

EDITORIAL¹

It is with great satisfaction that we present this special issue of the journal *Psicopatologia Fenomenológica Contemporânea* (PFC), dedicated to the III International Symposium on Phenomenological Psychopathology (SIPF), held in Fortaleza from 21 to 23 August 2025. On that occasion, the Brazilian Society for Phenomeno-Structural Psychopathology (SBPFE) joined with Apheto, of the Graduate Program in Psychology of the Universidade de Fortaleza, around a theme that condenses the very vocation of this tradition — *Ethics, Critique and Clinic: Movements of Phenomenological Psychopathology in Brazil and in the World*.

These are not three isolated fields added together, but rather three movements interwoven in one and the same gesture. The ethics of Phenomenological Psychopathology (PP), after all, arises from the recognition and the prioritization of lived experience in its singularity, prior to any framing; critique is exercised in the constant examination and questioning of the presuppositions that organize psychopathological knowledge and its diagnoses; and the clinic, in its various possibilities, is the locus par excellence in which ethics and critique become embodied in the encounter. This issue brings together a collection of original bilingual articles, arising from some of the lectures presented at the SIPF, as well as the abstracts of the posters and of the oral

¹ **Translator's Note:** This translation was carried out with the assistance of artificial intelligence, specifically Claude, model Opus 4.8, developed by Anthropic. The model belongs to the family of large language models and has advanced capabilities in natural language understanding and generation, with particular proficiency in academic, technical, and humanistic registers across multiple languages. The translation was carried out from Brazilian Portuguese into English, following a paragraph-by-paragraph methodology, with systematic review of terminological consistency, preservation of the editors' stylistic choices, and faithful maintenance of the conceptual vocabulary proper to phenomenological psychopathology, to the phenomeno-structural tradition, and to the institutional nomenclature of the Sociedade Brasileira de Psicopatologia Fenômeno-Estrutural. The aim was neither to omit nor to add any ideas to the original text, while respecting, as far as possible, its argumentative organization, linguistic style, and conceptual density — in particular the threefold movement (ethical, critical, and clinical) around which the editorial is structured.

The titles of the articles mentioned in the body of the text were translated from the version of the editorial provided for this activity, without independent consultation of the articles themselves or of their respective English versions; they should therefore be collated with the official titles of the bilingual versions prior to publication. The title of the article by Jérôme Englebert was preserved in French, as in the original.

The AI-assisted translation was initiated on July 24, 2026 and supervised by Fábio Luiz Socreppa da Fonseca and subsequently submitted to the editorial board of this issue for review. The final version was approved after its comments and revisions on the day that this translation was finish.

Readers are advised to consider that, although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and fidelity to the original text, AI-assisted translations may present limitations in grasping expressions that are highly context-dependent, stylistic nuances, or culturally situated meanings. Any questions regarding the translation may be addressed to the supervisor.

presentations delivered at the event — thus composing its proceedings. Thus, in the power of writing and of research, the aim was to traverse this threefold movement (ethical, critical and clinical), at times dwelling within one of its moments, at times crossing through them entirely.

We inaugurate the issue with the presentation of the original articles. We open — not by chance — with Jérôme Englebert's reflection on the useless. In *Pour une éthique, une critique et une clinique de l'inutile en psychopathologie phénoménologique*, the author lays claim to the value of that which escapes utilitarian logic, holding that the dignity of the human being is not measured by its function or its performance — a position that is at once ethical, critical and clinical. In dialogue with this opening, Lucas Guimarães Bloc and collaborators interrogate the place — or the non-place — that PP occupies among Philosophy, Psychiatry and Psychology, showing how this border position is less a fragility than a condition of its strength. André Domenici de Alencar extends this questioning into the social field, examining the relations between social alienation and mental disorder, and resituating psychopathological experience on collective ground.

