

**Book reviews:**

## **New repertories and old masters**

### **Synthesis 9.1**

**Edited by Dr. Frederik Schroyens**

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**C.F. [www.archibel.com](http://www.archibel.com)**

I've subtitled this book *More possibilities, less rubrics overlooked*. Frederik Schroyens tells me that since his first copy of Kent he's dreamed of a repertory like *Synthesis 9.1*. He certainly deserves credit.

I've been using *Synthesis* for 10 years and this edition is different. Apart from integrating the major work of Boenninghausen and Boger, there's now a full integration of separate repertories like Phatak and Boericke.

There's more information; 473 remedy additions with over 50% more information, 115 new remedies including many new provings.

Also, streamlining and restructuring has simplified and standardised things. An example of this is found in the Mind and Pain sections where Schroyens has copied remedies to the superrubrics. More about this later. He's kindly added a CD to provide information on repertory language and explanations. It also gives information about families and remedy relationships and, importantly, where to buy new remedies.

By streamlining and restructuring, *Synthesis 9.1* has addressed a problem: a lot of information is hidden in subrubrics of the Pain descriptions. *Synthesis* has retrieved these subrubrics and put them together. This I particularly like and it is why I say there is less to overlook. For example in the previous book and software editions of *Synthesis* these pain rubrics were hidden;

- EYE-PAIN-burning-rubbing-amel.
- EYE-PAIN-foreign body, as from-rubbing amel.
- EYE-PAIN-pressing, pressure, etc-rubbing amel.
- EYE-PAIN-sand, as from-rubbing amel.

These have the same modality. By combining them we now look at 13 remedies instead of seven. So the new structure will be as follows;

- EYE-PAIN-rubbing-amel.-burning
- EYE-PAIN-rubbing-amel.-foreign body, as from
- EYE-PAIN-rubbing-amel.-pressing pain
- EYE-PAIN-rubbing-amel.-sand, as from

The description has now been moved to the last level. In addition, the remedies expressing the same side, time, modality, extension and localization have been copied to the same superrubric.

This restructuring wasn't straightforward. It required a thorough streamlining of all symptoms. So, for example, the modality 'cold air agg' is expressed in different ways in different places;

- HEAD-PAIN-cutting-cold-air agg
- HEAD-PAIN-tearing-air-cold-from

This has now been changed

- HEAD-PAIN-cold air-agg-cutting
- HEAD-PAIN-cold air-agg-tearing

This will take some time to adjust to because the symptoms here of pain description have been moved. There are also places where a familiar rubric has moved to a different place.

The six Boger and Boenninghausen repertories have been added - very carefully - in a three-step process to ensure accuracy. There is further information on this in the book's introduction or on the associated website, noted above. Since the additions are based on a different concept to Kent, three new chapters have been added; Neck, Urinary Organs and Male and Female Genitalia/Sex.

Schroyens does recognize that work needs to be done to add Bg3 and Bg11 - the Synoptic key and card repertory. I do like the fact that the 6.500 handwritten additions by Boenninghausen's son have been included. One other aspect of the new repertory that makes things easier is the sorting of symptoms alphabetically. Priced around €165, it's tremendous value.

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*Review by Steve Blendell*