QUALITATIVE INQUIRIES IN MUSIC THERAPY: A MONOGRAPH SERIES

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Edited by Douglas Keith

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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Barcelona Publishers is pleased to present Volume 14 of Qualitative Inquiries in Music Therapy, comprising three research studies with diverse methodologies and client focuses. Erin Fox has written about music therapists working with hospice patients who are actively dying, using Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) to understand these music therapists' lived experience. Ms. Fox describes two primary themes that emerged from these therapists' descriptions. This study is notable not only for its focus on an unusual clinical situation, but also for the author's use of arts-based methods to generate and understand data; Ms. Fox includes audio clips of improvisations created with participants and images of their mandalas.

Michael Kelliher also engaged in arts-based methods to understand the therapeutic relationship with a young adult client. Kelliher and his client engaged in a series of artistic activities to process their understandings of the relationship. The resulting songs are shared for the reader to experience while listening. Kelliher's study is notable for the substantial involvement of the client in the research process; he includes a link to experience the songs created in the course of the study.

Finally, Helen Oosthuizen presents a retrospective study on her experiences of chaos in music therapy groups with adolescents who have offended. Ms. Oosthuizen incorporated elements of grounded theory to develop an emergent theory about how chaotic experiences enable group transformation. This study is notable for its clear focus on developing a theory of a common experience in (group) music therapy: chaos; and for its exploration of the experience of working with clients who are traditionally considered to be "difficult."

We hope our readers enjoy and benefit from these studies.

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