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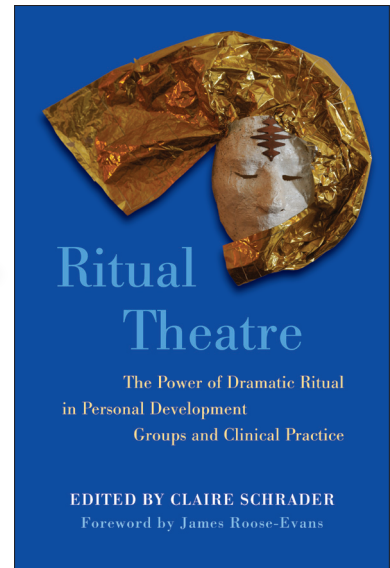
Ritual Theatre

The Power of Dramatic Ritual in Personal Development Groups and Clinical Practice

Edited by Claire Schrader

Foreword by James Roose-Evans

November 2011 336pp ISBN: 9781849051385 pb £22.99



‘Claire Schrader has brought together a group of authors who are passionate about ritual theatre. Their chapters are both a source of inspiration and a challenge to our normal ways of thinking and being, inviting us into deeper levels of consciousness that invoke collective wisdom.’

- Robin Shohet, tutor at the Centre for Supervision and Team Development, UK, and editor of Passionate Supervision and Supervision as Transformation

‘Claire Schrader’s new book on the healing aspects of ritual theatre fulfills Joseph Campbell’s vision of a remythologized world, one in which we would be, as he loved to quote Cezanne, more “in accord with nature.” This book is alternately informative, exhilarating, scholarly, and soulful. If widely read, its insights into the psychodynamics of drama will help illuminate the sacred in our personal and collective lives.’

- Phil Cousineau, author of The Hero’s Journey: Joseph Campbell on his Life and Work, Wordcatcher, and The Art of Pilgrimage

Ritual theatre is a powerful healing system that has been practised since ancient times by early societies and in tribal communities. It has the ability to effect deep transformation in its participants, support growth and development, and resolve personal issues.

This book considers the relevance of ritual theatre in contemporary life and describes how it is being used as a highly cathartic therapeutic process. With contributions from leading experts in the field of dramatherapy, the book brings together a broad spectrum of approaches to ritual theatre as a healing system. It explores the anthropological and tribal roots of dramatic ritual and proposes that ritual theatre finds its most potent expression in personal development work. The practical application of ritual theatre in various clinical settings is discussed and the final chapters explore the possibilities of ritual theatre as performance.

Claire Schrader is director of Making Moves, a personal development company that offers ritual theatre workshops and programmes. She developed “myth-a-drama” dramatherapy as a transformational therapy and she offers a practitioner training course in this approach. She has been involved in personal development work for over 25 years and has also trained as a core process shamanic practitioner. She has an established background in theatre having worked as a playwright, a performer and a teacher in UK drama schools.

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