



# Foucault as Translator of Binswanger and von Weizsäcker

Stuart Elden 

University of Warwick

## Abstract

Foucault's Introduction to a translation of Ludwig Binswanger's essay 'Dream and Existence' was published in late 1954. The translation was credited to Jacqueline Verdeaux, with Foucault acknowledged for the notes. Yet Verdeaux herself indicates the intensely collaborative nature of their working process and the translation. In 1958, Victor von Weizsäcker's *Der Gestaltkreis* was published in French as *Le Cycle de la structure*, translated by Foucault and Daniel Rocher. Foucault went on to translate and introduce Immanuel Kant's *Anthropology* as his secondary doctoral thesis. His engagement with Kant and Binswanger's ideas has been discussed in the literature, but his role as translator has generally been neglected. His engagement with von Weizsäcker is almost never mentioned. This article critically discusses Foucault's role in the Binswanger and von Weizsäcker translations, comparing the German originals with the French texts, and showing how this is a useful additional element to the story of the early Foucault.

## Keywords

Binswanger, Foucault, translation, von Weizsäcker

## Introduction

This article discusses Foucault's early work as a translator of two texts, both collaborative. One was Ludwig Binswanger's essay '*Traum und Existenz*' [Dream and Existence], which is best known to Foucault scholars because of its long Introduction. It has the publication date of 1954, but printing was delayed, and it did not actually appear until early 1955. Jacqueline Verdeaux was credited for the translation, Foucault for the Introduction and notes, but there are strong indications Foucault was an active participant in the translation process. The other text was a book by Viktor von Weizsäcker, *Der Gestaltkreis: Theorie der Einheit von Wahrnehmen und Bewegen* [The Gestalt Cycle: Theory of the Unity of

---

**Corresponding author:** Stuart Elden. Email: [stuart.elden@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:stuart.elden@warwick.ac.uk)

**Extra material:** <http://theoryculturesociety.org/>

Perception and Movement], which Foucault co-translated with Daniel Rocher as *Le Cycle de la structure*. This translation appeared in 1958 but was completed a few years earlier. These translations were made at the time Foucault was beginning his teaching career at the University of Lille and the École normale supérieure in Paris. They are closely related in production to Foucault's first book, *Maladie mentale et personnalité* (1954). The Introduction to the Binswanger text was the last text written for publication until *The History of Madness* in 1961 – two book chapters which appeared in 1957 were likely completed a few years before.

## Ludwig Binswanger

On 22 September 1950, in the Amphithéâtre Descartes at the Sorbonne, where Edmund Husserl had given his 'Cartesian Meditations' lectures 21 years before, Ludwig Binswanger opened a symposium on '*Analyse existentielle*'. An extract of his opening speech was published the following year in the journal *L'Encéphale*. The translator was Victor Gourevitch, but when it appeared in print as '*La "Daseinsanalyse" en Psychiatrie*' in 1951, the translation had been amended by the author with Georges and Jacqueline Verdeaux.<sup>1</sup>

Jacqueline Verdeaux had previously co-translated Ruth Bochner and Florence Halpern's *The Clinical Application of the Rorschach Test* (1945 [1942]) with André Ombredane. Rorschach tests were to be the topic of her next project. Verdeaux was asked by Ombredane to meet with the Swiss psychologist Roland Kuhn and to show him a translation of a work of psychiatric diagnostics (Eribon, 2011: 80). At the same time Ombredane lent her a copy of Kuhn's book *Maskendeutungen im Rorschachschen Versuch* [On Mask Meanings in Rorschach Experiments] (1944). Verdeaux went to visit Kuhn at his clinic in Münsterlingen on the Bodensee, and as well as sharing Ombredane's translation, proposed that she translate his book on masks into French. It finally appeared in 1957 as *Phénoménologie du masque à travers le Test de Rorschach* (1992). As well as agreeing to her translation of his own book, Kuhn suggested to Verdeaux that she should also translate more of his friend and colleague Binswanger's work (Macey, 1993: 59).

Even before the Sorbonne lecture Binswanger was not unknown in France. He had been cited by Maurice Merleau-Ponty and in some psychiatric work by Eugène Minkowski and Henri Ey, and an essay of his had been translated in 1938 (retranslated in 1970: 201–37). Verdeaux and Binswanger discussed some more translation ideas and agreed the next piece should be the 1930 essay '*Traum und Existenz*'. Kuhn reports Binswanger as saying that the text was 'conceived as an introduction to the method of work he had been developing until that point' (2001: 153). Verdeaux began work even though no publisher had been found (Eribon, 2011: 80–1; Macey, 1993: 59).

Binswanger worked at the Bellevue Sanatorium in Kreuzlingen, which he had directed since 1910. It had been founded by his grandfather, then directed by his father. This was not the full extent of the family business – Ludwig’s uncle Otto, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Jena, had treated Friedrich Nietzsche. Binswanger had studied with Eugen Bleuler, Sigmund Freud, Carl Gustav Jung and Karl Jaspers. Extraordinarily, given the Foucault connection, Ludwig Binswanger also treated the novelist Raymond Roussel, but Élisabeth Roudinesco notes that ‘the case history he assembled of his patient has not survived’ (1990: 30). Binswanger’s earliest writings show the profound influence of Freud on his thinking, and his philosophical engagement with German thought, especially neo-Kantianism.<sup>2</sup> He kept up a correspondence with Freud which lasted from 1908 until 1938, just before Freud’s death in 1939 (Freud and Binswanger, 1992, 2003; see Binswanger, 1956, 1957c). Schizophrenia was one of Binswanger’s key interests, with four major studies published on the topic.<sup>3</sup>

Caroline Gros suggests that there are three main periods in Binswanger’s work, corresponding to his engagement with Freud, Edmund Husserl and Martin Heidegger (Gros, 2009: 19). It was his engagement with Heidegger that would shape his work most profoundly. He read Heidegger from 1928 (Gros-Azorin, 1998: 24), began a correspondence with him that year, and they met for the first time in 1929. Their correspondence only ended with Binswanger’s death in 1966.<sup>4</sup> He was not uncritical, and in particular challenged Heidegger’s notion of care as the resolution to issues with a stress instead on love (Binswanger, 1992–4, Vol. 3: 236; 1958: 195; see Holzhey-Kunz, 2014: 13). The resulting development of psychoanalysis in the light of Heidegger’s work is sometimes known as existential psychotherapy, but Binswanger’s own preferred term was *Daseinsanalyse*. Kuhn underscores that ‘Binswanger insisted many times on the fact that *Daseinsanalyse* was above all a method of scientific research and not a method for psychotherapeutic practice’ (2001: 161). There is no space for a fuller discussion of Binswanger’s work here, but by the time he wrote ‘Dream and Existence’ in 1930, he was in the last of these periods.

### *Translating Binswanger*

Verdeaux had worked with Jacques Lacan and was working and studying at the Hôpital Sainte-Anne in Paris. This work and her previous translation experience meant that the psychoanalytic and clinical vocabulary of Binswanger did not pose many problems for her, though there were greater challenges when it came to the philosophical language, especially regarding Heidegger and phenomenology. While Kuhn had referenced Heidegger in *Maskendeutungen im*

*Rorschachschen Versuch* concerning angst, innerworldly-being and being and appearance (Kuhn, 1992: 68, 215), Binswanger's text was of a different order of magnitude. As Verdeaux was less familiar with that technical language, she turned to Foucault for help. Verdeaux had known Foucault since his childhood, as her parents had been friends of Foucault's. She had spent the war with her brother in the safety of Poitiers, and during that time she became the assistant anaesthetist to Foucault's father, Dr Paul Foucault (Eribon, 2011: 79; Macey, 1993: 6–7).

Foucault had been a serious reader of Heidegger since his student years, and this was an ideal opportunity for him. It combined his professional interest in psychology, which he was teaching at the time in both Paris and Lille, with his background in philosophy. He knew the specialised vocabulary and had ideas of how to render it in French. Indeed, relatively little of Heidegger's work was translated at the time, and Foucault and Verdeaux were partly shaping the vocabulary themselves, rather than simply rendering it consistent to existing works in French. The resulting translation was attributed to Verdeaux alone. Verdeaux's reports of their working practices to Eribon and Macey suggest that the translation was rather more collaborative. They met in the late afternoon or evening at the Ecole Normale Supérieure after Verdeaux had finished work at Sainte-Anne, and they discussed the best way to render the terms into French (Eribon, 2011: 81; Macey, 1993: 60). Work on the translation began at the end of 1953, and was completed in February 1954, when a copy was sent to Binswanger.<sup>5</sup>

While Foucault does not get a translator credit, he was credited for the notes. In fact, some of these notes are Binswanger's own, though the distinction is not marked. Some of the additional notes are simply to provide a reference: Foucault spells out that *Maler Nolten* (Binswanger, 1992: 101; 1954: 140; 1993: 84) is a reference to Eduard Mörike's novel *Nolten, the Painter* (in Binswanger, 1954: 140 n. 1); or that an unreferenced quotation (1992: 103; 1954: 143–4; 1993: 85–6) is from Goethe's *Faust* (1954: 144 n. 1). There are other unreferenced quotations which Foucault does not provide. Another note is an editorial reference that a phrase appears in French in Binswanger's German text (1992: 97; 1954: 134; 1993: 82; 1954: 134 n. 1); Foucault also adds a reference to a Binswanger's *Wandlungen in der Auffassung und Deutung des Traumes* [Transformations in the Perception and Interpretation of the Dream] which is only mentioned obliquely (1992: 105; 1954: 146; 1993: 86; 1954: 146 n. 1; Binswanger, 1928). Two notes are, however, much more interesting than these mechanical ones, because they give an indication of translation choices. These notes have not been republished in this form, and since the original translation is hard to find, I include the French text below before a translation.

