

# IN CONVERSATION WITH DONNA ORANGE (USA) NOURISHING THE INNER LIFE OF CLINICIANS

# A One-Day Special Training Event 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017

## Overview

Nourishing the Inner Life of Clinicians and Humanitarians: The Ethical Turn in Psychoanalysis, demonstrates the demanding, clinical and humanitarian work that psychotherapists often undertake with fragile and devastated people, those degraded by violence and discrimination. In spite of this, Donna M. Orange argues that there is more to human nature than a relentlessly negative view. Drawing on psychoanalytic and philosophical resources, as well as stories from history and literature, she explores ethical narratives that ground hope in human goodness and shows how these voices, personal to each therapist / analyst, can become sources of courage, warning and support, of prophetic challenge and humility which can inform and guide their work. Over the course of a lifetime, the sources change, with new ones emerging into importance and others receding into the background.

Donna Orange uses examples from ancient Rome (Marcus Aurelius), from twentieth century Europe (Primo Levi, Emmanuel Levinas, Dietrich Bonhoeffer), from South Africa (Nelson Mandela), and from nineteenth century Russia (Fyodor Dostoevsky). She shows how not only can their words and examples, like those of our personal mentors, inspire and warn us, but they also show us the daily discipline of spiritual self-care. Although these examples rely heavily on the discipline of spiritual reading, other practitioners will find inspiration in music, visual arts, or elsewhere and replenish their resources regularly.

Nourishing the Inner Life of Clinicians and Humanitarians will help to develop a language with which to converse about ethics and the responsibility of the therapist/analyst. Her latest book is an exceptional contribution and highly suitable for practitioners and students of psychoanalysis and psychotherapy.

#### Presenter

**Donna M. Orange** teaches, consults, and offers study groups for psychoanalysts and gestalt therapists. She seeks to integrate contemporary psychoanalysis with radically relational ethics. Recent books are Thinking for Clinicians: Philosophical Resources for Contemporary Psychoanalysis and the Humanistic Psychotherapies (2010), and The Suffering Stranger: Hermeneutics for Everyday Clinical Practice (2011).

#### Host

Claire Taubert is Co-founder and former Director of Gestalt Therapy Australia. She has been involved in the Gestalt community as a student, trainer, therapist, supervisor and member of the GANZ council for over 20 years. She was originally trained in Melbourne and San Diego and has furthered her interests in relational Gestalt with ongoing training with the Pacific Gestalt Institute (USA). Claire is interested in how early relational experience manifests as enduring character styles in adulthood. Her interest in developmental processes extends to the therapeutic process, how groups develop and function as an entity and the process of training therapists.

# Who should attend?

Psychotherapists, psychologists, counsellors or anyone wanting to further their understanding of the relational turn in psychotherapy.

## General Information

Venue / GTA 333 Heidelberg Rd Northcote
Dates / 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017
Time / 9.30am - 5.00pm
Fee / Full Registration \$440 / Early Bird & GTA enrolled Student \$330
Early Bird / Ends 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017
Register / trybooking.com/247800