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RELATIONAL HORIZONS

***Mediterranean Voices Bring Passion and Reason
to Relational Psychoanalysis***

by Alejandro Ávila (Ed.)

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“Alejandro Avila's *Relational Horizons* shines a Mediterranean light on relational psychoanalysis, illuminating the state of the field in Spain. This comprehensive edited volume covers the origins of the relational movement, its pioneers, its conceptual foundation, its spirit, and its implications for treatment. The impressive contributors enlighten with their thorough scholarship and therapeutic acumen. Altogether an outstanding volume of essential reading for any clinician. It can introduce the relational approach to those who have not encountered it, and deepen the understanding of those who are already familiar with the relational literature” [Sandra Buechler, Ph.D., author of *Clinical Values: Emotions that Guide Psychoanalytic Treatment* (Analytic Press, 2004); *Making a Difference in Patients' Lives* (Routledge, 2008); *Still Practicing: The Heartaches and Joys of a Clinical Career* (Routledge, 2012) and *Understanding and Treating Patients in Clinical Psychoanalysis: Lessons from Literature* (Routledge, 2015)].

“In a dialogic treasure from start to finish, Spanish and Catalan relational psychoanalysts both engage and enrich English-speaking relational psychoanalysis. From philosophy to the clinical moment, these essays provide eyes, ears, and understanding in their varied accents. Even the introduction is worth the price of the book!” [Donna Orange, Ph.D., author of *Thinking for Clinicians: Philosophical Resources for Contemporary Psychoanalysis and the Humanistic Psychotherapies* (2010), *The Suffering Stranger: Hermeneutics for Everyday Clinical Practice* (2011), *Nourishing the Inner Life of Clinicians and Humanitarians: The Ethical Turn in Psychoanalysis* (2015), and *Climate Crisis, Psychoanalysis, and Radical Ethics* (2017) all in Routledge].

“*Relational Horizons* is a marvelous compendium of engaging, and at the same time, deeply scholarly writing that covers the evolution and current status of the relational orientation in Spain. But saying this scarcely does it justice--in truth, this remarkable book offers a fine account of relational thinking not only in Spain, but worldwide. Various chapters take up the relational school's history, its main philosophical underpinnings, its central contributors, its theoretical position, and how it's practiced. Key topics--attachment, trauma, the internal and external setting, and many others--are excellently examined. We hear from many of the most thoughtful and influential contemporary Spanish voices, and their voices are intriguing, compelling, and yes, certainly, "passionate." Kudos to Alejandro Avila and his collaborators, for this highly sophisticated, comprehensive text that deeply satisfies the reader in ways both intellectual and emotional. I heartily recommend it to any practitioner--whether novice or experienced--who might be interested in developments in the relational camp both specific to Spanish relational psychoanalysis and in the field at large” (Margaret Crastnopol, Ph.D., Seattle Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, supervisor of psychotherapy and faculty member at the William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis, & Psychology in New York City. She is the author of *Micro-trauma: A Psychoanalytic Understanding of Cumulative Psychic Injury*, Routledge, 2015).

“*Mediterranean Voices* is essential reading on two counts for all those interested in contemporary psychoanalysis. One finds here the broadening and deepening of perspective on the human being offered by the relational turn; at the same time, placing these shifts in cultural perspective opens up expansive vistas in the ways psychoanalysis can be reimagined on a global stage” (Neil Altman, Ph.D. Psychoanalytic psychotherapist, clinician and author of *The Analyst in the Inner City: Race, Class, and Culture through a Psychoanalytic Lens*, Routledge, 2009 and *Psychoanalysis in Times of Accelerating Cultural Change: Spiritual Globalization*, Routledge, 2015).