Massimo Mangialavori
Solanaceae

Reading excerpt
Solanaceae
of Massimo Mangialavori
Publisher: Matrix

http://www.narayana-verlag.com/b3136

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http://www.narayana-verlag.com
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Forward

Attending a seminar with Massimo Mangialavori is a new and fresh experience even when encountering remedies that are old and familiar. It is like entering a building that is ordinary on the outside only to find a castle inside with fascinating inner rooms decorated each in a unique and seductive mood. Such is the experience I had learning Solanacea from him.

Remedies like *Belladonna* and *Stramonium* have striking, colorful keynotes that are readily learned early in a homeopathic career. They are reliable remedies in defined circumstances. However, there can be a level of understanding astronomically more rewarding. Massimo's value to homeopathy is nowhere else epitomized as in the Belladonna-like Family (encompassing *Solanacea* and more remedies of similar homeopathic qualities). To study these remedies is to plunge deeply into the relationship between Conscious and Unconscious in complex and subtle, yet specific, ways. It is at once a profound integration of such diverse fields as Freud and Jung, folklore and sacred ritual, Mind/Body perspectives of the modern era, and timeless Life and Death issues of existence.

Massimo's approach is not mere philosophical speculation. It is grounded brilliantly and insightfully in cases worthy of classic study. Because of his facility in the profound realms, but also because of his welcoming and non-judgmental manner, patients are allowed to go the crux of issues not often reached. The subtleties they express are dimensions not readily available in homeopathic literature. As a homeopath, this depth of work inspires me.

This particular seminar helped me to find similar insights and subtleties in some patients where I was unable to before. Instead of cataloguing data — even deeper data like dreams and delusions — we were probing into meaning. Previously I lacked the framework for such inquiry. I recommend studying and re-studying this particular seminar because of the powerful issues involved that touch everyone deeply — Conscious vs. Unconscious, Acceptable vs. Primitive, Life vs. Death.

Solanacea are covered in their differential subtleties — *Belladonna*, *Stramonium*, *Mandragora*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Solanum nigrum* and *Solanum tuberosum aegrotans*. But then he elaborates on the milder nontoxic ones like *Capsicum*, *Dulcamara*, *Tabacum*, *Lycopersicum*, and *Solanum tuberosum*. Such comparisons really