

Clinical Seminar

Diddley Bo: Music, Poetry and the Analytic Experience

The APS
Psychoanalytically
Oriented Psychology
Interest Group



Guest Presenter
Dr Mark Howard
Psychoanalyst

DR MARK HOWARD is an analyst in the Australian Psychoanalytical Society who works in private practice in Sydney. He trains and teaches analytic candidates. The refreshment of analytic truths, in conversation with other disciplines, is an interest of his.

The diddley bo is a simple single stringed instrument that began many Blues guitarists' journey into music. I use the diddley bo as a simple symbol to begin an analytic exploration of music, and meaning, over the last century. I link an understanding of music with reverie and early bodily experiences, brushed by Aboriginal Dot paintings and expanded in Bion's Grid.

I also draw on two poetic traditions, Coleridge's 'Rime of the Ancient Mariner', and the American post-slavery legend of 'Stagger Lee'. The states of mind represented in these poetic traditions can help us to understand popular music and Rock, and persistent social apprehensions towards them. Along the way we can enjoy quite a range of music to help us think about these ideas. The paper ends with a raw Blues song played by Eddie 'One String' Jones. Eddie's song vividly brings to life analytic material resonant with clinical work.

Date: Saturday 13 September 2008

Time: 9.00 am Registration
9.15 - 10.15 1st part
10.15 - 10.45 Morning Tea
10.45 - 11.45 2nd part
11.45 - 12.45 discussion

Venue: Mercy Theatre
Australian Catholic University
115 Victoria Parade
East Melbourne VIC 3002
Parking in Victoria Parade, nearby streets & St Vincent's Car Park (Fitzroy Street). Tram Nos.: 23, 24, 30 & 42 (see map on back).

Cost: POPIG members - \$11.00(inc.GST)
Non-members - \$16.50
Students - \$6.00