

GLOSARIO FERENCIANO INGLÉS.

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THE “AHA” EXPERIENCE (*Aha-Erlebnis*)

This is the moment when intellectual understanding (Einsicht) combines with emotional experience (Erlebnis), and the full meaning of an important factor in life emerges. In the psychoanalytical setting, it is when a number of interpretations connect and ‘dawn’ on patient or analyst in a major way. They feel tremendous physical pain, joy or release, as well as major insight into their lives.

THE ALLOPLASTIC AND THE AUTOPLASTIC (*Allo- und Auto-plastik*)

The dual form of psychosomatic adaption (Anpassung). The auto-plastic is the early infantile, pre-oedipal form, which expresses ‘body memories’, that is, experiences which are not verbally mediated. As such, it follows, modifies and disrupts internal bodily processes. The hysterical ‘lump in the throat’ (globus hystericus), ‘false pregnancies’, and tumours are prototypes here. The allo-plastic form is a later, post-oedipal development. It therefore shapes itself symptomatically around interactions with the external world. The prototype here is failure, paralysis or part-disablement of those organs that negotiate ‘outer space’ (sic.) for us, namely eyes, ears, vocal cords, hands, arms or legs (cf. Laplanche and Pontalis, 1980, pp. 48-9).

THE WISE-BABY PHENOMENON (*in English in original, and gelehrter Säugling*)

This relates to a common dream in which babies speak with great wisdom about the world. Ferenczi views this as illustrative of the ‘clear-sightedness of the uncorrupted child’. The ‘wise baby’ voices the ‘language of tenderness’ which often lies repressed beneath numerous layers of the ‘language of passion’.

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