## Dasein as Présence

The first note, on the opening page of Binswanger's text, reads:

*Avec l'accord de l'auteur, nous avons traduit Dasein par «présence». Bien entendu, cette traduction ne cherche pas à mettre en valeur les coordonnées spatio-temporelles qui situeraient l'existence dans le hic et nunc d'une objectivité; mais elle nous a semblé plus valable que l'habituelle «existence» pour restituer dans sa structure significative le mot allemande Dasein («être là»). Ce qu'exprime la «présence», n'est-ce pas à la fois la facticité d'une existence en situation (présence ici), et, en même temps, son ouverture sur un monde (présence au monde)?*

With the author's agreement we have translated *Dasein* as 'présence [presence]'. Of course, this translation does not mean to foreground existence within the spatio-temporal coordinates of the *hic* and *nunc* of objectivity, but it seems more useful to us than the usual 'existence' in order to give the significative structure of the German word *Dasein* ('être là' [being there]). Is it not the case that 'presence' expresses both the facticity of existence in a situation – presence here – and at the same time – its opening to a world (presence to the world)? (1954: 131 n. 1)

In the 1971 reedition of the text, this note is incorporated into the Glossary, with Foucault and Binswanger being acknowledged for the formulation (Verdeaux and Kuhn, 1971: 30).

Macey has commented that, 'in terms of translation practice, the most interesting feature of the text is the joint decision, reached after lengthy discussion, to render *Dasein* as "presence in the world"' (Macey, 1993: 59). While it is 'presence', not 'presence in the world', the point is well made. *Dasein* is a standard German word which means existence and can be found in philosophical texts before Heidegger. But in his 1927 book *Sein und Zeit* [*Being and Time*], Heidegger uses it in a stressed way to examine the particular structures and characteristics of human existence, their experience of being. Heidegger also uses the word *Existenz*, of Latinate rather than Germanic roots, and translations try to find some way of marking the distinction. For example, Heidegger says that 'the "essence" of *Dasein* lies in its existence [*Existenz*]' (1927: 42; 1962: 67).<sup>6</sup>

Heidegger importantly highlights the word's linguistic sense of *Da-sein*, literally there-being or being-the-there. While Heidegger stressed that the 'there' should not be understood in a simple, spatial, sense of location, some early French translations or adaptations, notably Jean-Paul Sartre's *L'être et le néant* [*Being and Nothingness*], used the term *être-là*, and some English translations followed suit with 'being-there'. Early

French translations, such as Henry Corbin's 1938 translation of *What is Metaphysics?* as *Qu'est-ce que la métaphysique?* had used the term *la réalité humaine* (i.e. 22; see Bligh, 2011). Simply keeping the German word *Dasein* has become standard practice in modern English and French translations, indicating the distinctive philosophical weight Heidegger gives it. Binswanger adopts the distinction between *Existenz* and *Dasein* from Heidegger, and so Foucault and Verdeaux had to face this challenge. They translate *Existenz* as existence (i.e. 1992: 96; 1954: 133; 1993: 81) and *Dasein* sometimes in the same way (1992: 95, 96; 1954: 132, 133; 1993: 81, 82). But generally, they do translate *Dasein* as *présence*. Examples include '*Unseres Dasein*' as '*notre présence*, i.e. our *Dasein* (1992: 99; 1954: 138; 1993: 83), and '*dieses Wir, das Subjekt des Daseins*' as '*ce nous, sujet de la présence*', 'this we, the subject of *Dasein*' (1992: 100; 1954: 139; 1993: 84).

In his 1950 Paris lecture, Binswanger had noted that he rejected the use of the French term '*existence*' and that he would use the German *Dasein* instead. Although the symposium was on '*Analyse existentielle*' he says it should be on '*Daseins-analyse*'. *Dasein*, he notes, is an 'almost untranslatable' word, and even suggests '*Analyse anthropologique phénoménologique*' as a possibility (1951: 108). He underlines that 'phenomenology is the only method appropriate to anthropology' (1951: 110). By anthropology he means the same kind of thing Foucault did in a Lille and ENS course of the same period, namely a science of the human in the broadest sense, the issue of being human.<sup>7</sup> One of the reasons Binswanger resists 'existence' is that it evokes the idea of 'existentialism' and, to his mind, 'Heidegger is an ontologist philosopher and not an existential philosopher in the manner of Sartre' (1951: 108–9). The second reason is that "'*Dasein*" includes the soul and the body, the conscious and the unconscious, the voluntary and the involuntary, thought and action, emotivity, affectivity and instinct and that an idea which includes all of this can only be that of Being itself, to the exclusion of any qualification' (1951: 109). It might therefore be questioned why, a few years later, Verdeaux and Foucault, with Binswanger's support, chose to render *Dasein* as *présence*.

As Henri Maldiney underlines, this term is fundamental to understanding the approach which Binswanger develops: '*Daseinsanalyse* is first an analysis of the structural and temporal structures of *présence*' (1973: 92). However, it is worth stressing that Verdeaux and Foucault do not use the term *présence* simply as a translation of Binswanger's use of *Dasein*, but also for Heidegger's use. This is found when Binswanger quotes Heidegger, and the translators adopt this term there. One example is helpful in giving a context to Binswanger's use for his focus on the relation between dream and existence:

*Hier ist, um mit Heidegger zu reden, das Dasein vor sein Sein gebracht; es ist gebracht, insofern als ihm etwas geschieht, und als er*

*nicht weiss, wie und was ihm geschieht. Das ist der ontologische Grundzug all Träumens und seiner Verwandtschaft mit der Angst! [4] Träumen heisst: Ich weiss nicht, wie mir geschieht.*

*Nous dirons ici, pour parler avec Heidegger, que la «présence est amenée devant son être». Elle y est amenée dans la mesure où quelque chose lui arrive et où elle ne sait pas comment cela lui est arrivé ni même ce qui lui est arrivé. Ceci est le trait ontologique fondamental de tout rêve et de sa parenté avec l'angoisse [1]. Rêver signifie: «Je ne sais pas ce qui m'arrive».*

To use Heidegger's words here, 'Dasein is brought before its own being' – insofar, that is, as something happens to it and *Dasein* knows neither the 'how' nor the 'what' of the happening. This is the basic ontological element of all dreaming and its relatedness to anxiety or angst [12]. To dream means: I don't know what is happening to me. (1992: 134; 1954: 190–1; 1993: 102)

It is clear that Binswanger sees this insight as profoundly significant for his project. The notion of *Angst*, generally translated into English either as anxiety or angst, is here *angoisse*, anguish or fear. Binswanger indicates that dreaming is an excellent example of this detachment which Heidegger speaks about. The note makes a reference to Heidegger's *What Is Metaphysics?* though the quotation is from *Being and Time* (1927: 184; 1962: 228). In the note Binswanger comments:

*Wir betrachten die Angstträume als den Prototyp der im Dasein als solchem gelegenen existentiellen Urangst. Vgl Heidegger, Was ist Metaphysik?*

*Nous considérons les rêves d'angoisse comme le prototype de l'angoisse existentielle originelle, déposée dans la présence en tant que telle (Cf Heidegger, Qu'est-ce que la métaphysique?)*

We view anxiety dreams as the prototype of the *Dasein's* (as such) primal essential anxiety. See Heidegger, *What Is Metaphysics?* (1992: 134 n. 4; 1954: 191 n. 1; 1993: 105 n. 12)

Indeed, this status which Binswanger accords the dream as 'eine bestimmte Art des Menschseins', 'une modalité particulière de l'être humaine', 'a determined mode of human being' is crucial (1992: 102; 1954: 142; 1993: 85). He sees the dream as an addition to Heidegger's privileged modes of

access to ontological understanding. For Heidegger, thought, as opposed to philosophy and poetry, were central. Binswanger suggests that for insight into the 'essential ontological structure' [of 'tottering, sinking, falling'], there are three aspects: 'Language, the imagination of the poet, and – above all – the dream' (1992: 99; 1954: 137; 1993: 83). Yet while this third addition is Binswanger's major contribution in the essay, Verdeaux and Foucault push him still further. Binswanger says '*den die Sprache ist es, die für uns alle «dichtet und denkt», noch ehe der Einzelne es zum eigenen Dichten und Denken gebracht hat*', which we might render as 'for it is language which "poetizes and thinks" for us before the individual themselves is able to poetize and think'. Extraordinarily, Verdeaux and Foucault chose to render '*dichtet und denkt*' as '*rêve et crée*' – 'dreams and creates' (1992: 95; 1954: 132; 1993: 81). A literal translation of their translation would read: 'For it is language which "dreams and creates" for us before the individual themselves is able to dream and create'. For Heidegger, especially in his readings of Friedrich Hölderlin, and following him Binswanger, there is a close relation between thinking and poetizing, something entirely missed in Verdeaux and Foucault's rendering.

