

Letters to the editor

Dear Vivian,

In your August issue Jacob Stattman or whoever he is talking to (page 15) says that '... her act of painting can be better for her, more therapeutic.' Maybe so. But a professional painter with whom I discussed this was rather amused. Therapy from what? Is any job, any profession, therapeutic, in this same sense? On the other hand, I always hoped that the sort of groups I know, help to develop those parts of a person which may be less developed, to make us more whole, more integrated, and I work on the theory that even a reasonably healthy person only operates on part of his potential. On that assumption, then, it may well be (and Stattman seems to exclude this) that this particular artist came to this group to learn to develop parts of her personality, such as functioning well amongst a group of people which she seemed unable to do, rather than for some therapeutic reasons. I'd like to know where this subtle fascism comes in here, please.

Best Wishes,

Hans Lobstein

Ealing

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