

Review of: "Psychotherapy as a Subversive Art"

Theodor Itten

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

„Words, words, words, “comes to mind when I read this cleverly and well formulated art-icle, form a colleague who has spent some valuable time of his life time in a library – even his own – to summon up the philosophical and social phenomenological arguments pertaining, part of them issues of what constitutes “theory & praxis”. Again, the song from “My fair Lady”, goes on, when she sings: “sing me no song, read me no rhyme, don’t waste my time, show me!”

There we are, no “show me” in this wording, no practical praxis example, no field notes of how his psychotherapy, as a healing art, truthfully functions. And, further, no sensible argument, why it is supposedly to be “subversive”. To what and to whom? is not specified, except the old story of bourgeois habits and values.

Old hats, of course, are good to wear once in a while. But then, David Cooper, as one specimen of our trade, has shown in his life and praxis where the opening of boundaries can lead, to make a revolution in avanti-psychiatry. Just mention him, since the author brings in “Mary Barnes”. Who still knows her story of Kingsley Hall as a journey through madness?

Let’s give him a chance to show us!