### *Stimmung*

The second note by Foucault to the French text is also revealing and relates to the term *bestimmte* cited above. Binswanger makes a note of the distinction found '*Im Bild und in der stimmungsmässigen Reaktion auf dasselbe*' – 'in the image and in the affective response to the image', which Verdeaux and Foucault render as '*l'image et dans la réaction thymique*'. They add a note at this point:

*Binswanger emploie le mot Stimmung pour désigner aussi bien la coloration affective d'une expérience vécue que le caractère réceptif de l'existence humaine considérée au niveau de l'existential ontologique (cf plus haut, le mot réceptivité). En effet, aucun mot français ne nous a paru correspondre, à lui seul, à une acception aussi large, nous l'avons traduit par 'humour' chaque fois que le mot Stimmung était analysé surtout au niveau de l'expérience psychologique.*

Binswanger employs the word *Stimmung* to designate as much the affective coloration of a lived experience as the receptive characteristic of human existence – considered at the level of an ontological existential (see, above, the word *réceptivité*). However, no single French word seems to correspond to this broad meaning, so we have translated *Stimmung* as 'humour' each time the word *Stimmung* is analysed at the level of psychological experience. (1954: 151 n. 1)



In the 1971 reedition of the text, this note appears as a translator's note in an earlier location, with the omission of the comment on *réceptivité* (201 n. 2). In place of the original note, there is a cross-reference to the earlier discussion (208 n. 6).

The reference to *réceptivité* is important. It comes when Binswanger's '*Geworfensein der Stimmung*' is translated as '*l'abandon à la réceptivité*'. While the French would be literally rendered as 'the abandonment (or surrender) to receptivity', a more Heideggerian reading of the German would be something like 'the being-thrown of mood' (1992: 98; 1954: 135; 1993: 82). It is clear that the note in the text shows a deep understanding of the notion of *Stimmung*, even if we might quibble with the choice of *humour* as its principal translation. 'Mood' or 'attunement' are more common English renderings, and there is arguably a lineage to more recent discussions of 'affect'.

Yet *Stimmung* does not just appear as a substantive, but also as an element within other words. The term '*bestimmte*' and '*stimmungsmässigen*' were discussed above, and there are other examples. Two come in this contrast between '*Gestimmtsein*' and '*den längeren und tieferen Wellen der normalen und pathologischen exaltierten und depressiven «Verstimmung»*'. Verdeaux and Foucault render this as '*l'humour suscitée... aux ondes plus longues et plus profondes de «l'altération de l'humour» exaltée et depressive, chez les êtres normaux et pathologiques*'. The contrast is between *Gestimmtsein*, being-attuned, and 'the larger and deeper rhythms of normal and pathologically manic and depressive disattunement [*Verstimmung*]', which Verdeaux and Foucault put in a way which would be literally re-translated as 'humour aroused' and 'alteration of humour' (1992: 108; 1954: 152; 1993: 88). Elsewhere, they translate *Stimmungsgehalt* as *contenu thymique* (1992: 111; 1954: 157; 1993: 90).

### Other Choices

Some other translation choices are also worth noting. For the German *Erlebnis* they use, not the simple 'experience', but '*l'expérience vécue*', 'lived experience', to stress the German word for life, *Leben* (1992: 95; 1954: 132; 1993: 81). They chose to translate the German *Trieb* as *instinct*, instinct, rather than as *pulsion*, drive (1992: 132; 1954: 188; 1993: 101). Given Freud marks a distinction between the German *Instinkt* and *Trieb*, the choice is potentially confusing. This has been a theme much discussed in terms of how Freud should be translated into English.

One of the key aspects of Heidegger's work is that *Dasein* is always already embedded in a world – not first a subject which then encounters a world, but his hyphenated term of *In-der-Welt-Sein*, being-in-the-world. He also uses the term *Welt*, world, in compounds such as *Umwelt*, *Mitwelt* – literally the surrounding world and the with-world, often

translated as environment and shared-world – and *Eigenwelt*, the own-world of self-reflection. The notion of *Umwelt* is much used in environmental psychology, especially in work following the biologist Jakob von Uexküll, and in French is often translated as *milieu*. Yet when Binswanger uses the phrase ‘*Um- und Mitwelt*’, Verdeaux and Foucault chose to render this as ‘*le monde extérieur et le monde d’autrui*’, literally ‘the exterior world and the world of the other’ (1992: 96; 1954: 133; 1993: 81). This is arguably a misunderstanding of both terms: the world is not exterior to *Dasein*, but surrounding, enveloping, of which *Dasein* is an essential part. Similarly, *Mitwelt* is not the world of others, but the world of our encounter *with* others, shared or together. Binswanger also stresses the importance of *Mitsein*, being-with or co-existence. Heidegger begins to develop themes around this question in *Being and Time*, even if his main focus is on *Dasein* and its engagements in the world and with other beings as a means of access to the question of being itself. As Maldiney puts it, the notion of with-man [*Mit-Mensch*] is crucial to Binswanger, whose work is more concerned with the inter-personal: ‘the man of the with; the man who exists to encounter [*l’homme de l’avec, l’homme qui existe à rencontrer*]. *Dasein* is *Mitsein*’ (1973: 209).

There is one significant difference between the original 1930 version of Binswanger’s essay in *Neue Schweizer Rundschau* and the 1947 reprint in *Ausgewählte Vorträge und Aufsätze*. Although Binswanger notes the omission in his preface to the 1947 version, the paragraph does not appear in the French translation (1947–55, Vol. I: 11).<sup>8</sup> While its content is not especially important, a reader should have been alerted to its absence. Equally, in one passage, there is some of the quoted Greek missing from the French translation (1992: 126; 1954: 178–9; 1993: 98). Verdeaux and Foucault’s translation is thus not a critical edition of the text, and, at times, even a little careless. Nor are these issues addressed in the reprint of the text in 1971. But it cannot be stressed enough the challenge they faced, with relatively little of Heidegger’s work translated into French at the time. Verdeaux and Foucault were forging a path not just in the translation of Binswanger, but also in his use of Heideggerian terms.

### *Introducing Binswanger*

Having completed the translation, Verdeaux recalls saying to Foucault: ‘If you like the book, do a preface for it’ (quoted in Eribon, 2011: 81). Verdeaux continues that while she was in Provence on holiday over Easter 1954, she received a large envelope. It contained a long sprawling text, just over twice as long as the essay it introduced. Foucault’s note simply read: ‘Here is your Easter egg’ (cited in Eribon, 2011: 81–2). This story should be taken with some scepticism, as there was discussion of an introduction earlier that year. But its length seems to have surprised

everyone. Verdeaux was enthusiastic about the text, and so Foucault sent it to Binswanger on 27 April 1954. In a letter to Binswanger accompanying the text, Foucault says that he has two purposes: 'to show the importance of the dream for existential analysis [*analyse existentielle*]' and 'to show how your conception of the dream implies a complete renewal of analyses of imagination'.<sup>9</sup>

Binswanger's reply to Foucault of 6 May 1954 shows that he not only read the Introduction with interest, but shared it with Kuhn and Wilhelm Szilasi, a former colleague of Husserl and Heidegger, now living in Switzerland.<sup>10</sup> A few days later, on 10 May 1954, he wrote again, saying that Foucault had done 'an excellent job', which was a 'great scientific honour' to him, especially praising his work on the 'movement of the imagination', and extending his work on the dream, as he had done to Freud.<sup>11</sup> The letter goes on to note a number of qualifications to Foucault's Introduction, which Foucault says he will address in its revision.<sup>12</sup> It is not clear how many actually were addressed, since the published text contains the issues Binswanger raised.

