

TSOP@40

This year sees the **40th anniversary of the launch in 1984 of The School of Psychotherapy (TSOP)** at St. Vincent's University Hospital (SVUH) and its first programme the UCD MSc in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy.

We are holding a **one-day Conference** on **Friday 6th September 2024** in the Education and Research Centre (ERC) in SVUH to mark the occasion.

The question for the day is 'What am I listening for?'

A question for the practice positions in Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy.

9.00am - 5.30pm Panel Discussion Format

Panel members include:

Prof. Stéphane Thibierge (Paris), Dr. Christian Fierens (Brussels), Guy Le Gaufey (Paris), Dr. Patricia McCarthy, Dr. Barry O'Donnell, Terry Ball, Mary Cullen, Dr. Marina Everri, Prof. Anthony McCarthy, Prof. John Sheehan, Prof. Brian O'Donoghue

Opening Welcome: 9am-9.05am;

Panel 1: 9.05 am-10.45am (4 panelists);

Break: 10.45am-11.15am;

Panel 2: 11.15am-1pm (4 panelists);

Lunch: 1pm-2pm;

Panel 3: 2pm-3.30pm (4 panelists);

Break: 3.30pm-3.50pm;

Panel 4: 3.50pm-5.20pm (4 panelists);

Closing Remarks: 5.20pm-5.30pm.

Fee: €120 (Students €60)



The School of Psychotherapy at SVUH asks

'What am I listening for?'

This year sees the 40th anniversary of the launch by Professor Noel Walsh, Dr. Cormac Gallagher and Dr. Mary Darby in 1984 of The School of Psychotherapy (TSOP) at St. Vincent's University Hospital (SVUH) with its first programme: the UCD MSc in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy. We are holding a one-day Conference on Friday 6th September in the Education and Research Centre (ERC) in SVUH to mark the occasion. The question for the day is 'What am I listening for? A question for the practice positions in Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy. The proposal to speakers on the day will be to respond to the question from the point of view of their own practice position:

- 'As a psychiatrist, what am I listening for?'
- 'As a psychologist, what am I listening for?'
- 'As a psychoanalyst, what am I listening for?'
- 'As a psychotherapist, what am I listening for?'

These four fields have occupied the School since its inception in terms of:

- their differences in fundamental understandings of the material, structures and functioning of mental life,
- their interactions and difficulties in dialogue with each other.

The question - forever with us - is whether practitioners in these discourses can work alongside each other. These fields are based on very different principles and understanding of mental functioning; they are tasked with different responsibilities and differ in the desired outcomes of their interventions. They differ in their understanding of the ethics of their practices. Is working alongside different practice positions possible for the advancement of the response to and the understanding of mental life and its disorders, including those in the practitioners?

Should practitioners in the field of the mental be expected to ask themselves: 'To what extent am I unconscious of what I am listening for?'. 'To what extent am I conscious of what I am unable to listen for, of what I refuse to listen for?'. 'What work do I have to do to work in the field of the mental?'

At a time when, in Ireland, we are asking if there must be a greater representation of psychotherapy as an intervention in our public health primary care and mental health services we mark that the School of Psychotherapy has been occupied for 40 years with education and training in psychotherapy practice based upon the premise of the existence of unconscious mental processes. Its work is based upon the requirement that a practitioner's training, or formation, includes extensive engagement in their own psychotherapy as the sine qua non of practice. 'The most complicated achievements of thought are possible without the assistance of consciousness.' (Sigmund Freud, The Interpretation of Dreams, 1900). Have we the courage to bear this statement in our clinical and educational practices? For 40 years the School of Psychotherapy, in its work, has said we must, if we are to engage with mental life in its own Protean terms.

If you are interested in attending, please contact us at info@tsop.ie