
IARPP eNEWS

A Quarterly Electronic Periodical of the
International Association for Relational Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis

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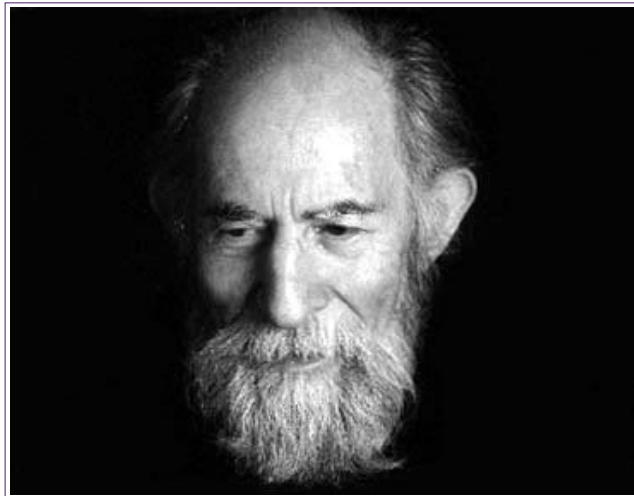
Remembering Mannie

by Lewis Aron, Ph.D.

What I observed about Mannie, over many years as my teacher, supervisor, colleague, and friend, was that Mannie knew how to give. But when I say that Mannie knew how to give, I am referring to more than his kindness and bigheartedness. All of us here know of his generosity. He gave to us in so many ways and with such eagerness. Paradoxically, Mannie gave from the fullness and emptiness

of his being. My recollection of supervision with Mannie is how he would sit and take notes while listen-

was completely with you, not distracted, not attending to other things, just with you.



Mannie gave of his wisdom. He didn't hold back his knowledge or guard it jealously as if he'd lose something by giving it out. He taught by sharing his own experiences. He wouldn't just tell me his thoughts or theories about a patient but would also describe what

he had done in similar circumstances, what he had tried, what he experienced and how it had gone. He tried his best to teach me to use myself fully, to try surprising my patient with the unexpected, with something creative and new, not ing to me talk about a patient. Mannie sat upright in his chair, listening with a calm attentiveness and concentration that seemed most unusual to me. You could sense physically just how present he was with you. When you were with Mannie, you felt that he

he had done in similar circumstances, what he had tried, what he experienced and how it had gone. He tried his best to teach me to use myself fully, to try surprising my patient with the unexpected, with something creative and new, not
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to get stuck in old grooves and routines.

Mannie gave of his zest and enthusiasm. Many of us can remember those heady days when under his guidance we organized the relational track at NYU Postdoc. There were many brilliant minds theorizing this development, but it was Mannie's spirit and enthusiasm that breathed life into the emerging track, that lit the flame which so quickly and passionately ignited what became relational psychoanalysis and so transformed not only the Postdoctoral Program but psychoanalysis itself. He was always searching for new ideas, the latest cutting-edge developments, whether it was infancy research or chaos theory, neuro-psychoanalysis or computer technology, non-linear dynamic systems theory or spirituality. He was never too proud to learn from younger students, to read their articles, take their classes, even to organize their seminars so that he could study with them.

I remember the very first editorial meeting, when Steve brought our initial group together to form

Psychoanalytic Dialogues and I sat across from Mannie in Steve's office feeling so junior and out of my league in the midst of these senior psychoanalytic stars. But Mannie, to my great amazement, treated me as if I actually belonged there and could collaborate as a peer. This gift of respect was astonishing, but it was done quietly, unselfconsciously, effortlessly. Many of you benefited from Mannie in just this way.

When I say that Mannie knew how to give, I also mean that he could give things up. Mannie didn't hold onto things, he could give up power, he could give up his position. He really could surrender. Mannie was among the most senior analysts at NYU. He had been a founding faculty member in 1961, with Bernie Kalinkowitz. He was also a much sought after supervising analyst at the William Alanson White Institute. He did not have to go out of his way to bring in a new generation of faculty. We all know how rare it is for people in power to willingly and joyfully give up their position and empower others. Mannie lovingly

embraced the next generation without conflict, threat, jealousy, or competitiveness.

