

Being a Daseinsanalyst – Questions to a Path of Life

Charlotte Spitzer

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to speak at the 9th Forum of Daseinsanalysis here in Athens. It is my first time ever in this impressive city. I am so happy to be here, feeling the roots of European culture and also the spirit of profound philosophising, which speaks to me out of the past.

This philosophical spirit occurs maybe first in a certain kind of Being-open, Being-in-the-world with things and people, feeling the need to get to the origin and the essence of all which shows itself to us. This all comes out of the longing of Dasein for truth. So this city of Athens is really a special place to describe and think over my being-in-the-world as a Daseinsanalyst. What does it mean *to me*?

Daseinsanalysis is not only a philosophical approach to the world or to my clients in psychotherapeutic practice. It is far more, it is a tune, a way to live, it is a path.

I will look at the topic from four different perspectives. The first one is characterised through a personal aspect. How does Daseinsanalysis influence *my* life, *my* Dasein? How is my training analysis connected with this influence? Is there a kind of personal daseinsanalytical way to be in the world?

The second will describe my work as a Daseinsanalyst with my clients, and the third shows the way I feel close to Daseinsanalysis in my working and living as an artist, in my understanding of art and creativity.

Finally I want to say something about the impact Martin Heidegger's Black Notebooks, especially his anti-Semitic utterings, have on my estimation of his person and his philosophy. I have no answer to this last point yet, but I would like to start the conversation about his deeply inhuman and, I have to say, *stupid* anti-Semitic utterings that continued even after the Holocaust. This has a considerable influence not only on me but I am sure also on our community of Daseinsanalysts and we have to deal with it.

Daseinsanalysis is a part of my life, a path of being. It is a special way to be in the world with the daseinsanalytical, the phenomenological view. This view enables me to be open for the experience of the essence of everything that shows itself to me. This means also making a step backwards to open a space and give the possibility that