



American Society of Group Psychotherapy & Psychodrama

71ST Annual Group Psychotherapy & Psychodrama Conference

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WELCOME FROM ZERKA T. MORENO



It is always hard to find something new to write about a man who has been and still is, widely quoted, written about, a great personality, and whose creative contributions to our social world is now so well known around the globe, after his 1974 death. In 2014, we will be celebrating his 125th birthday. His basic first contributions were practiced and reported in Austria before the First World War, in and around Vienna. Regrettably, the majority of these philosophical and mystical works remain in the German language and are lost to English speaking colleagues. Hopefully, that can be solved in future.

The fact that you are here, and that the ASGPP is here, shows that the future is here.

What we have been endowed with is the spirit and generosity that runs throughout us, the awareness that without this awakening us to the central positions of creativity and spontaneity, of our inner God-like being, of co-creators of the universe, and our capacity to help to create that world, would lack the essence of our lives.

We often overlook our ability to ignore our capacity to laugh, that laughter is a great healer. When we worked with psychotic patients, I found new energy in laughter, and rediscovered laughter, laughter not at anyone, but with one another. We laughed at the many idiocies of those so-called sane folks.

Moreno made jokes at himself as well as at those sanes. Warming up a public session at our 78th Street Institute one evening he asked a young woman: Are you married, single or mingled?

Good note to start on. I do not have any idea what the session was about, but never forgot the start.

Have a fine conference, memorable encounters and much fun.

Love to you all,
Zerka
