

BJPsych

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Cover picture

Capricorn (2007) by Carola Mathers (b.1955)

Carola Mathers was formerly a consultant psychotherapist in the South West London and St George's Mental Health Trust. She now works privately as a Jungian analyst and psychotherapist. As an artist, she began with watercolours using the wet on wet technique, and now works with oils and mixed media. A selection of her work may be seen on her website, www.alternativeartsales.com. Mathers describes *Capricorn* as follows: 'This painting is oil and mixed media on canvas. It is made with torn up pieces of the *BMA News* magazine pasted onto the canvas, stained with ink and then painted. The oil is painted thinly allowing some text to show through. The text refers to addiction and the glass ceiling experienced by women doctors. The form of the painting is laid down by the lines and shapes made by the folds of paper. Capricorn is often depicted as a goat with a fish's tail. Capricornians are said, among other things, to be ambitious: the goat is always striving to find higher pastures. None the less it retains its roots in the unconscious, as depicted in the reference to the fish. Women in medicine are as ambitious as men but have more difficulty gaining recognition. Doctors as a whole are prone to stress-related conditions including addictions.'

We are always looking for interesting and visually appealing images for the cover of the *Journal* and would welcome suggestions or pictures, which should be sent to Professor Robert Howard, British Journal of Psychiatry, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG, UK or robert.howard@iop.kcl.ac.uk

