The Carter - Jenkins Center presents
Daniel Benveniste, Ph.D.
The Brief Psychotic Disorder, Autism and their Myth and Ritual Correlates

Daniel Benveniste, Ph.D.
Totem and Taboo:
Some Points of Agreement between the Mental Lives of Savages and Neurotics

- 1) A stage of normal development
- 2) A form of psychopathology
- 3) A stage in cultural development
- 4) A myth
- 5) A ritual

The points of agreement:
- 1) Erotic desire for the mother and the horror of incest
- 2) Desire to kill the father and the adoration of the father
John Weir Perry
1. Center: The sense of being located at a world center or cosmic axis.

2. Death: Themes of dismemberment or sacrifice, died and in an afterlife state.

3. Return to Beginnings: A return to creation of cosmos and early childhood.

4. Cosmic Conflict: There is a world conflict of cosmic importance.

5. Threat of opposite: A threat from the opposite sex, being turned into it.

6. Apotheosis: The person experiences an apotheosis as royalty or divinity.

7. Sacred Marriage: The person enters upon a sacred marriage.


10. Quadrated World: A fourfold structure of the world or cosmos is established. (Perry, 1974, p. 29-30)
Drawings of an autistic boy
The Mouth in Myth and Ritual
Chronos eating his children
Tlingit shamanic amulet
Quetzalcoatl devouring a person
Jonah entering and leaving the mouth of the great fish
Orb in the mouth of the Chinese dragon
Chinese dragon chasing the orb
A woman dies in bed while her soul departs from her mouth.
Spirit and soul leaving the mouth of the alchemist during the nigredo.
Demon coming out of the mouth of a man during an exorcism.
Tantric Indian painting.

The kundalini emerges out the seventh chakra or Mouth of God.
Detail of Tantric Indian painting. The kundalini emerging out the seventh chakra or Mouth of God.
THE BOOK
OF
OPENING THE MOUTH
THE EGYPTIAN TEXTS WITH ENGLISH
TRANSLATIONS

BY

VOLUME I
TWO VOLUMES IN ONE

BENJAMIN BLOM, INC.
Publishers New York 1972
From the Book of Opening the Mouth

The Sem priest presenting the breast.
Mouth as passageway for the soul

Funerary Ritual        Myth of Death and Rebirth

(1) Reunion of the soul and the body
(2) Rebirth
(3) Reunion with the Mother

The healing tasks of the autistic child

(1) Embody
(2) Be psychologically born
(3) Enter into a warm relationship with a mother.
Bruno Bettelheim
From the Book of Opening the Mouth
If the myth of Sacral Kingship and the Ancient New Year’s Festival are associated with the birth of civilization, at what point in cultural evolution would we locate the origin of myth of Death and Rebirth and the ritual of opening the mouth or perhaps just the Funerary Ritual?

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Neolithic and Bronze Age burials
Neolithic burial at Nea Nikomedia
Paleolithic burial (buried 23,000 years ago)
Shanidar Cave burial (60,000 years ago)
Paleolithic burial with wild boar jawbone amulet (90,000 years ago)
Infantile Autism
Early infancy
Myth of Death and Rebirth
Ancient Funerary Ritual

Brief Psychotic Disorder
Adolescence
Myth of Sacral Kingship
Ancient New Year’s Festival

UPPER PALEOLITHIC ←  BIRTH OF CIVILIZATION
Libido Development and Cultural Evolution
Part II

The Brief Psychotic Disorder, Autism
and their Myth and Ritual Correlates

Daniel Benveniste, Ph.D.
A Carter - Jenkins Center production