

The other major strength of the book may also be considered a weakness. It is a contemporary look at a fast-changing landscape, with recent and ongoing work presented. This may put a sell-by date on it. I recommend reading it in the next 12 months to derive the greatest benefit.

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doi: 10.1192/bjp.bp.114.157461



The Alzheimer Conundrum: Entanglements of Dementia and Aging

By Margaret Lock
Princeton University Press. 2013.
£19.95 (hb). 328 pp.
ISBN 9780691149783

Dementia has never had a higher profile and governments are falling over themselves to commit funds, though dementia research is still grossly underfunded in comparison with less common and less costly conditions. Despite this, concerns have been expressed about a narrowness of focus, the majority of dementia research focusing on the hypothesis that amyloid is the key to Alzheimer's disease.

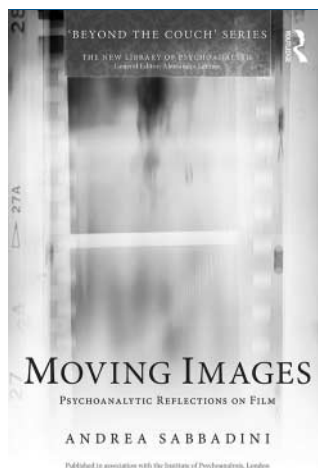
Thank goodness for anthropologist Margaret Lock and her intelligent, comprehensive survey of the state-of-the-art in dementia research. Professor Lock's book begins and ends by examining three tensions in Alzheimer's disease research. First, do brain changes directly cause dementia or is there a complex 'entanglement' between mind, body and environment throughout the life course? Second, can dementia be disentangled from normal ageing or is it inevitable if one lives long enough? Finally, how much of the disease can be ascribed to genetics alone and how much to changes in gene expression due to gene-gene and gene-environment interactions – 'a revitalized and reformulated nature/nurture debate' (p. 6)?

The intervening chapters provide a robust and accessible overview of current dementia research, the fruit of over a decade's study, including attending numerous conferences and interviewing many of the leading researchers (albeit, understandably, with a North American bias). The book considers attempts to standardise the diagnosis of dementia, although noting that it may represent a 'moving target', a term coined by the philosopher-historian-mathematician Ian Hacking. Lock refuses to accept that the recent impetus to drive diagnosis earlier and earlier through the use of biomarkers truly represents a paradigm shift, though hints that there may be one in the offing. Her detailed work examining the long-term effects of being given one's APOE status – a genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease – as part of a research project is fascinating. Many participants merely assimilated this genetic risk information alongside everything else, including assessments of risk based on similarity to family members who developed dementia, and few made major changes to their lifestyle.

This is an extremely important book and one which I am very grateful to have read. There is much here for the interested general reader but the rich endnotes provide guidance to those wanting to explore the area in more detail. It is wonderfully refreshing to read such a clear survey of dementia research and some interesting speculation of the way things may develop in the future.

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doi: 10.1192/bjp.bp.114.152090



Moving Images: Psychoanalytic Reflections on Film

By Andrea Sabbadini.
Routledge. 2014.
£29.99 (pb). 140 pp.
ISBN: 9780415736121

Moving Images follows *The Couch and the Silver Screen* and *Projected Shadows*, both edited by Andrea Sabbadini. However, this book is neither a collection of contributions by experts in psychoanalysis or film, nor a review of European cinema. As its title suggests, it offers Sabbadini's own reflections on 25 feature films from Europe and Latin America. Being a prominent psychoanalyst and the director of the European Psychoanalytic Film Festival, he not only brings a psychoanalytic perspective to these films, but also uses them as a vehicle to discuss important psychoanalytic themes.

Starting with the representation of psychoanalysis itself and the relationship between the therapist and the patient, he moves on to explore how prostitution has been portrayed in film-making, an almost explicit reference to free association ('from a young profession . . . to the oldest one'). He then focuses on films about children and adolescents. This comes as little surprise considering the crucial role of the earlier years on the psychic development in the psychoanalytic theory. Sabbadini then moves on to adulthood and selects five films on love and intimate relationships to explore the Freudian concepts of Eros and Thanatos. This exploration of intimate relationships takes us back to the couch in the consulting room where it all began (relationship between therapist and patient, transference and countertransference). Finally, the author discusses films on scopophilia and voyeurism and we oscillate to the screen where another intimate (voyeuristic) experience takes place.

There are certainly many more films that I would have liked to have seen included in this book, mostly because Sabbadini's narrative and reflections bring exactly what he promises: a psychoanalytic perspective to the films discussed and an illustration of the power of film to promote psychoanalytical thinking. Like the psychoanalyst in analysis, the author creates a space where films (or dreams), fantasies and emotions can be explored and thought about, offers new insights and ultimately lays the foundation for a journey that only begins in the book (the consulting room). It is up to the reader (viewer, analysand) to