

Psychiatry and Dasein

Ludwig Binswanger tried to incorporate Heidegger's concept of Dasein into psychiatry. It may have led to one tragic error, and it certainly led to criticism by Heidegger himself.

But there is an important case for what he was trying to do.

Psychiatry has made a defeatist turn to dumbing down as an applied brain science, but it also treats its subject matter as an entity locked behind the skull. I shall present two cases which require the wider scope of a Dasein and not simply a mind that Binswanger was focussing his understanding on. Both involve the rare but potentially devastating condition of Capgras syndrome.