and professional frustrations. The letters are introduced by **Anna Borgos**.

In addition to all this, thanks to the Australian psychoanalysis researcher **Christine Vickers**, and with her introduction, we are publishing a valuable document that has recently come to light: the commemorative lecture delivered by psychoanalyst **Klára Lázár** at a meeting of the Hungarian Psychoanalytic Society in November 1939, following the death of Alice Bálint, which provides a detailed account of and pays tribute to Alice Bálint's work.

Finally, we are republishing **Alice Bálint's** comprehensive study entitled "Totemism", which appeared nearly a century ago, in 1927, in the social sciences journal *Századunk* (Our Century).