Mannie was indeed loving and gentle, and he could give in and give up, but he could also slug it out with the best of them. Mannie could stick to his guns when he needed to, gently yet firmly pushing for what he believed, sometimes hammering away, but more often shrewdly, wisely, calculating, strategizing, maneuvering, playing the political game so deftly that people didn't even know that they had been played. Mannie would get you to think that you had gotten just the result that you wanted – which was of course exactly the outcome he had planned for you all along. Adrienne Harris notes “how deeply wonderfully paradoxical his gifts were. Wild man/wise man. Spiritual and gentle but capable of deeply wicked humor. Mannie may have been a gentle soul but actually he was also wonderful in a battle.”

Mannie gave of his time – wow! did he give his time. On April 5, 2003, at Division 39 in Minneapolis, the Board of the International Association for Relational Psychoanalysis and Psycho-

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therapy (IARPP) met.

Mannie of course had been a founder of the IARPP and was serving as both secretary and treasurer of the organization. But at our Board meeting we quickly realized that it would take a large committee of workers, plus a secretary, a treasurer, and a professional team of administrators to even begin to do what Mannie had been doing, and no one would do it with the same personal care and attention. So many have told me how they just could not get over that Emmanuel Ghent, *the* Emmanuel Ghent, had personally bothered to speak to them about all kinds of minor administrative details such as checking on credit card numbers and tracking down mistaken email addresses. Bit it was more than that: it was *how* Mannie did it, with such patience, care, gentleness, and concern for them as individuals.

Mannie left us in good shape. The week before he died we spoke daily about all kinds of plans about the IARPP, the NYU Postdoctoral Program, the Relational Perspectives Book Series, upcoming conferences, a men's group that we were part of, and

new research technology. He seemed really happy and peaceful. He had worked round the clock to help get the IARPP back on its feet after a difficult start. Mannie knew that he had succeeded, that we were out of the woods. He had already spoken with a team of new administrators planning to give over his work to them. He discussed creating a new and improved membership database and improvements for our IARPP Web Site. I told him about some new psychoanalytic research technology and he said with amusement and even excited anticipation that it would make his very own J-List obsolete. Incredibly, Mannie didn't mind. He wasn't holding on to his own contribution – he could appreciate and value what was old, but he was delighted to participate in what was new. I'm so very glad that we all celebrated Mannie's wonderfully rich life with him at the conference in his honor, "For Mannie Who Will Be 75 in the Year 2000!" That was such a joyous occasion.

Mannie, it is so hard to let go. I know how hard it will be for Karen and for your daughters Nadia, Valerie, and Theresa, and for your

grandchildren, Alex, Sara, and Grady, your family who you loved so much, as well as for us, your professional family. Mannie, thank you for teaching me, for trusting me, for inspiring me, for giving so much of yourself to us all, modeling a way of life that lets go: expanding and contracting, asserting and withdrawing, filling and emptying, conquering and surrendering. And now, we too must sadly learn to let go.❖

A Note from the Editor

The two eulogies by Lew Aron and Margaret Black were given at Mannie Ghent's funeral on April 7, 2003. Additional information about Mannie's life can be found in an obituary in MusicBox, at <http://www.newmusicbox.org/news.nmbx?id=00232>

Members are encouraged to forward comments, short pieces of writing, responses, and announcements of upcoming IARPP events:

seth.warren@verizon.net

--Seth Warren, Ph.D.

For Mannie

by Margaret J. Black, C.S.W.

*My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky:
So was it when my life began;
So is it now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die!*
William Wordsworth (1802)

There are many ways to live a life. All of us are privileged to have a hand in shaping something of how we will live ours. Having a hand in the project is decidedly different from having a free

hand - picking and choosing at will - having it just as we want, when and with whom we want.

Our pride does not take well to this qualified involvement. We see the possibilities: we could do life oh so well if we could just do it as we imagine it. And we quickly learn that we are sharing the control with a rather unpleasant collection of additional forces. Many of us, unable to shake off a grim awareness of the stark limitations of health and time, the deep rage over deprivations and cruel losses visited upon us, chafe and fret over the unfairness of it all, disappointed in how the impingement of life's forces has so compromised our vision.

