



# The Puppet and Being Human Playing Across Borders

## International Symposium Puppet Therapy

2.-4. February 2018 in Friedrichsdorf near Frankfurt

The puppet and being human. Playing across borders.

The puppet is playing freely. I play with.

I create a moving picture of life  
and am alive in it.

You can see and understand it.

I'm in contact - with me and with you.

## ***The Puppet and Being Human. Playing across borders***

*antje wegener*

The International Symposium of ***Therapeutic Puppetry*** took place with great success in Friedrichsdorf, Germany in february 2018. Organised by the DGTP e.V., FFT and German UNIMA Center there met therapeutical puppeteers and interested persons from Germany, Switzerland, Russia, Skandinavia, Ireland, Great Britain and France.

This was a meeting rich in human encounters and collegial discussions.

Presentations of researchers and engaged practitioners changed with inspiring workshops and historical reviews. It is amazing what a simple and deep moving tool the puppet is. We explored the ways that goes: in systems of family communication, in psychotherapy, in mediation of contentious groups, as a reminder of the past, as a connector between the generations, in resocialisation of juveniles, with autism, in terminal family care and much more.

There were lots of interested people, inspiring workshops, well grounded speeches, historical backviews and a panel discussion about basic understandings like animation, manipulation, ethics and therapeutic attitude - between artists, pedagogs, social workers, occupational -,speech -, family - and psycho- therapists... Most of us join different professions and passions as advanced puppeteers. We wanted to show the lines and specialities, but not to judge, but to learn from each other. There are less differences as we thought. But one has to be aware of what method or profession is the actual focus in the practical relationship of this moment. It was pointed out that the therapeutical attitude is determining healing success and ethical responsibility at last.

So the aim was reached: discuss theoretical backgrounds, make new contacts, play together, talk together, plan projects... The organizers are very glad about it and got lots of approving feedbacks.

To spread our experiences in wide fields of application ***photos and papers*** can be found on :

<http://www.dgtp.de/Symposium-2018>

Facebook group: therapeutic puppetry

Please use the possibility to participate and connect!