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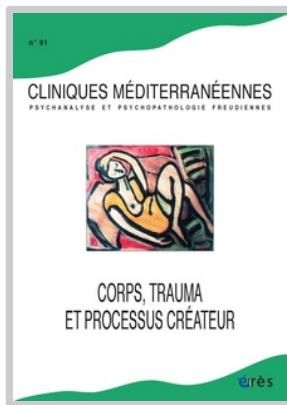
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When Words and Images Mingle: The Art of Collage Experienced by Patients Suffering from Extreme Somatic Conditions

by **Magalie Sabot**

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ABSTRACT

The art of collage, consisting in cutting up and reshaping images or pictures in order to recreate a unique piece, is particularly interesting from a psychoanalytical perspective. Indeed, the consideration of several biographies of collage artists would seem to suggest an intimate link between the body and trauma and collage as an act of spontaneous creation. Inspired by extreme clinical and somatic experiences, the author attempts to show how using collage as a therapeutic mediation can inspire creation which has been stalled by illness. Ms C., a patient suffering from multiple cancers, seized on the invitation to create and express herself through collage, creating images and words to help a renewed perception of her body and her wellbeing.

— cancer — collage — creation — somatic illness — therapy mediation — prostration

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