Foucault's friend Maurice Pinguet recalled that Foucault found it amusing to have written an essay over twice as long as the text it introduced (Pinguet, 2009: 52). There was some difficulty persuading the publisher to accept a long text by an unknown thinker introducing a translation by someone who was scarcely known in France. *Le rêve et l'existence* did not receive much attention when it was published. While a few hundred copies were sold quite quickly, a couple of years later the 'remaining copies were pulped' (Macey, 1993: 60–1). There were only two critical discussions in the 1950s. One was in an essay by Henri Ey in *L'Evolution Psychiatrique* in 1956, which mentions Foucault's 'magnificent and substantial introduction' (p. 109 n. 1). A review by Robert Misrahi in *Revue de Métaphysique et de Morale* appeared in 1959. Misrahi describes the importance of the Introduction, outlining in some detail its conceptual moves and the use Foucault makes of Binswanger's text. It is critical of Foucault's neglect of Sartre, though Misrahi does agree with Foucault – who is himself following Heidegger and Binswanger's approach – that philosophy must begin by being an anthropology before becoming an ontology, and finally 'an ethics of history and historicity' (Misrahi, 1959: 105–6). Yet what is perhaps most interesting about this review is that it is much more about Foucault than Binswanger, and as well as being the most significant discussion of the Introduction, is the first sustained engagement with Foucault's work at all.

Foucault's text is more than just an introduction, as Binswanger himself noted. It also promises a future work continuing its themes, which was never published (1994: 65; 1993: 31). Yet a fuller manuscript on Binswanger was written around this time and is discussed by Elisabetta Basso elsewhere in this issue. This seems to be the text which Foucault

indicated. The manuscript, like the Introduction, develops themes from some of Foucault's teaching in this period.<sup>13</sup> Rather than needing to be persuaded by Verdeaux to write an introduction to a text for which he had discovered a real enthusiasm, it seems that Foucault had a wealth of material on Binswanger already prepared in relation to his teaching, and that this project gave him a suitable outlet. Basso has also suggested that reading this introduction in the light of the Lille lecture courses allows us to see that this concern was not merely a 'misstep' in Foucault's career, but that it links to the work that went into *History of Madness* (2016: 40–41; see Basso, this issue). Yet the path there is not straightforward, and Foucault's inquiries went down many detours (see Elden, forthcoming). Of course, since Foucault's profile rose, the limited attention to this text has changed somewhat, though it remains a neglected part of his work (see Revel, 1992; Monod, 1997; Sabot, 2006; Smyth, 2011).

Verdeaux continued work on Binswanger after this initial essay, acting as translator of one of his case studies on schizophrenia, the *Le cas Suzanne Urban* (Binswanger, 1957b). Though it is credited to Verdeaux alone, Basso has suggested that Foucault and Kuhn should share the translator credits for this work too (2007: 319), while Binswanger's preface to the translation simply thanks them as his 'friends' for their 'precious advice' (Binswanger, 1957b: 11). Verdeaux also translated Jakob Wyrsch's *Die Person des Schizophrenen* (1956 [1949]). Foucault's links to Binswanger ended after he moved to Uppsala in 1955: the only letter from Foucault after 1954 was a note thanking Binswanger for sending him a copy of his *Erinnerungen an Sigmund Freud* in 1956.<sup>14</sup> In 1971 Verdeaux was the lead translator of a collection of Binswanger's work that appeared in the *Arguments* series edited by Kostas Axelos with Les Éditions de Minuit. This text has a preface by Roland Kuhn and Henri Maldiney, and a glossary by Verdeaux and Kuhn. The 1954 translation of 'Dream and Existence' is reprinted in this collection (1971: 199–215); a more recent translation was made by Françoise Dastur in 2012. Foucault's role goes unmentioned in the 1971 reprint: even his notes are now incorporated as either translator notes or into the glossary. Verdeaux's later translation projects seem to be disconnected from the psychological works – they include writings on theatre, ethnography and libretti.

### **Viktor von Weizsäcker**

While Foucault's introduction to the Binswanger text is fairly well known, his role as a co-translator of a text by Viktor von Weizsäcker, *Der Gestaltkreis*, is rarely discussed at all. Von Weizsäcker was a physician and neurologist, who became Professor of Neurology and Director of the Institute of Neurological Research in Breslau, formerly in

Germany, and now in Wrocław in Poland. Von Weizsäcker, who died in 1957, was one of the founders of medical anthropology (see Hahn, 1991; Célis, 2004, 2007; Wiedebach, 2009). He came from a very distinguished elite family. His brother was the naval officer and Nazi diplomat Ernst von Weizsäcker, and Viktor was therefore the uncle of the future president of Germany, Richard von Weizsäcker, and the physicist Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker. In his work he was critical of claims of a pure, objective science, and played a crucial role in the development of 'psychosomatics and social medicine' (Böhme, 2007: 18).

Quite how Foucault came to be involved in the translation is unclear. Daniel Rocher, his co-translator, was also a former philosophy student from the *École Normale Supérieure*. Henri Ey provides an introduction. Ey was a major figure in French psychiatry for almost 50 years, though little of his work is in English (see Ey, 1950–4, 1969). Foucault would have heard Ey lecture at Sainte-Anne (Eribon, 2011: 75–6; Macey, 1993: 41), and this may have been the link that brought him to the project. Binswanger occasionally references von Weizsäcker in his work (i.e. Binswanger, 1992–4, Vol. 3: 240–1, 1958: 198–9); and as Gros suggests, his work has a relation to von Weizsäcker on the subject of illness as a creation of phenomena (2009: 8). Georges Canguilhem also had an interest in von Weizsäcker's work (i.e. Canguilhem, 1977: 167). The only other book by von Weizsäcker in French is *Pathosophie* (2011; see Palem, 2012); none of his books are in English.

### *Translation*

The translation was published on 3 February 1958 but was completed sometime before this. Foucault first mentions the translation as complete in 1953, when he was asked by the Université de Lille for a list of his publications, and the text was submitted to the press in late 1954. Defert's indication that Foucault was still working on it while in Uppsala in March 1956 (1994: 21) must refer to a stage in the book's production process. The German text was first published in 1940; the translation is of the 1948 fourth edition. While the second and third editions have brief prefaces, the text was substantially the same, with just some additions to the notes (1973: 4–5, 5; 1958: 34, 34–5). The fourth edition had a much more substantial preface (1973: 6–22; 1958: 19–31). Von Weizsäcker stresses that the preface is not an attempt to rewrite the work, but to indicate some marginal thoughts concerning themes he has returned to and others which have arisen since its first publication (1973: 7; 1958: 20). The translation again appeared with Desclée de Brouwer, in the series on 'Bibliothèque Neuro-Psychiatrique de langue française', which had also included *Phénoménologie du masque* and *Le cas Suzanne Urban*, as well as works by Ey (1950–4), and an early co-authored study by Lacan (Bonnafé et al., 1950).

The translation is interesting in multiple ways. It begins with the title – *Der Gestaltkreis*. Foucault and Rocher render this as *Le Cycle de la structure*. Structure is rather a restrictive translation of *Gestalt*, which is often untranslated. *Gestalt* literally means shape or form, but it has a specific sense in psychology, where it is used to describe the way that the mind forms a coherent whole which is not simply the combination of individual perceptions or reactions. Indeed, Kurt Koffka, one of the founders of Gestalt psychology, made the claim that ‘the whole is other than the sum of the parts’, suggesting this was a more accurate claim than it being ‘greater than the sum’ (1999: 176). For Koffka the point was difference, not excess. While the projects should not be conflated, there is a resonance. As Ey stresses, for von Weizsäcker it is not ‘a simple structure in a circle [*structure en cercle*] (*Kreisgestalt*), but a “*Gestaltkreis*”, that is a cycle of structure [*cycle de la structure*]’ (1958: 11). While ‘structure’ as a choice is not in itself inaccurate, it certainly fails to capture the specific sense of the German term. Indeed, in the preface to the fourth edition von Weizsäcker notes that the term had an aspect and advantage he was not aware of initially: it does not imply a precise ‘cyclic structure [*Kreisgestalt*]’, but something which is not yet achieved. ‘This is the internal conflict between the perceptible image (suggested by the words “structure” and “cycle”), and the concept without figure which produces the composition of these two words’ (1973: 6; 1958: 19).

The subtitle *Theorie der Einheit von Wahrnehmen und Bewegen* [Theory of the Unity of Perception and Movement] is also significant – the book indeed offers a theory to unify the psychological and the physiological. While this is therefore a work engaging with both disciplines, the literature which von Weizsäcker utilises is much wider. The work included in this book is, he says, not something which can be labelled ‘biology, psychophysics or philosophy of nature’, but a development of themes in each of these domains in relation to ‘experimental research, as well as an attempt to base new pathological and medical research on new foundations’ (1973: 17; 1958: 27). In his terms, *Gestaltkreis* connects to biology, medicine and philosophy (1973: 22; 1958: 30).

