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THALASSA is the journal of the Sándor Ferenczi Society, Budapest.

THALASSA is the title of Sándor Ferenczi's classical work.

THALASSA symbolically refers to the sea, the womb, the origin, the source.

THALASSA is an interdisciplinary journal devoted to free investigations in psychoanalysis, culture and society.

THALASSA has roots in the historical traditions of Hungarian psychoanalysis, but is not committed to any particular school or authority.

THALASSA welcomes all original contributions, historical, theoretical, or critical, dealing with the common problems of psychoanalysis and the humanities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT ISSUE (2009/3)

MAJOR ARTICLES

Sándor Ferenczi studied at the medical faculty of the Vienna University between 1890 and 1895. Based on archival sources found in the Archives of the Vienna University, **FERENC ERŐS**, in his article **Sándor Ferenczi's apprenticeship in Vienna**, reconstructs, semester by semester, Ferenczi's university curriculum, the names of his professors and the titles of the courses taught by them. The author draws a broader scientific and social-historical context of Ferenczi's studies: the achievements and orientation of the "Vienna Medical School" in the late 19. century, and the significant presence of Hungarian Jewish students at the medical faculty.

In his essay **Did Freud read Shakespeare in a proper way?** **LÁSZLÓ HALÁSZ** presents a close rereading of *Hamlet*, confronting and analysing various interpretations of Shakespeare's work, including the views of such diverse authors as Dover Wilson, Ernest Jones, Otto Rank, Theodor Reik, Nicolas Abraham, Norman Holland, Jacques Lacan, Heinz Kohut, Erik

Erikson, Kurt Eissler, Meredith Skura, John Russell and John Lee. The author points out that they not only divergent, but occasionally contradict each other (and, which is more important, sometimes Shakespeare`s text, too). According to the final conclusion of the paper, it is an emphatic search for identity of the two protagonists that strongly unites Sophocles` *Oedipus Rex* and Shakespeare`s *Hamlet*. Even if the ways of the heroes` (self)reflections are different, owing to the historical age, their social situation and their individual endowments, this difference is not greater than that of their Oedipus-complex.

WORKSHOP

ANDREA LÁNYI-WOLFF, Sublimated sexuality in Hungarian folk songs: a psycho-phonetic study

According to István Hollós (1872–1957), the Hungarian psychiatrist, psychoanalyst, who approached language development from psychoanalytical perspective, the parallel formation of self and language follows the Freudian psychosexual developmental phases, and phonation is explained by Hollós as sublimation process. The special developmental phases, oral, anal, (urethral) and genital, can be detected in the groups of sounds, too. Sounds that are formed by sublimation in the genital phase are /r/ and /l/, are, in Hollós`s terms, “love sounds”. In her present study the author investigates these “love sounds” by estimating their frequency distribution in a sample of Hungarian folk songs assuming, that these songs, being creations of sublimated instinctual drives, are filtered with codes of sexuality. The sexual content of the songs are evaluated by different groups of young audience.

ARCHIVES

In this section we publish the first Hungarian translation of two texts by **SÁNDOR FERENCZI**. The first is his paper “The psycho-analysis of suggestion and hypnosis” (1912), that was published so far only in English, and not identical with his article “Szuggesztió és pszichoanalízis” [Suggestion and psychoanalysis], originally published in Hungarian in 1911. The second is a 1921 review on Georg Groddeck`s novel *The Seeker of Souls* [Der Seelensucher. Ein psychoanalytischer Roman]. In this section we also publish excerpts from **SANDOR S. FELDMAN**`s book *The Mannerism of Speech and Gestures in Everyday Life* (1959). **SANDOR S. FELDMAN** (Feldmann Sándor, 1889–1973) was a Hungarian-born psychoanalyst, pupil of Sándor Ferenczi and follower of Wilhelm Stekel. After

leaving the Hungarian Psychoanalytical Society, he co-founded the Hungarian Association for Independent Medical Analysis in 1929. He emigrated to the US in 1939, and practiced psychoanalysis in Rochester, New York. The excerpts are introduced by the translator **NOÉMI FÖLDES**.

In the **FORUM** section we publish ISTVÁN HÁRDI's article **Houdini (Contributions to the art psychology of masochism)**. The subject of the essay is the life history of Harry Houdini, the famous illusionist (1874–1926), who was born in Hungary as Weisz Erik. The author focuses on the role of masochistic tendencies and maternal attachments in the development of Houdini's extraordinary achievements.

We accept contributions in Hungarian, English, German or French. Authors are requested to provide their papers with an English and/or Hungarian summary. Original articles, reviews, reflections, and suggestions should be sent to Dr. Ferenc Erős, Institute for Psychological Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Victor Hugo u. 18–22, H-1132 Budapest.

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THALASSA is published by the Thalassa Foundation, Budapest (address above).

The present issue of THALASSA was supported by the National Cultural Fund of the Republic of Hungary.

Thalassa is edited in cooperation with the “Theoretical psychoanalysis” PhD program of the Doctoral School in Psychology of the University of Pécs, and of the Institute for Psychological Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.