

Art Therapy Online: ATOL

An International Journal of Art, Therapy, Politics and Culture.

The launch of Art Therapy Online (ATOL) is an exciting new venture. This open-access and peer-reviewed journal will promote an international forum for discussion and thought by addressing the multi-cultural development of the visual arts in therapeutic work around the world. Online publication will allow a strong emphasis on the image or art object, pushing these to the forefront in thinking about clinical practice, research and the shaping of our discipline.

We are aiming to produce three issues in 2010 and two issues per year subsequently. Contributions are invited from practitioners who engage with different kinds of therapeutically-oriented, art-based work in mental health, social, educational and criminal justice systems in different countries. We are keen to attract submissions to the journal and these can be in a wide variety of media and formats including animation, audio file, still images and video. This includes information and reviews of current and forthcoming exhibitions, films and events. The journal wishes to develop as a platform for looking and seeing, discussion and debate for art therapists, Over time we hope to encourage on line discussions with live interaction to widen discourse and build a community together in developing ideas. All the guidelines for submissions are now available at the ATOL website at: <http://eprints-gojo.gold.ac.uk/atol/home.html> .

This first issue is a pilot and will contain peer reviewed and other submissions. The content demonstrates the range of media that are available to us as it includes video, animation and sound recording of poetry as well as three written papers, a book review and a short piece about art therapy studios. One of the

papers is simultaneously translated into Spanish and French as although English is the primary language of the journal, publication of material in other languages is an important part of our aim to make ATOL international. We will publish in authors' first language but also translate journal context into as many languages as is practical. For this reason we would like to invite anyone interested in helping in this translation initiative to contact the Editorial Board Coordinators Tessadalley@aol.com or k.jones@gold.ac.uk .

Finally, it is with great sadness that ATOL reports the death of Michael Edwards, a founder member of the British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT) and chair of BAAT from 1971 to 1975. Michael encouraged and inspired many art therapists including members of the ATOL consortium and his presence will be greatly missed. ATOL contains obituaries in memory of Michael by two people who knew him well, Penelope Hall and John Henzell.

(Michael Edwards 02. 11.1930 to 13. 03. 2010).

Tessa Dalley

On behalf of ATOL Editorial Board

May 2010