

Fashionable nonsense still in fashion
Psychological Sokal-Style Hoax

Tomasz Witkowski
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Social Text

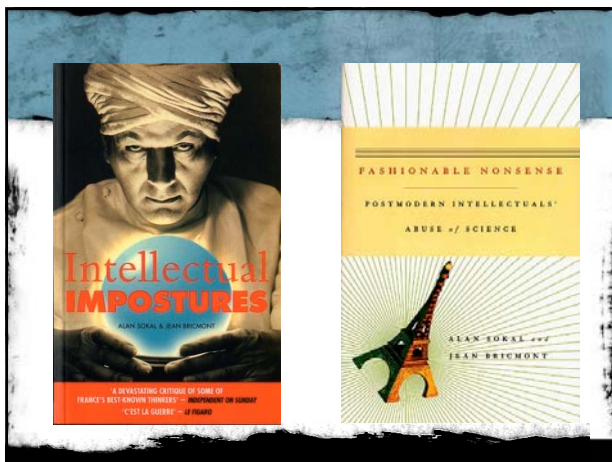
Transgressing the Boundaries: Towards a Transformative Hermeneutics of Quantum Gravity

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Biographical Information: The author is a Professor of Physics at New York University. He has lectured widely in Europe and Latin America, including at the Università di Roma "La Sapienza" and, during the Sandinista government, at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua. He is co-author with Roberto Fernández and Dag Frølich of Random Walks, Critical Phenomena, and Triviality in Quantum Field Theory (Springer, 1992).



Have we learned anything from Sokal's lesson?

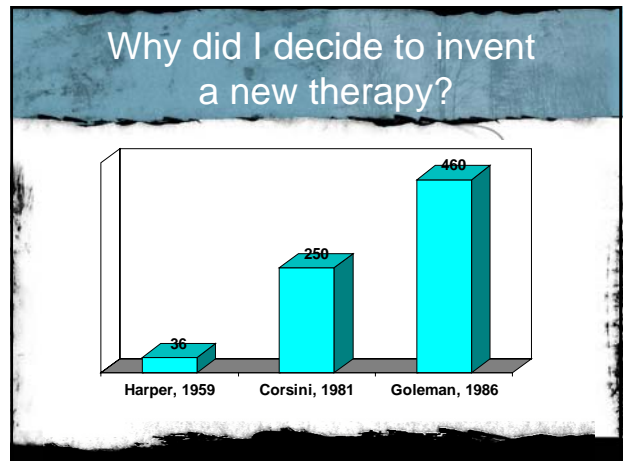
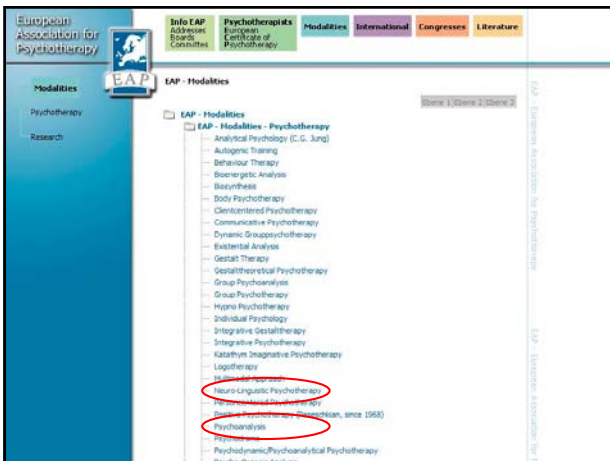
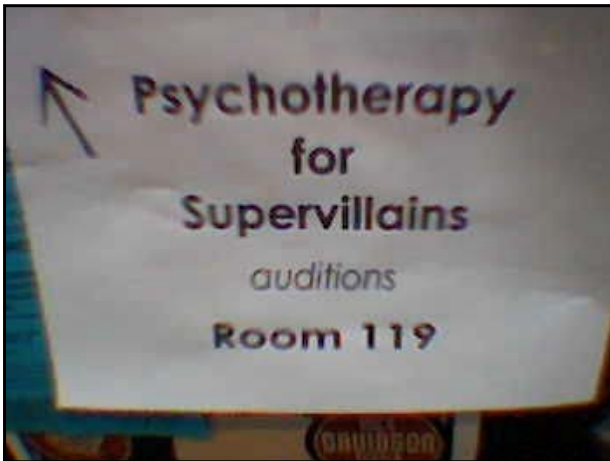
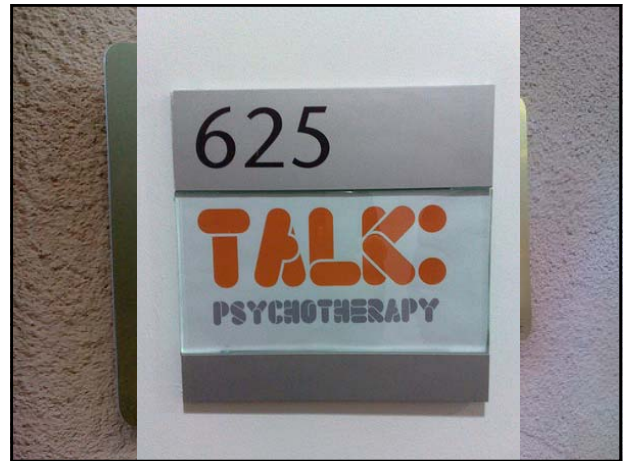
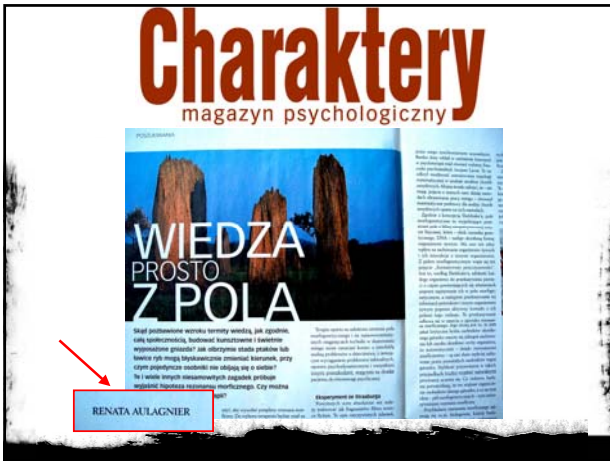
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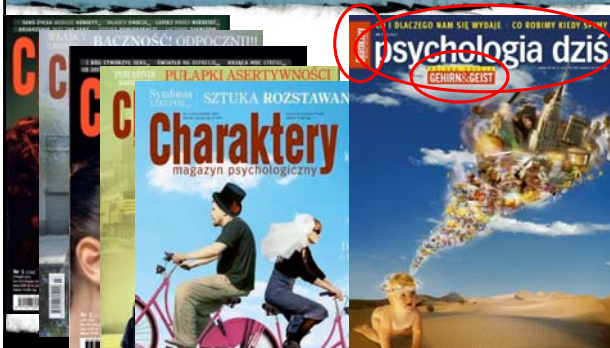
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- Can we still take Lacanian mathematical topology seriously?

