We are still in sad times of pandemic by COVID-19, crossed by millions of deaths in the world. We have lost loved ones, family members, neighbors, distant acquaintances and all other unknowns, added to the daily death count. The symbol of death invaded the collective consciousness and, in order to elaborate its potent role in the current human trajectory, we must be willing to carry out a descent into the underworld, a theme so common in heroic sagas. We summon Hermes, god psychopomp conductor of souls who dominates the darkness and knows the paths and crossroads, to guide us in this task. Because death, concrete or symbolic, is inherent in life and necessary for us to adapt to the new, being part of the entire transformation process.

To carry out this journey, we need, in addition to a guide, an inspiration, an example of the personification of the action of the hero archetype, which constellates our courage and hope. The SBPA community elected Dr. Nise da Silveira, Northeastern physician and psychiatrist, who with affection, sensitivity and creativity invoked the god Eros to care for and promote transforming relationships, whether with people, animals, images or paints. Her life and work were the themes that guided the articles that make up the dossier in her honor, in this volume of Junguiana.

This issue begins with two testimonials: “Nise da Silveira, the light brisa of the wind that removes mountains”, originated in the author’s experience while reading for her the Bible in King James’s version, when she was ill. “Nise and the TAO”, reports the encounters between Dr. Nise, an innovator in the humanization of the treatment of serious mental illnesses, and Master Liu Pai Lin, a Taoist physician and former Chinese general. The text “The daring and the abyss” introduces the interview published in Psicopombo in 1998, conducted by Roberto Fernandes, confirming Nise’s rebellious and irreverent side.

Following these experiential texts, we present the articles that complete the dossier. “The art of differentiating the human way - Nise da Silveira: the missing link between two traditions” draws interesting parallels about God, man and the psyche, elaborating a dialogue between C.G. Jung’s psychology and Baruch Spinoza’s philosophy of immanence, based on the work “Cartas a Spinoza”. In “Paintings of a psychiatric patient: the uncountable states of being”, the author followed the plastic production of a psychiatric patient, seeking to understand this material according to the teachings of Dr. Nise. Article “Fundamentals of Nise da Silveira’s method: clinic, society and creativity”, considers the three dimensions: “catalyst affection”, “self-healing forces of the unconscious”, and “emotion of dealing”, the epistemological foundations and the praxis of the psychiatrist from Alagoas. Last but not least, “Dialogues between Nise and Jung: the expressive work of Nise da Silveira and its contributions to analytical psychology” recalls that the work with schizophrenia-
ics and reading images used in the Museum of Images of the Unconscious are a legacy, a source of research and study.

This edition also has other diverse themes: in “Theater process – a journey of the PSIQUE” the author seeks to expand the theatrical phenomenon, through the reading of analytical psychology, and investigate psychic understanding in the elaboration of the subjectivity developed by the theatrical process beyond the mise-en-scène. The article “Adultescence - on the way to maturity in the contemporary world” is dedicated to reflecting on the transition from adolescence to adulthood, which, in some cases, can be experienced with great difficulty. We ended with “The search of quaternio - the institution of the fourth function” which brings the realization of the need to implement a fourth power, which translates a true democratic regime with a dynamic of conscience that encompasses both the individual and the collective relationship, contributing to the implementation of a regime of encounter and containment of the other.

We hope that the set of texts will collaborate with some reflections and transformations that are only possible with the participation of Hermes and Eros.

Good reading!

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Editors