

## The Mystery of Intersubjectivity

One of the most striking aspects of the deeply philosophical and spiritual dimensions of the work of Gabriel Marcel is that he writes to illustrate the meaning to be conveyed in very human situations which appeal to the everyday life experiences of us all. Whether in his plays, his prose or his metaphysical and spiritual realm, he describes real people who live, work, love, suffer and die together. The spirit, for Marcel, is most alive inbetween persons. This inbetweenness is the mystery of intersubjectivity  $\#$  the spirit alive in the human family, the creature interface or between "Jacs." In the mystery of Being, <sup>Marcel</sup> ~~he~~ distinguishes between <sup>the relationships</sup> things and people by saying, "relationships ~~are~~ between people between things are external, relationships ~~are~~ between people are internal" (p. 222). Inbetween  $\#$  internal, embodied, and ~~the~~ the opportunity to ~~display~~ allow the spirit to manifest most fully and poignantly in the human family. Although Marcel does use the familial ~~and~~ father-son relation

ship to most fully, deeply and concretely illustrate the field of intersubjectivity, cannot be itself by intersubjectivity, this intersubjectivity be extended to reach into the hearts of the human family. The embodiment of Marcel's intersubjectivity is an opening onto one's concrete realm of human potential and reality. ~~He was a~~ ~~pragmatist~~ His writings displayed great depth and vision about the nature of human being, their existence, its quality and remained with force in conviction (through the ability to be illustrated in real or fictionalized plays drama, the "back parts" in human being, caring, loving and ~~the~~ transcending: ~~this is~~ "... [humility] consists not in the act of self-humiliation, but rather in "... at all costs a connection must be maintained between authentic transcendence and ~~the~~ <sup>true</sup> universality, and that without this mankind inevitably falls into idolatry." (p. 103). This true humility, for Marcel is a form of prayer, a connection ~~with~~ with what sustains and gives meaning, depth and understanding to human existence, "prayer is possible only when intersubjectivity is recognized, since it is operative." Where else than in human relationships? Where else than in the mystery of intersubjectivity, what we have chosen to call intersubjectivity. This is ~~the~~ where spirit manifests in between two people and hopefully in the

right openness of caring and humanness at its best,  
in between us all. That is an ideal — but one which  
could be real, alive and transformative, for nothing  
on earth is as creative, dynamic and enlivening  
as two persons whose spirits touch and intermingle,  
family or not. It happens. Marcel saw it, lived it,  
and described it in his ~~of~~ dramas, his music  
and most touchingly, his life and spirit.  
Intersubjectivity, true ~~to~~ embodied spirit lines  
and has its being in between us all.