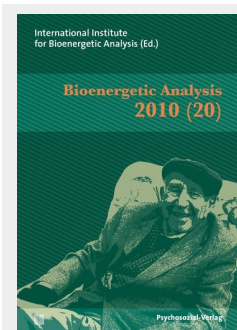


Maê Nascimento

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Memorial Note about David J. Finlay

Maê Nascimento

It was 1996, when I first met David at the IIBA international conference in Pocono, United States. I was – still reluctantly, coming back from a time away from Bioenergetics. He was visiting “home” (United States) coming from far New Zealand, where he was living and working as the coordinator trainer for a Bioenergetic training program. That was the beginning of a connection which would grow bigger and closer.

He was a brilliant man, passionate and profound in everything he put himself into, and Bioenergetics and the IIBA had not been exceptions. As a man of ideas and ideals, he wanted to bring fresh air into the field and his passion to the community. On his thoughts upon theoretical terms of Bioenergetics, he had always been in favor of expansion and integration of new ideas and, for that, things were not often smooth for him. His work within the institution aimed to deepen consciousness and to make things happen based in high principles and ideals. I was able to witness much of his struggle to keep things together, but this task had never been easy and for that he paid a high price, even affecting his health.

Well, he also had his temper and was not always easy to get along with, but his sense of loyalty and fairness were way beyond his flaws.

He was someone to be trusted, no matter what, and contributed with his mind and soul in trying to make of our world a better place to live. For

that he garnered great respect and admiration from everybody who got to know him.

He was a man of the world and whenever he would stay somewhere a bit longer he would feel restless – there would always be another place to get to know and to be explored. For this reason – and for his lack of ability with languages (alleged by himself often) he did not stay living in Brazil. But this had never prevented our sense of togetherness in some way. With us, intimacy was always there and, no matter how long we might stay without being together in person, each time we met it was like we had never been apart. We knew what thoughts we had in mind just by looking into each other's eyes and this is not a small thing.

I have never doubted that it had been by his inspiration that I came back to Bioenergetics, where I have known some of my dearest friends from abroad.

David left this world in April of 2008, but for those who had the privilege of his friendship, his presence had been so strong, that he will live forever in their minds and hearts as an inspiration. He will certainly live in mine, in a very special way as an everlasting intimate connection.