I began to think a great deal about these issues many years ago after seeing Mannie at a psychoanalytic conference we both attended. I was pleased to see him, a fairly new friend at the time, striding into the hall where I was already

seated waiting for the opening address. As he came to the row in which I was sitting, I was happy when he paused to turn in. Perhaps he would sit with me and Stephen. When I looked more directly at him and heard him speak, I was stunned. His hand groped a bit for the back of the chair at the edge of the row. "Are there any seats open in this row?" he asked quietly (but of no one in particular). He didn't recognize us. I realized that he couldn't see - he was basically blind. I later learned he had suffered a recurrence of a chronic medical condition that would plague him for the rest of his life, but, as I could see, would slow him down only a little.

How amazing, I thought: with all the anxiety that most of us can feel in these large and impersonal public meetings, here is this man who has temporarily lost his sight and is moving around in space as though
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he is dealing with a minor inconvenience. I decided he had a sense that his body was only the vehicle he was travelling in, that while he did not ignore or abuse it – he took good care of himself - he also didn't identify himself with it. He worked around it when it was not cooperating with him, held himself apart, did not let "the problem," the limitation, become *him*.

When Mannie first told Stephen and me that he was seriously ill and expected to live only a brief period of time, it must have been at least six years ago. At that time, I carried the information close to my heart and painfully. Mannie had by then become a fundamental feature of my experience. I'm sure his many other friends will recognize the feeling when I say that for me, just knowing he was in the world made life better. The thought of losing him was unimaginable. The thought of Stephen losing him was unimaginable. Respecting

his wishes and not talking to anyone about this was nearly impossible: so many people I loved, loved Mannie, so many of my friends would want to know if he was ill. How could I bear this sense of living on borrowed time with him and not be totally consumed with it?

I quickly learned that Mannie had taken me into his confidence not because he wanted me to be preoccupied with this or because he wanted anything in our relationship to change. Most of us knew him as a brilliant psychoanalyst, but I can attest to his powerful impact as a behavioral therapist, particularly when employing aversive conditioning. If Mannie discerned even a *hint* that I was looking at him differently or sadly, or, even worse, being somewhat solicitous of him, he became ever so slightly but unmistakably impatient and irritated. He did not really seem defensive at these times, but, rather, disappointed, and this reaction *certainly* accelerated the speed of my

learning how to bear this pain without sinking into it.

Miraculously, weeks passed, months passed, years passed. Medical crises came - and went. Mannie survived. I think I began to feel that, rather than living on borrowed time, Mannie would never die. And now I watched him more carefully, sensing there was more to learn. I could see that while Mannie contained experience that was distressing, he gave himself fully over to the pleasures, big and small, that life could bring. He found many rainbows in his life, most of them not in the sky. There was Val's music - he was so proud of her talent. Whenever he spoke of something good happening for his children, his face would light up. And there was his delight in describing how he chased the bats that showed up in the bedroom after he and Karen had gone to sleep one night in their house in the country. There was attending Grady's basketball games. There was his

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IARPP in Melbourne

by Sue Oliver, M.D.

Australia, a vast island with a breathtakingly beautiful coastline, is fondly known as the “land down under.” The city of Melbourne is situated on its east coast, about 600 miles south of Sydney, which is about the same distance as from Cleveland, Ohio to New York City. Australians are best known for our love of sport and the outdoors, but less well known for our love of ideas at the cutting edge of the arts and contemporary psychoanalysis and psychotherapy.

The Melbourne chapter of the IARPP stems from a reading group, founded in 1994 and comprised of graduate women interested in feminism and Jungian studies. The group read a number of authors in the nascent relational field, including the writing of Jessica Benjamin. Two years later Jessica came to Australia and spoke in Melbourne as a guest of Melbourne University’s School of

Social Research. Jim Grotstein also visited Australia later that year.

Inspired by these visits, three main study groups evolved, and now follow the relational literature as well as continuing to forge links with relational analysts in the United States. The first of these groups comprises the Jungians, who in the late 1990s had connections with LaTrobe University in Melbourne. The second draws from the faculty of Psychoanalytic Studies in the English department at LaTrobe University. Third, there are two separate reading groups, one with an interest in relational psychoanalysis and English literature, and another with an interest in relational psychoanalysis and philosophy.