Von Weizsäcker’s resources include biologists such as Hans Driesch and von Uexküll. In addition, he draws on concepts from philosophy, like ‘form, movement, object [*Gegenstand*], etc.’, and some from ‘philosophy of nature, such as space, time, function’ (1973: 21; 1958: 30). Husserl and Heidegger are also important to his project, which helps to explain Foucault’s role in the translation and, presumably, his interest in the text. Ey thinks it is remarkable that the only French authors mentioned by von Weizsäcker are Henri Bergson and Sartre, and he suggests that Merleau-Ponty may have been an inspiration (1958: 7, 10). Yet as the 1946 preface to the third edition notes, some of the key works – Sartre’s 1943 *Being and Nothingness* crucially – were published after the first

edition had appeared in 1939 (1973: 5; 1958: 34–5). Merleau-Ponty's *The Structure of Behaviour* first appeared in 1942, and *Phenomenology of Perception* not until 1945. Add to this the complications of printing and intellectual exchange during the war, and it makes more sense to imagine a partly-shared intellectual project and references than straightforward influence. Yet this does not mean the approaches are the same. In the third edition von Weizsäcker suggests that Sartre's book fills out what was only an 'anticipation' in his own work, but adds rather cuttingly that this is 'with the brilliant and decisive energy available to the philosopher who is better protected from the inextricable entanglement of empirical relations' (1973: 5; 1958: 34–5).

One of the most important aspects of von Weizsäcker's work is that he broadens the psychological sense of *Gestalt* to encompass physiological issues, notably movement. He sees perception and movement as being flexible responses, not fixed, and reworked and tuned through experience. His focus on movement includes the nervous system and motor functions. Hence the book's first theme is 'movement of living beings [*lebender Wesen/êtres vivants*] but not just any bodily or purely imaginary movement in the spatio-temporal system' (1973: 23; 1958: 37). The focus is rather on self-movement, 'spontaneity or auto-mobility [*Spontanität, die Selbstbewegung/spontanité, «auto-mobilité»*]' (1973: 23; 1958: 37). He notes that 'this implies that we admit the existence of a subject, of an active being for themselves and for their own ends' (1973: 23; 1958: 37). He argues that 'to study the living being, we must take part in life'. He is interested in life in its broadest sense, from birth to death (1973: 3; 1958: 33). For him, '*Biologie ist Formenkunde*'; 'biology is science of forms' (1973: 198; 1958: 170).

His focus requires him to discuss space and time in some detail, as a way of making sense of the encounter of the living being with their environment. Indeed, in the book's only diagram, von Weizsäcker puts the two in direct relation – *Organismus* [O] and *Umwelt* [U] (1973: 200; 1958: 171). This circle is, von Weizsäcker stresses, closed, a cycle which does not have an exterior or entry/exit point. He says that 'we call the genesis of the forms of the movement of organisms the *Gestaltkreis*' (1973: 200; 1958: 171). As so many other theorists of this relation, von Weizsäcker draws upon von Uexküll's work on the *Umwelt*. In distinction to the translation of 'Dream and Existence', Foucault and Rocher translate *Umwelt* sometimes as *milieu ou monde environnant* – milieu or environing world (1973: 237; 1958: 197; see 1973: 31, 32; 1958: 43, 44, etc.), though when *Umwelt* is contrasted with *Eigenwelt*, own or self-world, they translate it as '*l'univers environnant et l'univers propre*' (1973: 24; 1958: 38). All of these choices give a sense of the complexity of the German term, missed with a simple translation of *environnement* or environment.

In understanding this spatial sense of a *milieu*, a key theme of the book is 'orientation in space' (1973: 12; 1958: 23), and von Weizsäcker stresses

that we ‘must distinguish between physical-mathematical and biological integration of space’ (1973: 36; 1958: 47). As he expands:

Physical-mathematical integration has a system of references constant in time. Its coordinates must be in a state of total immobility, and all bodies which refer to it are thus without contradiction between themselves. Biological integration only has a momentary value [*Augenblicksgeltung/valeur momentanée*]; its ‘system of references [*Bezugssystem/système de références*]’ can certainly have a certain duration, but also in each moment it can be sacrificed in favour of another. It is not therefore a system strictly speaking, but an arrangement [*Einordnung/agencement*] of biological operation in the present. (1973: 36; 1958: 47)

In common with Husserl, Heidegger and many who came after them, von Weizsäcker argues that lived space needs to be opposed to mathematical space (1973: 214–15; 1958: 180–1). ‘If space is only biologically determined in relation to time, there follows from this – as with biological time – a net difference in structure from mathematical space’ (1973: 215; 1958: 180).

Yet it is worth underlining that space is not a theme for him just in relation to physiology, but also in terms of psychology, with a stress on the importance of spatial aspects of perception as much as temporal ones (1973: 159–60; 1958: 142–3). He argues that space and time take their order from a situation [*Situation/situation*] and event or appropriation [*Ereignis/événement*]. So, rather than an event or situation being located in space and time, they give rise to its definition and form. ‘Things are not in space and time, but space and time arise in the development of the happening [*Geschehens-Fortbildung/la continuité des événements*] and are thus founded in, or on, things. The world and things in it are not in space and time, but space and time are in the world, in its things’ (1973: 175–6; 1958: 154).

Indeed, in the note he provides here, von Weizsäcker quotes Heidegger on space, a passage from *Being and Time* which is interesting for Foucault and Rocher’s translation of *Dasein* as, again, *présence*:

*Der Raum ist weder im Subjekt, noch ist die Welt im Raum. Der Raum ist vielmehr ‘in’ der Welt; sofern das für das Dasein konstitutive In-der-Welt-Sein Raum erschlossen hat.*

*L’espace n’est pas dans le sujet et le monde n’est pas dans l’espace. L’espace est bien plutôt dans le monde; dans la mesure où l’être dans le monde, constitutif de la présence, a ouvert l’espace.* (1973: 287 n. 15; 1958: 154 n. 1).



In English, Heidegger's lines would read:

Space is not in the subject, nor is the world in space. Space is rather 'in' the world, to the extent that being-in-the-world, which is constitutive of *Dasein*, opens space.<sup>15</sup>

It is important to underscore that Foucault and Rocher grasp the importance of the complicated notion of *Ereignis*, which von Weizsäcker uses in a Heideggerian way. *Ereignis* is an event, but it is also tied to the notion of *eigen*, own or proper, and can be rendered in English as 'appropriation'. Foucault and Rocher chose *événement*, which is an event, though they rather muddy the waters by using the same term for *Geschehens*, which has a similar sense of an event in an unstressed way but is for Heidegger simply what happens.

There are only two brief translator notes from Foucault and Rocher, both of which say the same thing, that the French *percevoir*, to perceive, translates the German *Wahr-nehmen*, 'literally take for true [vraî]' (1958: 44 n. 1, 122 n. 1). Accordingly, they translate the crucial *Wahrnehmung* as *perception* – one of the two key terms of the work along with *Bewegung*, *mouvement*. Von Weizsäcker also uses the compounds *Selbstbewegung* [*automouvement* – self-movement] and *Selbstwahrnehmung* [*autoperception* – self-perception]. Part of the reason for the lack of translator notes or a preface is that the text has a detailed glossary, provided by von Weizsäcker with an explanation of key terms. The translation of this provides the German term, before a French equivalent, and then von Weizsäcker's gloss (1973: 291–4; 1958: 227–30). A separate set of notes on translation choices is thus largely unnecessary. One choice is also notable for showing that Foucault had, perhaps, not fully assimilated Heidegger's work. *Abbau* is rendered as *disparition* (which is also used to translate *Ausfall*, failure), rather than the literal unbuilding or dismantling: *Abbau* and *Destruktion* being the two terms Heidegger uses for his challenge to the philosophical tradition, which Jacques Derrida would of course capture in the term *deconstruction*. Indeed, part of Derrida's critique is of what he calls the 'metaphysics of presence'.

### *Political Controversy*

Von Weizsäcker is a controversial figure, though it is unclear how much of this Foucault could have been aware of in the mid-1950s. There is certainly no record Foucault met von Weizsäcker, who died a year before the French translation appeared. Von Weizsäcker can be judged both for his thought and his actions. In 1933, shortly after the Nazi party had gained power, he gave a lecture at the University of Freiburg on the invitation of Heidegger (Böhme, 2007: 18). This was shortly after Heidegger had been appointed as rector of the university, a political

appointment which led to his joining the Nazi party. The lecture was part of a programme of political education for students, held at the Paulus concert hall in the town, since the university did not have a room of sufficient size.

