



SLOVENSKÁ
PSYCHOANALYTICKÁ
SPOLOČNOSŤ

SLOVAK STUDY GROUP

INVITATION

Psychoanalytic Atelier

Holding and Containing:

On the Specificity of Winnicott's Object Relations Theory

Jan Abram

presents a two part seminar series

Holding and Containing: on the specificity of Winnicott's object relations theory



30.- 31.5. 2026

Jelenia 11, Bratislava 811 05

180 € / 90 € for SPS members

Capacity: 20 participants

Contact babik@psychoanalyza.sk
for details

Saturday 30th May 9.00 - 2.00pm (lecture and small group discussions)

Winnicott reads Freud

This part examines the meaning of holding and containing in relation to the specificity of

Winnicott's object relations theory. The holding concept refers to the psychic receptivity of the 'environment mother' while containing, Jan suggests, is an aspect of holding, that signifies the mother's ability to psychically survive as the 'object mother' during the infant's very early moments. Jan highlights how Winnicott was influenced by Freud's footnote of 1911 when he exclaimed 'there's no such thing as a baby'!

Sunday 31st May 9.00 - 2.00pm (lecture and small group discussions)

Winnicott writes to Bion

After Bion presented his paper 'Differentiation of the psychotic from the non psychotic personalities' Winnicott wrote him a letter on October 7th, 1955. Jan will examine Winnicott's suggestion to Bion of a different interpretation that takes account of the patient's early psychic environment. This will lead on to her interpretation of Winnicott's 'use of an object' that illuminates the 'momentous step' towards maturity and the capacity to live in a world of perceived objects.

Professor Jan Abram PhD

Jan Abram is a training and supervising analyst of the British Psychoanalytical Society and in private practice in London. She is President of the European Psychoanalytical Federation and Visiting Professor of the Psychoanalysis Unit, University College London.

Jan Abram has published several books and articles notably:

The Language of Winnicott, first published in 1996 (Outstanding Academic Book of the Year in 1997) (2nd edition 2007 and translated into several languages; Classic Book PEP);

Donald Winnicott Today (2013) for the New Library of Psychoanalysis (shortlisted for a Gradiva Award);

The Clinical Paradigms of Melanie Klein and Donald Winnicott: comparisons and dialogues (co-authored with R.D.Hinshelwood Routledge 2018);

The Surviving Object: psychoanalytic clinical essays on psychic survival-of-the-object New Library of Psychoanalysis, Routledge (2022)

and the second book with R.D. Hinshelwood: *The Clinical Paradigms of Donald Winnicott and Wilfred Bion: comparisons and dialogues* (2023) (shortlisted for a Gradiva Award)

janabram.com- for further details