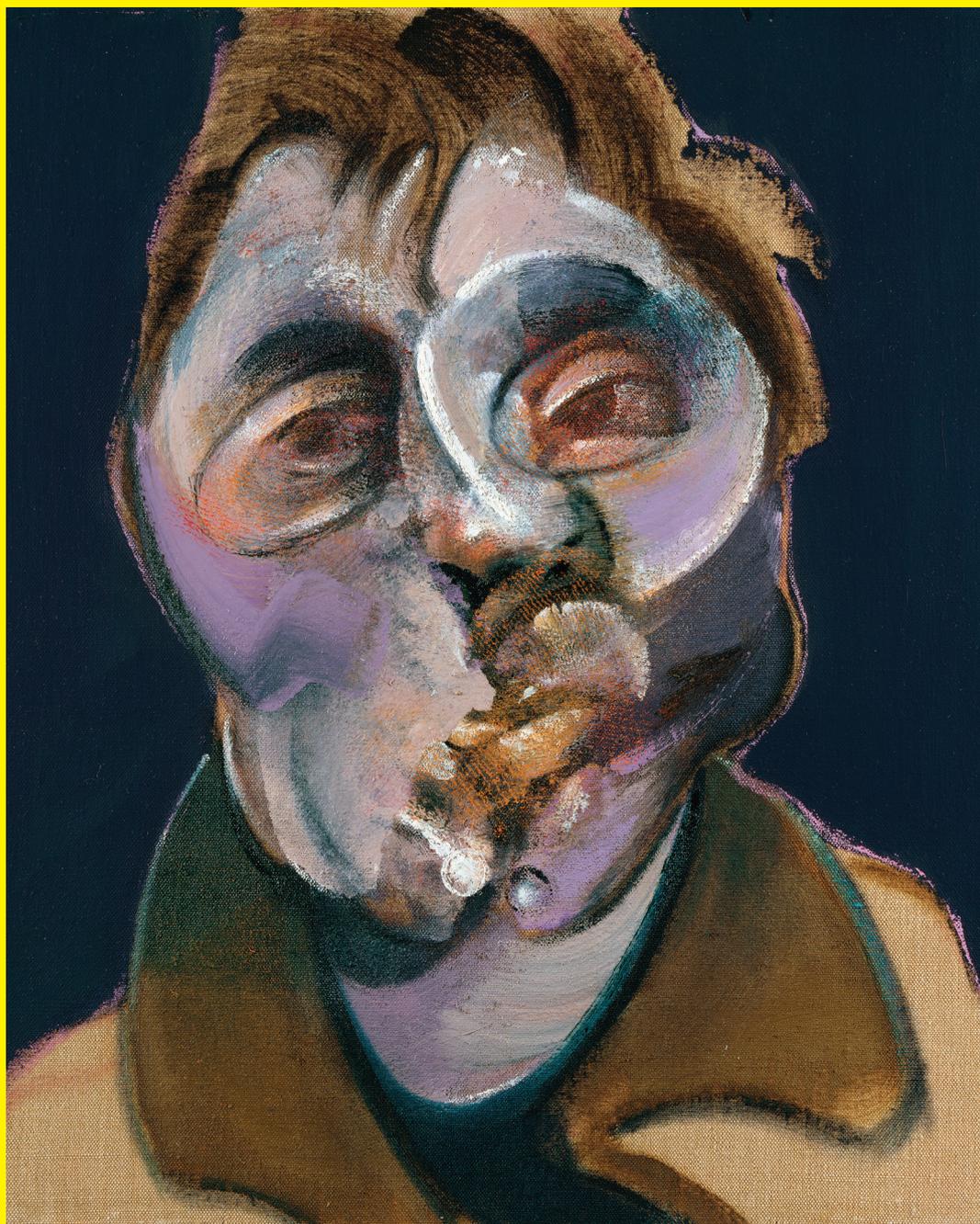


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Curtis

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Bhui *et al.*

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- A47 Editorial Board
A49 Highlights of this issue

Editorials

- 697 **A possible role for sarcosine in the management of schizophrenia**
David Curtis
- 699 **Evolutionary biology: an essential basic science for the training of the next generation of psychiatrists**
Riadh Abed, Agnes Ayton, Paul St John-Smith, Annie Swanepoel and Derek K. Tracy
- 702 **Addiction care in crisis: evidence should drive progressive policy and practice**
Kamaldeep S. Bhui, Peter Byrne, Diane Goslar and Julia Sinclair

Review

- 704 **Lung cancer incidence in patients with schizophrenia: meta-analysis**
Chuanjun Zhuo, Hongqing Zhuang, Xiangyang Gao and Patrick Todd Triplett

Papers

- 712 **Effect of lifestyle, medication and ethnicity on cardiometabolic risk in the year following the first episode of psychosis: prospective cohort study**
Fiona Gaughran, Daniel Stahl, Dominic Stringer, David Hopkins, Zerrin Atakan, Kathryn Greenwood, Anita Patel, Shubulade Smith, Poonam Gardner-Sood, John Lally, Margaret Heslin, Brendon Stubbs, Stefania Bonaccorso, Anna Koliakou, Oliver Howes, David Taylor, Marta Di Forti, Anthony S. David, Robin M. Murray, Khalida Ismail and the IMPACT team
- 720 **Impact of secondary care financial incentives on the quality of physical healthcare for people with psychosis: a longitudinal controlled study**
Mike J. Crawford, Daniel Huddart, Eleanor Craig, Krysia Zalewska, Alan Quirk, David Shiers, Geraldine Strathdee and Stephen J. Cooper

- 725 **Margery Kempe: puerperal psychosis, mysticism and the first autobiography in English – Psychiatry in history**
Greg Wilkinson

- 726 **Urbanicity and risk of first-episode psychosis: incidence study in Brazil**

Cristina Marta Del-Ben, Rosana Shuhama, Camila Marcelino Loureiro, Taciana Cristina Carvalho Ragazzi, Daniela Perocco Zanatta, Silvia Helena Galo Tenan, Jair Lício Ferreira Santos, Paulo Louzada-Junior, Antonio Carlos dos Santos, Craig Morgan and Paulo Rossi Menezes

- 730 **Long-term effects of prenatal exposure to earthquake on adult schizophrenia**

Chao Guo, Ping He, Xinming Song and Xiaoying Zheng

- 736 **A population-based study of the frequency and predictors of induced abortion among women with schizophrenia**

Hilary K. Brown, Cindy-Lee Dennis, Paul Kurdyak and Simone N. Vigod

Columns

- 744 Correspondence
746 Contents of the *American Journal of Psychiatry*
746 Contents of *BJPsych Advances*
747 Kaleidoscope

Cover picture

Francis Bacon, Self-Portrait, 1969

Francis Bacon (1909-1992) was one of the greatest painters of the twentieth century. His paintings are recognised as portraying the 'human condition' and what it is that makes us human. He was born in Ireland, educated only intermittently and had a difficult relationship with his parents. He had no formal art training and was not interested in wealth or material possessions. He is well known for paintings of popes, crucifixions, and portraits of friends. There are also a large number of self-portraits, and when asked about this he said, disingenuously: 'all the people I want to paint have died and so I just paint myself'. This particular self-portrait was gifted by Francis Bacon to Valerie Beston, his friend and agent. Thank you to Dr David Johnson for proposing this image and helping to obtain permission to use it on the cover.



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