

International Puppet Therapy training Summer 2019



Picture: Teacher Matthew G Bernier with puppet (left), Jabberwocky exercise exploring paper and tape (right).

The first international puppet therapy training week (IPT-S) 2019 has finally taken place. Ten participants came from different countries worldwide to Olten, Switzerland in July in order to listen to Matthew G Berniers teachings. The training week is one out of many training weeks and focused expressive art therapy perspective. Next summer's training week will focus play therapy and a client centered approach.

The summer week was hosted by the Swiss puppet therapy school FFT HF (Fachverband Figurenspieltherapie Höhere Fachschule) and arranged together with Åsa Viklund, UNIMA Sweden. It was supported by the Education, Development, Therapy (EDT) Commission, International UNIMA (UNION Internationale de la Marionnette).

Matthew taught us about the Expressive Therapies Continuum (ETC), intermodal transfer, poesis, reflective journaling, the therapy continuum, community work, sock puppets, plastic rubbish bag puppets, folk dolls, sociodrama, playback theatre and many more aspects of therapeutic use of puppets. The participants also got to learn about each other's work through own presentations during the week. One of many appreciated things in the course was meeting alike.

More at www.therapeuticpuppetry.com in tab Training.

Text & Photo: Åsa Viklund