



# A Milestone for *Rorschachiana* – Impact, Applications, and the Rorschach in Diagnostic Systems

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This second issue of *Rorschachiana* appears with its first official impact factor from Web of Science for 2024. The journal debuts in this highly selective database with a score of 1.8, ranking 98th out of 185 journals in the field of clinical psychology. This recognition provides clear evidence that Rorschach studies are part of the well-grounded and internationally acknowledged scientific exploration. We continue to encourage contributors to consider *Rorschachiana* for the publication of their studies, case reports, and research, particularly in light of its open-access format, which allows for immediate dissemination and broad international reach.

I am pleased to introduce the present volume, which is organized into two sections. The first section presents four regular submissions, while the second is a special section on the topic *The Use of the Rorschach to Enhance Diagnostic Systems*.

In the first section, Matsuda and colleagues (2025) and Milesi and colleagues (2025) re-analyze existing databases from prior Rorschach studies to explore new research questions. This strategy is particularly promising given the increasing emphasis on open science frameworks, especially in the context of Rorschach research, where data collection is uniquely challenging and resource intensive. Mazzeschi and colleagues (2025) extend the line of work on attachment previously published in *Rorschachiana* (see for example, Berant, 2017; Berant & Zim, 2013). Their contribution examines the concept of attachment defenses as articulated in another narrative assessment, the Adult Attachment Projective Picture System (AAP; George & West, 2012). By linking the Rorschach to central constructs of attachment theory, their study continues a fruitful dialogue between projective methods and attachment research.

Carstairs and colleagues (2025) present a clinical case study of a patient who – supported by his therapist – underwent significant life changes that influenced multiple domains of functioning. The patient's initial difficulties, the mobilized resources, and the subsequent transformation are documented through two Rorschach protocols administered 14 years apart.

The second section, specially curated by Radhika Krishnamurthy, is devoted to the use of the Rorschach in enhancing diagnostic systems, and she outlines the origins and the rationale of this collection in her editorial (Krishnamurthy, 2025). Krishnamurthy notes that only the contribution by Philips and Bach (2025) met the requirements of the initial call for papers, while the other three invited papers (Acklin, 2025; Fontan, 2025; Husain, 2025) were included for their relevance to the relationship between the Rorschach and contemporary diagnostic models. The section concludes with a commentary by Robert Bornstein (2025), whose earlier work (Bornstein, 2022) provided the impetus for this issue. His commentary addresses timely issues such as categorical vs. dimensional models of psychopathology and the Rorschach, the role of the Rorschach within multi-method assessment, and the unique contributions of the Rorschach compared with self-report instruments.

Taken together, the two sections form a coherent whole. The first underscores the versatility of the Rorschach in advancing empirical research, bridging theories of personality and attachment, and informing clinical practice. The second complements this by situating the Rorschach within broader diagnostic debates, showing how the method could contribute to the refinement of contemporary assessment systems. Both parts of the volume, though distinct in scope, reflect the same overarching theme: the integration of Rorschach research into the wider scientific discourse of psychology.

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