It has been suggested that because von Weizsäcker was not a Nazi, the invitation shows that Heidegger was still taking a distance from the regime (Young, 1997: 20). Indeed, Heidegger interrupted a student speech on the National Socialist revolution before the lecture with the instruction: 'This jabber [*Geschwätz* – nonsense] will stop immediately!' (Picht, 1977: 198–9; 1990: 162–3). Heidegger's political involvement with the Nazi regime has been widely discussed, and that is not the point here. Rather, it concerns von Weizsäcker and the politics of his work. The Freiburg lecture was published in 1934 in the Nazi journal *Volk im Werden* (reprinted in 1986: 143–57) and, in it, Von Weizsäcker advocated euthanasia and the political control of medicine. This was because he argued that illness could be a social problem, not caused by the social, but a problem for the social and therefore of importance beyond the individually sick body. Given that the nation was an organism, the pathogenic elements may need to be removed (see Böhme, 2007: 22; Roth, 1986).

While von Weizsäcker was not tried for his actions during the war, some of his medical research was also complicit with the Nazi regime. In its early years he was supportive of the shift from a social insurance system to forced labour projects. Much more seriously, Gernot Böhme suggests that writings such as this 1933 lecture develop 'a mode of thought that could be used to legitimate crimes against humanity' (2007: 18). Böhme argues that 'von Weizsäcker never actually committed such crimes himself, though he shares some responsibility for at least one' (Böhme, 2007: 18; see Baumann, 2012). This is by far the most damning charge. The institute he directed used the brains of children and young people murdered at the Loben (now Lubliniec) hospital for research.<sup>16</sup> The hospital was notorious for evaluating paediatric patients, treating some and poisoning others. That von Weizsäcker's research should have used the bodies for research is abhorrent.

Some of his advocates ignore, or are ignorant of, this political controversy, which has only really become known since his death.<sup>17</sup> Raphaël Célis, for example, in a brief biographical note to his study of von Weizsäcker's medical and clinical ethics, says that 'during the Second World War he devoted all his energy to caring for injured soldiers at the military hospital in Breslau' (2007: 23 n. 1). Hartwig Wiederbach is even more evasive, not mentioning the war, and simply noting that 'in 1941 he was appointed, as successor of Otfried Foerster, to the most prestigious chair in Neurology in Germany at the University in Breslau. In 1945 the Heidelberg Medical School established a chair in General Clinical Medicine especially for him' (2009: 361). This is the

same formulation used in the prospectus for his *Gesammelte Schriften*, published by Suhrkamp.<sup>18</sup> Wiederbach's only recognition of political links comes when he mentions his family and his brother's role as a Nazi diplomat (2009: 375 n. 2). The Viktor von Weizsäcker *Gesellschaft* similarly glosses over this aspect, adding only that in January 1945 he escaped Breslau. Though unstated, this was part of a mass exodus as the Russians advanced and shortly before the siege of the city.<sup>19</sup>

Like the Binswanger translation, von Weizsäcker's *Le Cycle de la structure* does not appear to have sold well: few libraries stock it and second-hand copies are hard to find. There was only a single brief review note at the time of the book's publication (Colnort-Bodet, 1958). Foucault does not refer to von Weizsäcker in works he published, and there are only limited notes on his work in the archive.<sup>20</sup> The request to take on the project could have come direct from the press, with whom he had worked on the Binswanger volume, or through an intermediary such as Binswanger, Canguilhem or, most likely, Ey. It may well have just been a commission for a recently graduated student, trying to supplement his income. The translation of von Weizsäcker's *Der Gestaltkreis* is an important element in the story of the early Foucault, as it gives a further sense of how his work was shaped by the practice of translation. But given what we now know of von Weizsäcker's politics, it is a disturbing one too. Ey's preface to the translation gives no indication of this, which is more damning than it is for the text's translators, since Ey was clearly a key figure in facilitating its publication in French.

## Conclusion

After these two texts, the last major work Foucault translated was Immanuel Kant's *Anthropology*, first published in 1964 but completed a few years before, which, together with a long introduction, served as his secondary thesis alongside his *History of Madness* (2009 [1964]). This interest develops from a course on philosophical anthropology, delivered in Lille and Paris in the mid-1950s, through to the von Weizsäcker translation. The Kant translation was published in 1964, accompanied only by a short 'Historical Note'; the introduction was available in archives and published only after his death (Foucault, 2009). This translation is examined in detail in my book *The Early Foucault* (forthcoming, Ch. 7). Foucault's only other translation was a short essay by the literary theorist Leo Spitzer (1970). Unusually, this text was translated from English – although Spitzer was Austrian, this essay dates from his time at Johns Hopkins University.<sup>21</sup> Those translations are topics for another place. Foucault's earliest translations, of Binswanger and von Weizsäcker, taken with his published and unpublished writings of the 1950s, set the scene for the much more famous work that follows. They indicate paths taken and those not taken, show his deep knowledge of the traditions of

philosophy and psychology, and are crucial elements of the biography and intellectual formation of his work as an original thinker.

Much of Foucault's work is a dialogue between languages. In his earliest writings and especially in his teaching this is a dialogue between his French and German texts in philosophy and psychology. In the 1970s, he is reading a lot of historical texts in English, and then in his final years he was engaging with a range of Greek and Latin sources. As such, a focus on his own practice as a translator seems a worthwhile addendum to discussions of his work and its translation.

### Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Oliver Davis, Orazio Irrera, Daniele Lorenzini, and Melissa Pawelski for their careful reading of an earlier version of this piece, and to the reviewers and editors of *Theory, Culture & Society*.

### ORCID iD

Stuart R Elden  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7885-2444>

### Notes

1. See Binswanger (1951: 108 n. 1) for the translator and editor details. On Binswanger, see Needleman (1963); Lanzoni (2005); Gros (2009); Basso (2017); and on the movement generally, Lantéri-Laura (1963), Cabestan and Dastur (2011) and Holzhey-Kunz (2014, Part I).
2. See notably Binswanger (1922); for a discussion of his early work see Lanzoni (2003). There are relatively few texts from the earlier years reprinted in the *Ausgewählte Werke*.
3. All first appeared in the *Archives suisses de Neurologie et Psychiatrie* and are collected in Binswanger (1957a). Two are reprinted in Binswanger (1992–4, Vol. 4: 73–209, 210–332); and two are translated into English in May et al. (1958: 237–364) and Binswanger (1963: 266–341). Verdeaux would translate another as Binswanger (1957b).
4. The correspondence is at the University of Tübingen in the Binswanger archive. Some of it is reproduced in Binswanger (1992–4, Vol. 3: 339–47) and discussed in Herzog (1994: 89–106), Frie (1999, 1997: 82–3) and Gros (2000).
5. Basso (2015: 176), citing a postcard from Verdeaux to Binswanger on 2 January 1954 and a letter of 3 February 1954.
6. For a discussion of *Existenz* in the context of Binswanger's essay, see Williams (in Binswanger 1993: 20).
7. 'Connaissance de l'homme et réflexion transcendentale', Bibliothèque nationale de France, Fonds Michel Foucault, NAF28730 (46), Folder 1; see Sabot (2015).
8. The missing paragraph should be on 1992: 99; 1954: 138; 1993: 83; the English edition provides the text in a note (1993: 103–4 n. 4); the original German is 1930: 676.
9. Foucault to Binswanger, 27 April [1954], in Basso (2015: 183).
10. Binswanger to Foucault, 6 May 1954, in Basso (2015: 184–5).
11. Binswanger to Foucault, 10 May 1954, in Basso (2015: 186–7).

12. Binswanger to Foucault, 10 May 1954, in Basso (2015: 187–92); Foucault to Binswanger, 21 May 1954, in Basso (2015: 192–4).
13. This is archived as ‘Cours sur le phénoménologie et Binswanger’, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Fonds Michel Foucault, NAF 28730 (46), Folder 3. It seems unlikely to be the course as delivered, but rather a subsequently written text.
14. Foucault to Binswanger, 10 July [1956?], in Basso (2015: 195). This copy is archived at Yale University, Beinecke Library, Foucault 145. The note inside simply says ‘Pour M. Michel Foucault/amicalement/L.B.’.
15. The reference by both von Weizsäcker and Foucault and Rocher is to Heidegger (1927: 11), but it should be 111 (1962: 146).
16. See: <http://www.uvm.edu/~lkaelber/children/loben/loben.html>; on the wider question, see Mitscherlich (1949).
17. In 1947 he published some reflections on euthanasia, developing from the doctors’ trials at Nuremberg, and eventually coming down against the practice.
18. See: <https://viktor-von-weizsaecker-gesellschaft.de/assets/pdf/Gesammelte-Werke-prospekt.pdf>
19. See: <https://www.viktor-von-weizsaecker-gesellschaft.de/biographie.php?id=2>
20. There are seven pages of notes in BNF NAF28730 (43), ‘Hegelei’.
21. There is also a debate about the date of the translation. Although all copies of the book are from 1970 or later, many early bibliographies of Foucault date it to 1962, which seems to fit better with his chronology.

