Editorial Note

Mariano Ben Plotkin (*)

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This issue of CulturasPsi/PsyCultures inaugurates a new era in the life of the journal. Beginning this year, CulturasPsi/PsyCultures will be published twice a year: in March and in September. Another important piece of news is that from now on, responsibilities of the general editorship will be shared by Mariano Ben Plotkin and Mariano Ruperthuz.

This issue includes two articles produced in Brazil. One of them, authored by Marina Massimi, analyzes the psychological knowledge present in a novel written in colonial Brazil: História do Predestinado Peregrino e de Seu Irmão Precito (1682), by Father Alexandre de Gusmão. According to Massimi, this novel shows the articulation between the psychical and the spiritual dimensions present in the cure of the diseases of the soul. The second article, by Rafael Castro and Cristiana Facchinetti, focuses on the role of Dr. Juliano Moreira (1873-1933)—who is usually considered as the founding father of Brazilian modern psychiatry—in the reception and early diffusion of psychoanalysis, particularly in the city of Rio de Janeiro. The authors place this process within the broader context of the modernization of Brazilian psychiatry.

This issue also includes an article by Mauro Vallejo who focuses on the trajectory of a Spanish hypnotizer active in Buenos Aires in the last decades of the 19th century—Dr. Alberto Díaz de la Quintana—to analyze broader issues associated to the tensions that existed within the emergent medical field of the city. Finally, continuing with the dossier on “Psychologization of Religiosity / Sacralization of Psychotherapy” that had been launched in number 2 of CulturasPsi/PsyCultures, the current issue includes an article by Esteban Grippaldi with an anthropological focus on the life narratives of individuals that undergo treatment for drug abuse in Evangelical therapeutic communities or in therapeutic groups based on programs of spiritual recovery. This dossier will remain active through 2016. The deadline for the submission of
manuscripts for number 6 of CulturasPsi/PsyCultures—which will be out in September 2016—is March of next year.

We are happy to announce the next two dossiers and invite our readers to submit manuscripts. In the issue of September 2015 we expect to publish the first texts of a dossier on “Science and cultural diffusion in the era of brain imaging” edited by Piroska Csúri and Jimena Mantilla. In 2016 we will launch another dossier on “Psychiatric practices and the culture of subjectivity in Spain (19th and 20th centuries)” edited by Rafael Huertas.

As usual, this issue of CulturasPsi/PsyCultures also includes a section of book reviews. We hope you enjoy it.

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