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Front Matter

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THE JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ART THERAPY is an online peer-reviewed publication. It is sponsored by the Graduate Department of Marital and Family Therapy, and housed within the College of Communication and Fine Art at Loyola Marymount University. The journal contributes to the knowledge about art therapy and supports the practice development within a systemic context. Specifically, the journal is informed by mental health practices in the US and internationally, engagement in artistic processes, and a broad understanding of diversity.

MISSION:
The Journal of Clinical Art Therapy is dedicated to the scholarly and clinical exploration of art psychotherapy within a systemic framework. The philosophy that guides this journal asserts that the systematic exploration of the systemic and cultural dimensions of art psychotherapy enhances the meaning and usefulness of this work.

SCOPE:
The journal accepts articles that are theoretical, research based, or clinically based inquiries of art therapy. Systematic works that explore new clinical interventions, specific populations, cultural considerations, and art therapists’ creative explorations which expand art therapy practices are particularly encouraged.

We invite you to submit a full length article describing original research or discussing theory and practice in clinical art therapy. We welcome scholarly or systematic exploration of clinical topics that contribute to art therapists’ professional development and the expansion of our field’s body of knowledge. Submissions, which must be less than 5,500 words and adhere to APA format, will follow a blind review selection process. More details for the submission requirements are provided under the “Policies” link at http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/jcat/.

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About the Cover Art: “Heart” by Jillien Kahn.
Jillien is an art therapist and sex therapist in New York. This collage, like much of her work, represents many aspects of our culture’s complex relationship with sex and sexuality. Hearts offer a representation of intimacy and passion, both symbolically and literally, first by symbolizing intimacy and connectedness, then literally by creating the increased blood flow and body heat indicative of sexual response. The heart rests in water, showing the depth and fluidity of sexuality at every level. The eye peeking through represents our cultural experience of sexuality, hidden, unsure, but insatiably curious, while flowers represent the beauty and fragility of sexual experience.