## References

- Basso, Elisabetta (2007) *Michel Foucault e la Daseinsanalyse: Un'indagine metodologica*. Milano: Mimesis.
- Basso, Elisabetta (2015) La correspondance entre Michel Foucault et Ludwig Binswanger, 1954–1956. In: Bert, Jean-François and Basso, Elisabetta (eds) *Foucault à Münsterlingen: À l'origine de l'Histoire de la folie*, ed. Bert, Jean-François and Basso, Elisabetta. Paris: Éditions EHESS, pp. 175–195.
- Basso, Elisabetta (2016) À propos d'un cours inédit de Michel Foucault sur l'analyse existentielle de Ludwig Binswanger (Lille 1953–54). *Revue de synthèse* 137(6th ser.): 35–59.
- Basso, Elisabetta (2017) The clinical epistemology of Ludwig Binswanger (1881–1966): Psychiatry as a science of the singular. In: Blum, Alan and Murray, Stuart J. (eds) *The Ethics of Care: Moral Knowledge, Communication, and the Art of Caregiving*. London: Routledge, pp. 179–193.
- Basso, Elisabetta (2020) Foucault's Critique of the Human Sciences in the 1950s: Between Psychology and Philosophy. *Theory, Culture & Society*. DOI: 10.1177/0263276420950824.
- Baumann, Pierre (2012) A propos de Viktor von Weizsäcker. *Revue Médicale Suisse* 21(March): 655.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1922) *Einführung in die Probleme der allgemeinen Psychologie*. Berlin: Julius Springer.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1928) *Wandlungen in der Auffassung und Deutung des Traumes von den Griechen bis zur Gegenwart*. Berlin: Julius Springer.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1930) Traum und Existenz. *Neue Schweizer Rundschau*, Vol. XXIII(IX): pp. 673–685; Vol. XXIII(X), pp. 766–779.

- Binswanger, Ludwig (1938) La conception de l'homme, chez Freud, à la lumière de l'anthropologie philosophique, trans. Pollnow, H. *L'Évolution psychiatrique* 10(1): 3–34.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1947–55) *Ausgewählte Vorträge und Aufsätze*, 2 vols. Bern: Francke.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1951) La 'Daseinsanalyse' en psychiatrie. *L'Encéphale* 40(1): 108–113.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1954) *Le rêve et l'existence*, trans. Verdeaux, Jacqueline, Introduction and Notes by Foucault, Michel. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1956) *Erinnerungen an Sigmund Freud*. Berne: Francke Verlag.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1957a) *Schizophrenie*. Pfullingen: Günther Neske.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1957b) *Le cas Suzanne Urban: Étude sur la schizophrénie*. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1957c) *Sigmund Freud: Reminiscences of a Friendship*. New York: Grune and Stratton.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1958) The existential analysis school of thought. In: May, Rollo, Angel. Ernest and Ellenberger, Henri-Frédéric (eds) *Existence: A New Dimension in Psychiatry and Psychology*. New York: Basic Books, pp. 191–213.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1963) *Being-In-the-World: Selected Papers of Ludwig Binswanger*, trans. Needleman, Jacob. New York: Basic Books.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1970) *Analyse existentielle et psychanalyse freudienne: Discours, parcours, et Freud*. Paris: Gallimard.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1971) *Introduction à l'analyse existentielle*, trans. Verdeaux, Jacqueline and Kuhn, Roland. Paris: Les Éditions de Minuit.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1992) *Traum und Existenz*. Bern-Berlin: Verlag Gachnang & Springer.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1992–4) *Ausgewählte Werke in vier Bänden*. Heidelberg: Roland Asanger.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (1993) Dream and existence, trans. Needleman, Jacob. In: Foucault, Michel and Binswanger, Ludwig, *Dream and Existence*, ed. Hoeller, Keith. Atlantic Highlands, NJ: Humanities Press, pp. 81–105.
- Binswanger, Ludwig (2012) *Rêve et existence*, trans. Dastur, Françoise. Paris: Vrin.
- Bligh, Rebecca (2011) *The Réalité-humaine of Henry Corbin*, PhD thesis, Goldsmiths, University of London. Available at: [http://research.gold.ac.uk/7800/1/HIS\\_Bligh\\_thesis\\_2012.pdf](http://research.gold.ac.uk/7800/1/HIS_Bligh_thesis_2012.pdf).
- Bochner, Ruth and Halpern, Florence (1945 [1942]) *The Clinical Application of the Rorschach Test*, 2nd edn. New York: Grune & Stratton.
- Bochner, Ruth and Halpern, Florence (1948) *L'application clinique du test de Rorschach*, trans. Ombredane, André and Verdeaux, G.J. Paris: PUF.
- Böhme, Gernot (2007) Rationalising unethical medical research: Taking seriously the case of Viktor von Weizsäcker. In: Lafleuer, William R., Böhme, Gernot and Shimazono, Susumu (eds) *Dark Medicine: Rationalizing Unethical Medical Research*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, pp. 15–29.

- Bonnafé, Lucien, Ey, Henri, Follin, Sven, Lacan, Jacques and Rouart, Julien (1950) *Le problème de la psychogénèse des névroses et des psychoses*. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer.
- Cabestan, Philippe and Dastur, Françoise (2011) *Daseinsanalyse: Phénoménologie et psychiatrie*. Paris: Vrin.
- Canguilhem, Georges (1977 [1955]) *La Formation du concept de réflexe aux XVII et XVIII siècles*, 2nd edn. Paris: PUF.
- Célis, Raphaël (2004) Responsabilité collective et responsabilité individuelle en matière de santé: Réflexions inspirées par les écrits socio-médicaux de Viktor von Weizsäcker. *Ethique et santé* 1(3): 144–147.
- Célis, Raphaël (2007) L'éthique médicale et clinique de Viktor von Weizsäcker. *Revue Ethique, questions de vie*, January: 1–26.
- Colnort-Bodet, Suzanne (1958) Viktor von Weizsäcker, *Le Cycle de la structure (Der Gestaltkreis)*. *Les Études philosophiques*, NS 13(3393).
- Defert, Daniel (1994) Chronologie. In: Foucault, Michel, *Dits et écrits, 4 vols*, ed. Defert, Daniel and Ewald, François. Paris: Gallimard, Vol. I, pp. 13–64.
- Elden, Stuart (forthcoming) *The Early Foucault*. Cambridge: Polity.
- Eribon, Didier (2011) *Michel Foucault, 3rd edn*. Paris: Fayard.
- Ey, Henri (1950–54) *Études psychiatriques, 3 vols*. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer.
- Ey, Henri (1956) Rêve et existence (En hommage à E. Minkowski: Réflexions sur une Etude de L. Binswanger). *L'Évolution Psychiatrique* 21(1): 109–118.
- Ey, Henri (1958) Préface. In: Von Weizsäcker, Viktor, *Le Cycle de la structure*, trans. Foucault, Michel and Rocher, Daniel. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer, pp. 7–17.
- Ey, Henri (1969) Outline of an organo-dynamic conception of the structure, nosography, and patho-genesis of mental diseases. In: Straus, Erwin W., Natanson, Maurice and Ey, Henri, *Psychiatry and Philosophy*, ed. Natanson, Maurice. Berlin: Springer, pp. 111–161.
- Foucault, Michel (1953) Travaux et publications des professeurs en 1952–1953. *Rapport annuel du Conseil de l'université (1952–1953)*. Lille: Université de Lille.
- Foucault, Michel (1954) *Maladie mentale et personnalité*. Paris: PUF.
- Foucault, Michel (1993) Dream, imagination and existence, trans. Williams, Forrest. In: Foucault, Michel and Binswanger, Ludwig, *Dream and Existence*, ed. Hoeller, Keith. Atlantic Highlands, NJ: Humanities Press, pp. 29–78.
- Foucault, Michel (1994) *Dits et écrits, Vol. I*, ed. Defert, Daniel and Ewald, François. Paris: Gallimard.
- Freud, Sigmund and Binswanger, Ludwig (1992) *Briefwechsel 1908–1938*, ed. Fichtner, Gerhard. Frankfurt am Main: S. Fischer.
- Freud, Sigmund and Binswanger, Ludwig (2003) *The Sigmund Freud-Ludwig Binswanger Correspondence 1908–1938*, ed. Fichtner, Gerhard, trans. Pomerans, Arnold J. New York: Other Press.
- Frie, Roger (1997) *Subjectivity and Intersubjectivity in Modern Philosophy and Psychoanalysis: A Study of Sartre, Binswanger, Lacan, and Habermas*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Frie, Roger (1999) Interpreting a misinterpretation: Ludwig Binswanger and Martin Heidegger. *Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology* 30(3): 244–257.

