

Scientific Perspectives on the fascial connective tissue and its significance for body-, trauma- and parent-baby psychotherapy

How do emotional and relational traumas anchor themselves in our bodies? Why do overwhelming birth and separation experiences lead to profound biological stiffening even in newborn children? And why is it that in body psychotherapy we can use specific touch techniques to soften and liquefy the history frozen in the body?

In the last two decades, we have gained a number of answers to these questions through modern connective tissue and fascia research.

For example, tissue connects the various structures of our body. It envelops our muscles, ensures the suppleness of our movements, acts as a whole-body sensory organ and causes our bodies to straighten up in the field of gravity. Under prolonged stress - whether emotional or physical - the semi-fluid connective tissue changes its texture and flexibility toward stiffness and hardening. Recent research indicates that it is not so much the muscles as the connective tissue structures that are physically involved in maintaining this trauma-induced withdrawal.

In this online conference, we will explore the particular ways in which human connective tissue works and its relevance to body, trauma, and parent-baby psychotherapy. In the course of the event, different researchers will have their say, who in their respective fields of expertise will deal more deeply with the modes of action of the connective tissue. With Dr. Robert Schleip we have been able to win an internationally renowned fascia and connective tissue researcher for our conference. He will give us an insight into current fascia research and its implications for body (psycho)therapy. The American body psychotherapist Will Davis has been dealing with the question of the biological basis of early traumatization for decades. Among other things, he will show why the concept of body armor developed by Wilhelm Reich needs fundamental revision in light of modern fascia research. The English baby therapist Matthew Appleton will show how pre- and peripartum traumatization already leads to a profound loss of bio-emotional wholeness in babies.

## Schreiambulanz | Elternschule Körperpsychotherapie | Weiterbildung

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## Online congress with

Robert Schleip Will Davis Matthew Appleton Thomas Harms

### Moderation

by Thomas Harms, graduate psychologist and body psychotherapist, Director of the Center for Primary Prevention and body psychotherapist and founder of Emotional First Aid (EEH) and Attachment-oriented Body Psychotherapy (BKPT).

Date November 12, 2022

Course hours 09:30 - 18:00 h

Costs 140 Euro

Students (with ID): 80 Euro €

**Venue** Online

#### Congress language

English with German and Italian Translation

Registration exclusively via the homepage www.zeppbremen.de

#### Telephone information

Office ZePP | Phone 0421 349 12 36 Office hours: Tue and Thu 10:00 – 12:00 h Wed 14:00 – 15:00 h



# Program of the online conference

09.30 - 09.45 h	Live – Opening with Thomas Harms
09.45 - 10.15 h	<b>Thomas Harms – Beyond Psychology</b> Biological Perspectives in the History of Body Psychotherapy
10.15 - 11.15 h	<b>Dr. Robert Schleip – Fascinating fasciae</b> – Current Connective Tissue and Fascia Research and its Role for Today's Body (Psycho) Therapies
11.15 - 11.45 h	Coffee break
11.45 - 12.30 h	Will Davis – The Biology of Early Trauma Connective Tissue as a Biological Foundation of Modern Body Psychotherapy
<b>12.45 – 13.15 h</b> 13.15 – 14.30 h	Live - Chat with Will Davis Lunch break
14.30 - 15.15 h	<b>Robert Schleip – Fascia as a Sensory Organ</b> – Sensory Dimensions of the Fascia System and their Connection to the Autonomic Nervous System
15.20 – 16.05 h	Matthew Appleton – Return to wholeness – Integrative Baby Therapy and Embodiment of Pre- and Perinatal Traumatization
16.05 – 16.25 h 16.25 – 16.45 h	Coffee break Live – Chat mit Matthew Appleton
16.45 - 17.30 h	<b>Will Davis – Trauma integration without drama</b> – Working with the Connective Tissue System in Body Psychotherapy – Clinical Observations and Theoretical Implications
18.00 – 19.00 h	Live – Closing discussion with Robert Schleip and all speakers

All presentations have been pre-recorded and will be presented for the first time on the day of the congress. 48 hours before the start of the congress, we will send the zoom code for November 12 to all registered participants. The presentations will then be made available online for participants. All presentations will be available online for two weeks after the congress. All presentations will be broadcast in their original English. All presentations will also be available in German and Italian translation.

Online in-depth workshop with Will Davis, USA

# Connective Tissue and Bodypsychotherapy

Biological Foundations of Bodypsychotherapy with early Traumatization – Clinical Observations and Theoretical Implications

Functional Analyzis is a modern approach of body psychotherapy, developed by the American Psychologist Will Davis. Working with the connective tissue system it plays a central role in stimulating the natural self-regulation of the organism. With the Points & Positions touch technique, Will Davis has developed a gentle, body[1]based method to non-invasively help people with early developmental trauma to improve their emotion regulation and ability to relate to themselves and their envi[1]ronment. In the workshop, Will Davis will present the main theory and concepts of his body psychotherapy work with connective tissue and illustrate them with a case study of a patient with schizoid personality disorder.

Fee 75 EUR



## Important information about the Online Congress

- 1. all lectures were pre-recorded and presented for the first time at the online congress. The congress language is English. We provide links to the German and Italian translations, which can be accessed on our congress page.
- 2. all lectures will be played and presented in English at the times indicated. Afterwards, the individual speakers will be available for questions and discussions with the participants in live chats (see the updated programme below!) Live translations and German and Italian will also be offered here. Thomas Harms will moderate the congress day live.
- 3. 48 hours before the start of the congress we will release all contributions and slides of the speakers in digital form, so that the presentations can be heard and seen in advance. For this purpose you will be sent a password with which you can receive the materials.

All live chats and discussions will be recorded and - like the presentations - made freely available on the congress website for four weeks.

You will need an official zoom code from 09:30 on 12 November 2022. All congress participants will also receive this code by email 48 hours before the start of the congress, i.e. on 10 November 2022 at 09:30.

In case of technical problems, you can contact us at kontakt@zeppbremen.de

Jutta Gerken from the ZePP secretariat can be contacted by phone from 09:00-12:00 Monday to Thursday on +49 (0) 421-3491236.

The congress team will be happy to assist you with any open questions regarding registration and technology.

- 6) We will provide you with a further hotline number for technical support shortly before the start of the congress.
- 7) Last but not least: Please keep an eye out for the in-depth and additional programme with Will Davis on 13 November 2022.

He will talk about the biological basis of body psychotherapy in early trauma under the title "Connective Tissue and Body Psychotherapy". Clinical observations, theoretical implications and practical case studies will be presented and discussed. The course will take place on 13 November 2022 from 10:00-14:15 online and costs 75,00 Euro.

Please find attached the updated programme. New are the three live chats spread over the day. Here you can talk to the respective speakers about the topics and ask your questions.

I am looking forward to an exciting theme day with our guests and with all of you.

Sincerely yours, Thomas Harms