



## Starting with Ourselves: Addressing the Challenges of Diversity Through Openness and Curiosity Instead of Competence

Sunday November 25th  
10-5pm

BAATN and TRS have come together to host a meeting between our two organisations in the company of New York-based psychoanalyst Anton Hart.

This day-long workshop offers the opportunity to think and talk—with both familiar and unfamiliar colleagues—about issues of diversity and otherness, focusing on the cultivation of curiosity and openness within the therapeutic dyad. We will consider the ways that increasingly open communication across the borders of difference can be facilitated, and the obstacles to such openness surmounted. The aspiration for the workshop is to free up dialogue concerning how we are different, particularly when such differences intersect with socially charged, historically laden forms of difference that involve prejudice and "othering," such as race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and other important diversities. Aiming for such open dialogue, we can prepare ourselves for the emergence of difficult, anxiety-evoking, unsettling, awkward and possibly shame-inducing conversations. Sometimes, even, we should seek these difficulties for the crucial opportunities they offer.

This workshop attempts to encourage participants to move toward such challenging conversations in their clinical work and professional relationships, and to risk unconventional forms of openness and inquiry. Through the presentation of a conceptual overview featuring a hermeneutic orientation to dialogue, followed by the presentation for discussion of case material where issues of diversity figure prominently, and through structured, dialogic experiential exercises, we will attempt to increase our tolerance for the challenges to our personal senses of knowing who our dialogic others are, and who we ourselves become, as we enter into conversation across the borders of human difference.

**About Anton Hart PhD**, is a Training and Supervising Analyst and on the Faculty of the William Alanson White Institute in New York City. He supervises at Teachers College, Columbia University and at the Derner Institute of Adelphi University. He is a member of the Editorial Boards of the journals *Psychoanalytic Psychology* and *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*. He teaches at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute, and in the Department of Psychology at Mt. Sinai Hospital, at the Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy, at the St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute, and at the National Institute for the Psychotherapies 4-year and National Programs. He has published papers on issues of mutuality, disruption and safety, and also racism, diversity and otherness. He served as Associate Co-producer for the film, "Black Psychoanalysts Speak," in which he was also featured. He is a Co-Founder of the White Institute's Study Group on Race and Psychoanalysis. He is completing a book, to be published by Routledge, entitled, *Beyond Oaths or Codes: Toward Relational Psychoanalytic Ethics*. He is in full-time private practice in New York City.



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Links to some of Anton's work:

[From Multicultural Competence to Radical Openness: A Psychoanalytic Engagement of Otherness](#)  
[Black Psychoanalysts Speak](#)

09:30 Gather and greet one another.

10:00 Anton Hart

13:00 Lunch - please bring your lunch. Refreshments will be provided.

14:00 Anton Hart

17:00 End of the day.

### Booking your place

TRS Members £60

Non-members £75

Organisations £105

Students/low waged £40

TRS members: make your payment into this account by bank transfer.

Santander Bank

A/c name: The Relational School

Sort code: 09-06-66

A/c no: 43456785

Please use your name as a reference and email [therelationalschool@gmail.com](mailto:therelationalschool@gmail.com) stating that you have made a transfer.

BAATN members go here: [BAATN](#)

Non-members can go to either page to make your booking.

### Venue:

effraspace, 21 Effra Parade London SW2 1PX

10 minute walk from Brixton tube station. 8 minutes walk from Herne Hill station.

Further transport details can be found here: [travel](#).