In 1997, a colleague who had taken part in an on-line course in relational thinking with the Psychoanalytic Connection, told several others about

another upcoming course. In 2000, two of us from Melbourne participated in this excellent on-line seminar, “Relational Psychoanalysis: The Emergence of a Tradition.” The course leaders, Stephen Mitchell and Lewis Aron, nurtured us emotionally and intellectually under their caring facilitation. We were totally dumbfounded when Steve tragically died in December 2000, just as the course was finishing. Steve had been so passionate about everything, especially developing the relational movement. He was exceptionally generous in sharing time and ideas, warmly engaging with the ideas offered by the seminar participants.

The Inaugural Conference in Relational Psychoanalysis in January 2002 was a wonderful tribute to Steve’s lively engagement with relational thinking. I was lucky enough to be among a handful of Aus-
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traliens to attend. It was an inspiring and enriching event and as a result, once back in Melbourne and invigorated by the conference, we read and discussed some of the conference papers as well as others from the book ***Relational Psychoanalysis: The Emergence of a Tradition***. The Melbourne groups have enjoyed the rich cross-fertilization of ideas from people interested in the relational tradition from a wide range of backgrounds including Jungians, Gestalt therapists, Systemic Family therapists, Self Psychologists and others. Like our Sydney cousins, we also look forward to enticing some of you back to our shores in the near future. ❖

For additional information about IARPP, see our website at www.iarpp.org.

(*Black, con't. from Page 5*)

pleasured recounting of the early days at Bell Lab when, as a young man, his versatile brilliance qualified him to be among a small group invited to an ongoing, off-hours investigation of the computer's capacities to create music. There was the pleasure he took in creating *J-List*, a computerized program for accessing psychoanalytic journal articles.

And, for most of the journey, Karen was beside him as he engaged passionately in these many and disparate aspects of life. Not always an easy task, for, while ever appreciative of the phenomena of rainbows, Mannie was not a light-hearted rainbow chaser. He was a seriously committed intensely focussed person who, once he got started on something - well, I can imagine it might have been difficult to distract him even for dinner. He had a single-mindedness that I think comes with his kind of brilliance. And he counted on Karen to hold many of the pieces of his

life together that were temporarily separated from his focussed concentration, his gaze directed elsewhere. Karen did this and she did it extremely well. A talented early childhood educator, she created a rich and important family life for Mannie and the children and herself. Her presence and companionship in his life were deeply meaningful for him.

Knowing Mannie was knowing so many different men all at once: someone deeply spiritual who was decidedly irreverent, the gentlest of men, who could be tough as nails. So while we are here to say goodbye to Mannie we are also here to revel in our tremendous good fortune in having passed through life at similar times, to consider how many ways our minds are expanded, our experience of life has become richer - because of him.

I will miss him very much. ❖

SAVE THE DATES

The International Association of Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy Announces Its Second Biennial Conference

WHEN: Thursday, April 29th - Sunday May 2nd, 2004

WHERE: Los Angeles, California
The Loew's Santa Monica Hotel

**TITLE: Unpacking the Clinical Moment: Continuities and
Discontinuities Between Relational Theory And Other Psychoanalytic
Perspectives**

DESCRIPTION: This conference will explore continuities and discontinuities between Relational theory and Freudian, British Object Relations, Kleinian, Self Psychological, Interpersonal, Jungian and Lacanian Perspectives. Four plenary panels will involve clinical case presentations discussed through the lens of multiple theoretical points of view. There will also be Master Class Workshops providing such courses as Key Concepts in the Evolution of Relational Theory, Parallels in Contemporary Self Psychological Relational Theory, An Introduction to the Works of Stephen Mitchell, Social Responsibility, Inclusiveness and Marginalization in Contemporary Psychoanalysis, Zen Buddhism and Relational Theory and much more. Our final panels will summarize the proceedings as well as discuss the future of Relational psychoanalysis.

Please stay posted for further announcements and remember that IARPP members receive a discount on their registration fees

Conference Chair: Philip A. Ringstrom, Ph.D., Psy.D.
Conference Co-Chairs: Spyros Orfanos, Ph.D. and Jody Davies, Ph.D.

**International Association for Relational
Psychoanalysis & Psychotherapy
IARPP/Barcelona**

MAURICIO CORTINA EN BARCELONA

Sábado 17 de mayo, 2003 (9'45 a 14h.)