Have we learned anything from Sokal's lesson?

- Have social scientists given up the habit of creating links with quantum physics and mathematics in their theories?
- Can we still take Lacanian mathematical topology seriously?
- Are psychologists still using hard sciences analogies to seduce readers with the depth of their brilliance?



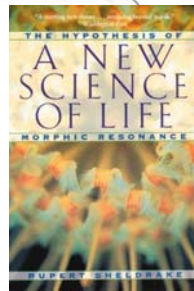
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The article



The article

Jacques Lacan, an outstanding French psychoanalyst, also made a valuable contribution to the concept's application in psychotherapy. He was the first to come up with the idea of using mathematical topology in structure analysis of mental illnesses. It would not be an exaggeration to claim that Lacan, knowing nothing about present methods of brain mapping as we use them today, laid the mathematical foundations of mental illness analysis based on those methods.



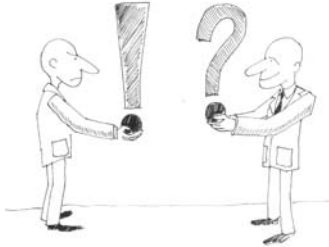
The article



Content of my article



Sokal hoax vs. Renata Aulagnier



Ethical issues related to the hoax



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Questions

- Are representatives of scientific psychology responsible for how it is popularized and what type of knowledge is popularized?

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- Are representatives of scientific psychology responsible for how it is popularized and what type of knowledge is popularized?
- What is the difference between the tolerance of editors, therapists, and scientists for various forms of practicing science and conducting therapy, and their indifference to abuses in this sphere?
- Should we, as psychologists, abandon the market of psychological services to the rules of the free market?
- How much nonsense published in popular science and scientific magazines remains forever hidden, begins to live a life of its own, and exerts influence on people struggling with mental or health problems?

Forbidden Psychology. Between Charlatantry and Science



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Thank you