

Introduction to the Book Event about the book *Psychoanalysis of the Psychoanalytic Frame Revisited. A New look at Jose Bleger's Classic Work*

My name is Silvia Flechner, Chair of Publications Committee from the IPA, it's a big satisfaction to share this book event with all of you.

It's a pleasure and an honor to present this book event: *Psychoanalysis of the Psychoanalytic Frame Revisited. A New Look at José Bleger's Classic Work* Edited by Carlos Mogueillansky & Howard B. Levine under the direction of Gabriela Legorreta, past Chair of Publications Committee of the IPA.

Thinking about the history of the movement that the work of José Bleger has produced, we find that in 1957, he wrote about the psychoanalytic session using Pichon Riviére's hypothesis, positing the session as a "dialectical spiral" woven between the patient's associations and the analyst's interpretations. Sometime later, David Liberman and his collaborators referred to the "psychoanalytic contract." In 1962 Willy and Madeleine Baranger described the analytic situation as a "dynamic field." This group of analysts and others, were the seeds of the Rio de la Plata Psychoanalytic development.

The chapter on the notion of setting, by Bleger, is included in his book published in 1967, *Symbiosis and ambiguity*. Understanding the ambiguous character of the "agglutinated nucleus," which, according to Bleger's thought, is the mode of operation of the symbiosis, he was thus able to distinguish the frame advantageously. With its rigidity and repetitive character, the frame was thus the perfect place for refuge from ambiguity.

During the pandemic, all of us, psychoanalysts, analysts, supervisors, and candidates leaned increasingly on technology and virtual communications, which has significantly changed from our classical labor. The changes due to the pandemic led us to review our whole work. Also, the setting was included—reviewing his state and status, searching for its limits, and surprising scopes. Another book written by Isaac Tylim and Adrienne Harris called "Reconsidering the Moveable Frame in Psychoanalysis" starts considering Bleger's oeuvre and also focusing on his concept about the setting. John Churcher and Leopoldo Bleger wrote the introductory chapter about José Bleger and his thoughts about the frame. The context of Argentine psychoanalysis in the fifties and sixties is described there. Bleger's work provides an excellent example of the thread through which Argentine psychoanalysis has been shaped. The founders of the Argentine psychoanalytic group were not only interested in "classical" psychoanalytic practice. But also in its application to problems such as psychoses, psychosomatic illnesses, difficulties in child psychoanalysis, and working with groups and with institutions.

This time of uncertainty that we are living, with pandemic, war and their multiple consequences are not new situations. Let's remember Freud and his pain over the death of his daughter Sophie due to the Spanish flu while his sons were on the front lines. Perhaps in difficult times, we need to consider a movable frame. This could be a new area of

investigation. But we know that nothing replaces the presence and the setting with the analyst and his patient.

The book about Bleger revisited became a classic in Latin America, and we think that Bleger ideas are very respectable by other IPA analysts. The analysts invited today, are ready to express their thoughts, raising new questions and formulations, thus renewing the ways of thinking about it.

The Publications Committee is very grateful to the participants and analysts who connected to share this event.

Let me introduce my colleague and member of the Publications Committee, Natacha Delgado, who will moderate with me this enriching dialogue. Natacha is a graduated member of the Argentine Psychoanalytic Association. She works in private practice in clinical psychoanalysis and has translated numerous articles – mainly from English into Spanish.

Since the beginning of her training, she has actively participated in IPSO and different committees at the Argentinian Psychoanalytic Association.

Silvia Flechner

Chair Publications Committee IPA