**Escuela Universitaria de Trabajo Social,
(calle Còrsega, 409 - esquina Milà i Fontanals / Girona)**

**9'45-10h: presentación y coordinación del acto a cargo de Catalina Munar
(Institut Universitari Dexeus, Anne Fundació)**

**10- 11h: presentación de Mauricio Cortina: "La teoría del apego y sus
aplicaciones clínicas".**

11-12h: coloquio con los asistentes

12-12'30h: café

**12'30-14h: presentación de dos casos clínicos a cargo de Mauricio Cortina.
Discusión con los asistentes.**

MAURICIO CORTINA es miembro del "Advisory Council de la IARPP", y es uno de los representantes más cualificados de la perspectiva del "attachment" en el psicoanálisis relacional. Profesor de la "Washington School of Psychiatry", miembro del "Institute of Contemporary Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis of Washington" y del "Instituto de socio-psicoanálisis A.C." en la ciudad de México. Es también co-autor con Mario Marrone del libro de reciente aparición "Attachment Theory and the Psychoanalytic Process", editado por Whurr; y con Michael Maccoby (1996) del libro "A Prophetic Analyst: Erich Fromm's Contributions to Psychoanalysis" editado por Aronson.

INSCRIPCIÓN

El precio es de 30 euros (seguir las instrucciones de la hoja adjunta). Para más información: rieraramon@terra.es

IDIOMA

La presentación de Cortina y el coloquio serán en castellano

COMISIÓN ORGANIZADORA

Catalina Munar, Ramon Riera, Ana Rodríguez, Pepita Rodríguez Molinet, Rosa Royo, Francesc Sainz, y Rosa Velasco.

PRÓXIMAS ACTIVIDADES DE IARPP/Barcelona

Sábado, 5 de Julio: Margaret Crastopol (Northwest Center for Psychoanalysis in Seattle, Washington. William Alanson White Institute for Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy in New York City)

Sábado, 18 de Octubre: Gianni Nebbiosi (Istituto di Specializzazione in Psicologia Psicoanalitica del Sé e Psicoanalisi Relazionale, Roma-Milano-Torino)

**International Association for Relational
Psychoanalysis & Psychotherapy**

IARPP/Barcelona

MAURICIO CORTINA IN BARCELONA

Saturday May 17th, 2003 (9.45 - 14.00)

**University School of Social Work
(409 Còrsega street, corner Milà i Fontanals / Girona)**

**9.45-10.00: presentation and chair: Catalina Munar (Institut Universitari
Dexeus, Anne Fundació)**

**10.00- 11.00: presentation by Mauricio Cortina: "Attachment theory and its
clinical applications."**

11.00-12.00: debate with the audience

12.00-12.00: coffee

**12.30-14.00: presentation of two clinical cases by Mauricio Cortina. Discussion
with the audience**

MAURICIO CORTINA is a member of the Advisory Council of IARPP, and he is a qualified representative of the "attachment" perspective in relational psychoanalysis. He also is a member of the Washington School of Psychiatry, member of the Institute of Contemporary Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis of Washington and of the Instituto de socio-psicoanálisis A.C. in México. He is also co-author with Mario Marrone of the recently published book "Attachment Theory and the Psychoanalytic Process", published by Whurr; and with Michael Maccoby (1996) of the book "A Prophetic Analyst: Erich Fromm's Contributions to Psychoanalysis", published by Aronson.

REGISTRATION

Registration fee is 30 Euros

More information at rieraramon@terra.es

LANGUAGE

Cortina's presentations and discussions with the audience will be in Spanish.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Catalina Munar, Ramon Riera, Ana Rodríguez, Pepita Rodríguez Molinet, Rosa Royo, Francesc Sainz, and Rosa Velasco.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES OF IARPP/Barcelona:

Saturday, July 5th: Margaret Crastnopol (Northwest Center for Psychoanalysis in Seattle, Washington. William Alanson White Institute for Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy in New York City)

Saturday, October 18th: Gianni Nebbiosi (Istituto di Specializzazione in Psicologia Psicoanalitica del Sé e Psicoanalisi Relazionale, Roma-Milano-Torino)