SPARAGMOS:

Fragmentation from the Mythological to the Clinical

Richard Wolf Nathan

Riccardo Bianco

1. Prolegomena

- Fragmentation is a metaphorical term " ... referring to something else ... "
- Fragmentation is an archetypal term: characterizing the profound ... depth
- Fragmentation is the opposite of integration

2. Program

- We will seek existing analogies between Man's ancient stories of Fragmentation and the conditions in which human suffering occurs.
- We recognize in psychic dis-ease a condition of existential suffering.
- Drawing these themes together we seek new information for new meanings.

3. General Picture

- Ancient Stories: the Myths
- Man: Suffering and loss of human contact, language and consciousness, language and confusion of logical typology.
- The Mental Process and the mind-body split: the holistic perspective.

4. Glossary

- Wholeness, Fragmentation
- Metaphor, Archetype, Analogy
- Relationship, Language, Consciousness, Myth
- Embryology, Evolution

5. First argument: the Ancient Stories

- The Myth
- Isis and Osiris: an early story of sparagmos
- Empedocles and the Rhizome
- Euripides and the *Bacchae*
- Wholeness: Plato's *Symposium* and the organized closing of a living system
- Aristophane and his *Frogs*

6. Second argument: Man

- The prenatal period: Embryology and Evolution
- Literary suggestions for the event of birth: the separation
 "... as my son was being born it seemed that he knew all the secrets of the Universe, and that, minute by minute, he began to forget them..."
- Relation
- Language and Consciousness
- Relational disease and suffering
- Consciousness, Responsibility, Coherence

7. Third argument: the Mental Process

- Body/Mind Dualism
- Pragmatic relapses of scientific reductionism
- Quantity/Quality
- A Non Dualistic Epistemology
- A new concept of Mind
- The therapeutic value of Holistic experiences
- The Sacred and Unawareness

8. Epilegomena: the Clinical application

- A patient: from sparagmos towards Integration
- The Organismic Approach