- Gros, Caroline (2000) Le dialogue Binswanger/Heidegger et le dégage- ment des concepts fondamentaux de la *Daseinsanalyse* en psychiatrie. In: Escoubas, Eliane and Waldenfels, Bernhard (eds) *Phénoménologie française et phénomé- nologie allemande/Deutsche und Französische Phänomenologie*. Paris/ Offenberg: L'Harmattan/Dokumente, pp. 235–270.
- Gros, Caroline (2009) *Ludwig Binswanger: Entre Phénoménologie et expérience psychiatrique*. Chatou: Les Éditions de la Transparence.
- Gros-Azorin, Caroline (1998) Préface. In: Binswanger, Ludwig, *Le Problème de l'espace en psychopathologie*, trans. Gros-Azorin, Caroline. Toulouse: Presses Universitaires du Mirai, pp. 7–44.
- Hahn, Peter (1991) The medical anthropology of Viktor von Weizsäcker in the present clinical context in Heidelberg. *Anthropologies of Medicine* 91(7): 23–35.
- Heidegger, Martin (1927) *Sein und Zeit*. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer.
- Heidegger, Martin (1938) *Qu'est-ce que la métaphysique?*, trans. Corbin, Henri. Paris: Gallimard.
- Heidegger, Martin (1962) *Being and Time*, trans. Macquarrie, John and Robinson, Edward. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Herzog, Max (1994) *Weltentwürfe: Ludwig Binswangers phänomenologische Psychologie*. Berlin: De Gruyter.
- Holzhey-Kunz, Alice (2014) *Daseinsanalysis*, trans. Leighton, Sophie. London: Free Association Books.
- Kant, Immanuel (2009) *Anthropologie du point de vue pragmatique*, trans. and introduced by Foucault, Michel. Paris: Vrin.
- Koffka, Kurt (1999 [1935]) *Principles of Gestalt Psychology*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Kuhn, Roland (1944) *Maskendeutungen im Rorschachschen Versuch*. Basel: S. Karger.
- Kuhn, Roland (1992 [1957]) *Phénoménologie du masque à travers le Test de Rorschach, 2nd edn*, trans. Verdeaux, Jacqueline, preface by Bachelard, Gaston. Paris: Desclée de Brower.
- Kuhn, Roland (2001) L'essai de Ludwig Binswanger, *Le rêve et l'existence*, et sa signification pour la psychothérapie, trans. Célis, Raphaël. In: Mesot, Hervé (ed.) *Des interprétations du rêve: Psychanalyse, Herméneutique, Daseinsanalyse*. Paris: PUF, pp. 153–164.
- Lantéri-Laura, Georges (1963) *La psychiatrie phénoménologique: Fondements philosophiques*. Paris: PUF.
- Lanzoni, Susan (2003) An epistemology of the clinic: Ludwig Binswanger's phe- nomenology of the other. *Critical Inquiry* 30(1): 160–186.
- Lanzoni, Susan (2005) The enigma of subjectivity: Ludwig Binswanger's exist- ential anthropology of mania. *History of the Human Sciences* 18(2): 23–41.
- Macey, David (1993) *The Lives of Michel Foucault*. London: Hutchinson.
- Maldiney, Henri (1973) *Regard, Parole, Espace*. Lausanne: Editions L'Age d'Homme.
- May, Rollo, Angel, Ernest and Ellenberger, Henri-Frédéric (eds) (1958) *Existence: A New Dimension in Psychiatry and Psychology*. New York: Basic Books.
- Misrahi, Robert (1959) Le rêve et l'existence: selon M. Binswanger. *Revue de Métaphysique et de Morale* 64(1): 96–106.



- Mitscherlich, Alexander (1949) *Doctors of Infamy: The Story of the Nazi Medical Crimes*, trans. Norden, Heinz. New York: Henry Schuman.
- Monod, Jean-Claude (1997) Le rêve, l'existence, l'histoire. Foucault, lecteur de Binswanger. *Alter* 5: 89–99.
- Needleman, Jacob (1963) A critical introduction to Ludwig Binswanger's existential psychoanalysis. In: Binswanger, Ludwig, *Being-In-the-World: Selected Papers of Ludwig Binswanger*, trans. Needleman, Jacob. New York: Basic Books, pp. 7–145.
- Picht, Georg (1977) Macht des Denkens. In: Neske, Günther and Kettering, Emil (eds) *Erinnerung an Martin Heidegger*. Pfullingen: Neske, pp. 197–205.
- Picht, Georg (1990) The power of thinking. In: Neske, Günther and Kettering, Emil (eds) *Martin Heidegger and National Socialism: Questions and Answers*, trans. Harries, Lisa. New York: Paragon House, pp. 161–167.
- Pinguet, Maurice (2009) *Le Texte Japon: Introuvables et inédits*, ed. Ferrier, Michaël. Paris: Seuil.
- Revel, Judith (1992) Sur l'introduction à Binswanger (1954). In: Giard, Luce (ed.) *Michel Foucault: Lire L'œuvre*. Grenoble: Jérôme Millon, pp. 51–56.
- Roth, Karl Heinz (1986) Psychosomatische Medizin und 'Euthanasie': Der Fall Viktor von Weizsäcker. 1999: *Zeitschrift für Sozialgeschichte des 20. und 21. Jahrhunderts* 86(1): 65–99.
- Roudinesco, Elisabeth (1990) *Jacques Lacan & Co: A History of Psychoanalysis in France, 1925–1985*, trans. Mehlman, Jeffrey. London: Free Association Books.
- Sabot, Philippe (2006) L'expérience, le savoir et l'histoire dans les premiers écrits de Michel Foucault. *Archives de Philosophie* 69(2): 285–303.
- Sabot, Philippe (2015) Entre psychologie et philosophie: Foucault à Lille, 1952–1955. In: Bert, Jean-François and Basso, Elisabetta (eds) *Foucault à Münsterlingen: À l'origine de l'Histoire de la folie*. Paris: Éditions EHESS, pp. 105–120.
- Smyth, Bryan (2011) Foucault and Binswanger: Beyond the dream. *Philosophy Today* 55(SPEP Suppl.): 92–101.
- Spitzer, Leo (1970) Arts du langage et linguistique, trans. Foucault, Michel. In: Spitzer, Leo, *Etudes de style*. Paris: Gallimard, pp. 45–78.
- Verdeaux, Jacqueline and Kuhn, Roland (1971) Glossaire. In: Binswanger, Ludwig, *Introduction à l'analyse existentielle*, trans. Verdeaux, Jacqueline and Kuhn, Roland. Paris: Les Éditions de Minuit, pp. 27–37.
- Von Weizsäcker, Viktor (1947) *'Euthanasie' und Menschenversuche*. Heidelberg: Schneider.
- Von Weizsäcker, Viktor (1958) *Le Cycle de la structure*, trans. Foucault, Michel and Rocher, Daniel. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer.
- Von Weizsäcker, Viktor (1973 [1940]) *Der Gestaltkreis: Theorie der Einheit von Wahrnehmen und Bewegen*. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp.
- Von Weizsäcker, Viktor (1986) *Gesammelte Schriften 8: Soziale Krankheit und soziale Gesundheit und Soziale Medizin*, ed. Janz, Dieter and Schindler, Walter. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp.
- Von Weizsäcker, Viktor (2011) *Pathosophie*, trans. Bisschop, Joris de et al. Grenoble: Jérôme Millon. .
- Wiedebach, Hartwig (2009) Some aspects of a medical anthropology: Pathic existence and causality in Viktor von Weizsäcker. *History of Psychiatry* 20(3): 360–376.

- Wyrsh, Jakob (1949) *Die Person des Schizophrenen: Studien zur Klinik, Psychologie, Daseinsweise*. Bern: Paul Haupt.
- Wyrsh, Jakob (1956) *La Personne du schizophrène: Etude Clinique, psychologique anthrophénoménologie*, trans. Verdeaux, Jacqueline. Paris: PUF.
- Young, Julian (1997) *Heidegger, Philosophy, Nazism*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**Stuart Elden** is Professor of Political Theory and Geography at the University of Warwick, UK. He is the author of books on territory, Michel Foucault, Martin Heidegger, and Henri Lefebvre. His most recent books are *Shakespearean Territories* (University of Chicago Press, 2018); and *Canguilhem* (Polity, 2019). He has been involved in editing several collections of Henri Lefebvre's writings, and has co-edited or edited books on Kant, Foucault and Sloterdijk. His next books will be a study of the very early Foucault for Polity, as well as a collection of Lefebvre's writings on rural sociology and political economy with Adam David Morton for University of Minnesota Press.

**This article is part of the *Theory, Culture & Society* special issue on 'Foucault Before the Collège de France', edited by Stuart Elden, Orazio Irrera and Daniele Lorenzini.**