

An unique opportunity to explore

The Erotic Transference

Join us for 4 days with **Willem Poppeliers**
founder of **Sexual Grounding Therapy**®

18 - 21 November 2010, North London



“Most therapists recognize the inappropriateness of sexual relationships with clients. However, this is often translated into a belief that there should be no sexual feelings between therapist and client, or at least, these should not be admitted to. This denial and repression of the erotic feelings inevitably present at times between therapist and client during, leave all parties vulnerable to unconscious acting out, both during therapy and after the therapeutic contract has ended”.

Willem Poppeliers

The Erotic Therapist as Mirror

Therapists know that children need to be properly mirrored by caretakers in order to internalise healthy self-concepts. Redeeming the myriad ways in which this process can go amiss is at the heart of all therapeutic endeavours and as such has rightly been the subject of much study, particularly in the Object Relations' school of psychoanalysis. What has received little attention, however, is our prime human need to be *sexually mirrored*. Despite good intentions in most families, age-old cultural difficulties regarding the body and sex have meant that the need for Sexual Mirroring has largely remained unrecognised, leaving a crucial void in our development as whole persons. Society at large compounds the problem with a tendency to over-stimulate the *idea* of sex and gender, leaving everyone vulnerable to exploitation, shame and many other possible forms of subtle or overt sexual misuse.

Yet we are at core sexual beings and throughout our lives we constantly develop our sexuality within specific phases. Unaware of the lack of stage-appropriate sexual mirroring, we struggle to achieve realistic and satisfying gender identities, while fulfilling relationships based on loving exchange can seem beyond our dreams. Eventually, we may seek help from a professional and are frequently let down again.

How can therapists and educators – who have, in all likelihood not received positive sexual mirroring themselves - provide what is needed for their clients or students? Without awareness of what is missing, let alone the skills to constructively engage this powerful dynamic, the stage is set for a transference, erotic *'folie a deux'*. This may, at best, simply repeat familiar patterns, but may also cause serious psychological harm.

This four-day training provides an in-depth understanding of the dynamics at play within the erotic transference. Participants will learn not only how to recognise and avoid inevitable traps, but, more importantly, will gain the practical knowledge involved in utilising this vital force as an ally to profoundly deepen their professional confidence and effectiveness.

Who is this training for?

This is a professional training event open only to qualified practitioners: counselors, psychotherapists, body-therapists, workshop leaders, supervisors, trainers, sexologists and other relevant professionals who want to gain a clear and precise understanding of how to work with the erotic transference and counter-transference safely and effectively and find the confidence to explore things they had never imagined they could do in therapy. If you are interested but not sure whether this is for you, please contact us.

The Training Team

Willem Poppeliers. Born in the Netherlands in 1944, Willem is a developmental psychologist, body-psychotherapist in Bioenergetics Analysis and Neo-Reichian Therapy and a supervisor with more than 30 years of experience. He is the founder of Sexual Grounding Therapy® (SGT). This effective form of psychotherapy and self-development, developed by Willem in the early 1990's, is practiced mostly in a group format. SGT is rooted in Poppeliers' pragmatic theory and is an innovative approach to systemic, body-oriented depth psychology and sexual therapy. Dealing in a clear, direct and pure way with all delicate issues around sexuality and relationships, it offers the missing piece to many psychotherapeutic methods. Willem works as a freelance-trainer for different institutes in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Mexico and the U.S.A, but this is the first time he has taught in London.

Valquria Martani Sarti. Born in Brazil in 1950, Valquria trained in body-psychotherapy, and studied Energetic and Postural Integration, Gestalt Therapy and other bodywork techniques. She started her private practice at the Wilhem Reich Institute of Mexico in 1987. For ten years she was co-trainer to Poppeliers in Sexual Grounding Therapy courses in Mexico. She lives and works as a trainer and supervisor in body-psychotherapy in northwest Spain, where she is currently studying Family Therapy.

Helena Lovendal-Duffell. Born in Denmark in 1958, Helena has been in private practice as a psychotherapist since 1989, and was faculty member at the Institute of Psychosynthesis in London for six years before becoming a free-lance trainer and supervisor in 1996. She is the co-founder of The Centre For Gender & Psychology and Creative CoupleWork, offering workshops and trainings in the UK and Europe, and co-authored the acclaimed '*Sex, Love and the Dangers of Intimacy*', (HarperCollins Thorsons, 2002). She lives with her husband close to nature deep in southwest France.

Both Valquria and Helena are qualified Sexual Grounding Therapists® and Trainers, and will be assisting Willem, who will lead the course. For further information about Sexual Grounding Therapy® see: www.sexual-grounding-therapy.co.uk

Dates & Times Thursday 18 - Sunday 21 November 2010, 10am till 5.30pm all days.

Venue & Cost The Active Birth Centre, Bickerton House, 25 Bickerton Road, London N19 5JT. Course fees are £550.00 for the four days.

Booking procedure For more information and application form, contact Helena on genderpsychology@btinternet.com or leave a message on 00 44 (0) 2072677098.

Other relevant events

This training is a stand-alone event. However, it is also an excellent introduction into other trainings and personal development courses offered by The Centre for Gender & Psychology during 2011/12.

Gender, Identity, Sexuality & Ground: An introduction to Gender Psychology and Sexual Grounding Therapy, 10–13 February 2011, near Henley-on-Thames, England.

More details: <http://www.genderpsychology.com/professionalprogramme.htm>

International Sexual Grounding Training: Four weeklong modules March 2011 – March 2012, near Girona, Spain. More details: www.sexual-grounding-therapy.co.uk

Diploma course in Creative CoupleWork. Four five-day modules May 2011 - October 2012, near Girona, Spain. More details: www.creativecouplework.com

For further details please visit our websites or contact us at genderpsychology@btinternet.com