Towards an anthropological model for contemporary Music Therapy: from current paradigms towards a unified framework through evidence

MT's interest in socio-cultural perspectives is deep-rooted. Through decades, Community MT has focused on vicinity, belonging, political and local backgrounds of healing performances and paths. Also, long-standing theoretical concepts, either original from MT literature (e.g. 'ISO') or borrowed from psychological sciences ('Self'), relate to ideas of the 'identity' of subjects and groups.

These quite isolated approaches provide potential for analysis and application, which still needs to fully unfold; however, they don't cover the whole **wealth of theoretical and methodological patterns and themes that anthropological science offers to MT development**. It is time to formulate in a unitarian, integrated, coherent model why and how anthropology can reinforce our discipline.

Drawing on examples from 20 years-long clinical activity as a music therapist and ethnographic research as a PhD medical anthropologist, this workshop proposes an interactive exploration of the framework that anthropology offers both **for MT clinical practice, research and teaching**: from phenomenological, contextualized analyses of healing ritualities, narratives and meaning-making, to social and cultural constructions of sensoriality, habitus, bodily techniques and embodiment. From multilevel semantics of illness, sickness and disease to the politics of performance, ideologies and discourses in therapeutic relations. From hegemonic rapports between different epistemologies of care, to issues of therapeutic pluralism in historical, multicultural, comparative perspective - up to the set-up of a critical and authoritative reflection on the very concept of 'evidence'. Participants will gain a more articulated, explicit and aware grasp on both MT's positioning in contemporary healing systems, and its specificities and strengths for future developments.

Keywords: Anthropology,Social sciences,Medical humanities,Models