

*Then Dogen asked: "What is practice?" And the old monk said:
"Everything is open in the universe."*

Dainin Katagiri



***The Wholeness of Life –
Towards a New Practice of Change***

Every time we act within a social context, we are confronted with unpredictability, with non-linearity, with ambiguity and uncertainty.

A conventional response to the complexity of social process is to try to simplify. We strive to reduce complexity, so that we may better manage our world. Such a response still seeks to control life, not to enhance it. But our very attempts to 'manage' in these ways create the 'problems' which then appear to overwhelm us.

On the other hand, complexity tends towards a kind of holistic coherence when we approach it with a different way of seeing: if we hold the idea before us that we are not primarily concerned with making the world manageable, but making it more *visible*, more *meaningful*. It is our seeing through into the heart of things that enhances our social reality, and enables it to remain creative and alive, rather than stuck and moribund.

When everything is connected, and when everything is always changing, then every action matters. This workshop will offer an understanding and experience of *holistic*, as opposed to fragmented, movements of change. We invite you to join us in three days of experience, practice and conversation to explore the kinds of practices that may, gradually, lead to a way of seeing and being from the inside out



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Allan Kaplan and **Sue Davidoff** are development practitioners, teachers and writers. Allan is the author of *The Development Practitioner's Handbook*, and *Artists of the Invisible*, Sue the author of *The Learning School* and *The Courage to Lead*. They have established The Proteus Initiative as a vehicle for working with new and organic ways of seeing and facilitating change, and their international reputation is well established in NZ. Their work is an attempt to realise the full consequences of true participation, of socio-ecological complexity, and of polarity in the generative quest for wholeness. .

As directors of 'The Proteus Initiative', they undertake organisational interventions, leadership and management, mentoring and coaching, community development facilitation, evaluations and research, development of strategies and systems, relationship facilitation and learning/reflection processes. Amongst other programmes, they are currently conducting an international Masters Programme in Reflective Social Practice.

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Dates: 6th-9th February 2014

Times: 2 pm Thursday to 4 pm Sunday

Venue: Vaughan Park Retreat Centre, Long Bay, Auckland

Cost: \$1150 plus GST (includes all meals & accommodation)

Early bird discount: \$1000 plus GST if paid by 13th Dec 2013

For registration/enquiries please contact Simin Williams velvet@xtra.co.nz

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