From the ethical foundation, we pass to the critical exercise upon the very concepts of the clinic. Francisco Luan Carvalho and collaborators dwell upon the (un)bearable now of psychological urgency, proposing the necessary overcoming of a strictly biomedical understanding of acute suffering. Igor Studart revisits the nosological boundaries between obsessive-compulsive symptoms and the endogenous psychoses, reopening a classical debate in the light of lived experience. And Flávio Guimarães-Fernandes takes up once more the emblematic *praecox* feeling and empathic incomprehensibility in schizophrenia, rereading them on the basis of Merleau-Ponty's description of intercorporeity.

Moreover, Phenomenology has always found in literature and in the experience of love a privileged terrain of investigation, and three articles explore this path. Gabriel Engel Becher, between Barthes and Merleau-Ponty, sustains the possibility and the unfoldings of a Phenomenological Psychopathology of love. José Henrique Sousa Luz weaves considerations on love and jealousy on the basis of *The Key*, by Junichiro Tanizaki, showing how such a literary work illuminates clinical experience. Martín Buceta, in turn, sets out from the beautiful assertion that "to live is to write the poem

that we are" in order to think literary fictions as modes of the constitution of meaning and identity – a proposition that resonates, in distinct ways, throughout many of the texts of this issue.

The movement culminates in the contemporary clinic, in its relation to the body, to time and to the digital world. Camila Pereira de Souza examines the phenomenon of anxiety in digital culture, in dialogue with clinical Phenomenology. Daniela Ceron-Litvoc proposes a phenomeno-structural reading of suicide in adolescence, showing how the reconfiguration of the four structural dimensions creates a specific ground of vulnerability, intensified by the digital world, and advocating a clinic that recognizes existential crisis rather than denying it. Thaís Gazotti, in *A Body Neither for Me nor for the Other*, brings the case of Ellen West up to date in the figure of Hellena, resituating the questions of the body and of anorexia within the horizon of the experiences of today. And Arlinda Moreno explores the possibilities of the phenomeno-structural gaze in the psychotherapeutic accompaniment of people who live through illness from cancer, reminding us that finitude, too, is a central theme of existence.

At the end of this section, in keeping with the international character of the event, we present the translation of the acclaimed article by Allan Køster and Anthony Fernandez, which introduces phenomenologically grounded qualitative research as an investigation of modes of being in the world. The text offers the Brazilian reader a methodological instrument so that the descriptive richness of the tradition may be translated into rigorous research.

Next come the proceedings of the SIPF, which gather writings capable of attesting to the vitality and the contemporary expansion of PP in Brazil. In keeping with the theme of the event, these works articulate theoretical investigations, empirical research, literature reviews, experience reports and case studies, reaffirming the field's commitment to an understanding of psychic suffering centered on lived experience and on the singularity of the ways of existing. The studies address classical psychopathological phenomena and categories – such as anxiety, schizophrenia, mania, bipolarity and schizoaffectivity – while at the same time broadening the scope of PP toward contemporary questions related to corporeality, identity, gender, sexuality, obesity, aesthetics, social vulnerability, religiosity and violence against women. Also prominent are reflections on phenomenological diagnosis, clinical supervision, walk-in

psychological care (*plantão psicológico*), psychological urgency, expressive therapies and interfaces with the person-centered approach — evidencing the plurality of research and intervention settings discussed at the event. Taken together, therefore, these works reveal a field committed to the production of rigorous, socially situated and ethically oriented knowledge, reaffirming the power of Phenomenology to understand and to care for the multiple forms of human suffering in the contemporary world.

Brought together, these works give body to what the title of the symposium announces: the movements of PP in Brazil and in the world. The voices of Brazil, Belgium, Argentina and Denmark compose, in this issue, one and the same gesture of thought: that of recognizing, in the singularity of each existence, the dignity that no utilitarian logic exhausts. We thank, above all, every author, participant and organizer who made this meeting possible — and in particular the partnership with Apheto — which renews the bonds of a community that is growing in research and in the clinic. We also thank the technical staff of the journal PFC and of the SBPFE, who, with their attentive dedication, made this publication feasible.

We wish you all a good read!

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