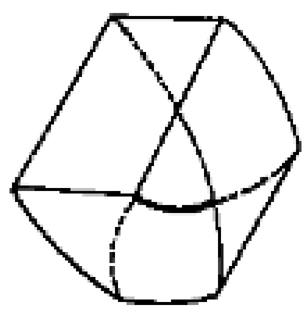
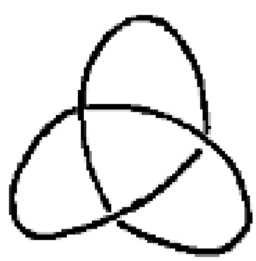
Nov. 21, 1978

There is a correspondence between topology and practice. This correspondence exists in time. Topology resists—in this the correspondence exists.

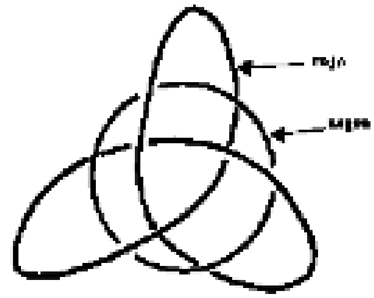
There is a Mobius band that we have drawn:



It is what is called the Triple Band. It can be shown that this Triple Band--what characterizes it--is that it has borders, and these borders are something like this:

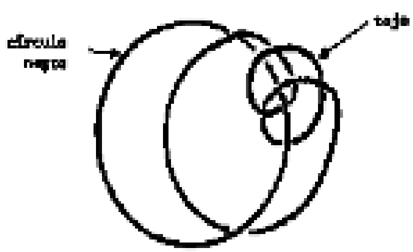


Their borders are thus:



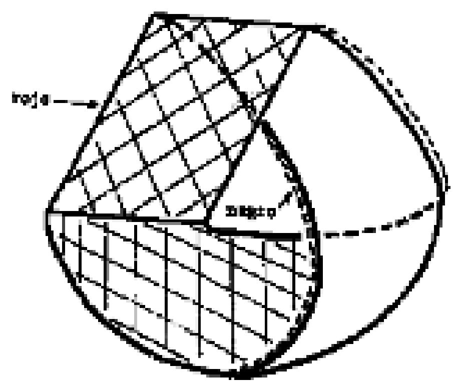
To say it better:

If you flatten these borders, go you get something like this:



And the black circle then looks like this. I almost have it here. Here the black circle is white (shows a montage done with a white ring of cord passing through the interior of a yellow volute).

There is a way to cover that band. Then this happens behind the next band:

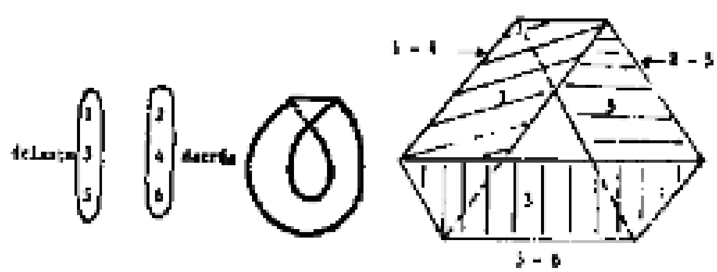


But what is necessary to see, is that what happens behind the next band is precisely what returns, returns in front of Band 3; after that it returns behind—I mean to say, behind the beam that gives us the Triple Mobius.

For this reason it returns behind. In such a way that what it has is the 6 joined to the 1.

It is certain—with the Enveloping Band I have shown—you can manipulate it and even cover the Triple Band.

You have here another example of what I have called for the moment the Enveloping Band. Its possible to confirm its identity with...



What's surprising is that the normal Mobius—I have here an example of a normal Mobius band – also has the 1, the 2, 3 and four in the same place. All of those are behind, and these are in front.

I have here the 1, passing behind the 2 and in front of the 3. In the 4, it passes behind, which allows it to return in front of the 5, and to pass in front to join the 1 and what I call the 6.

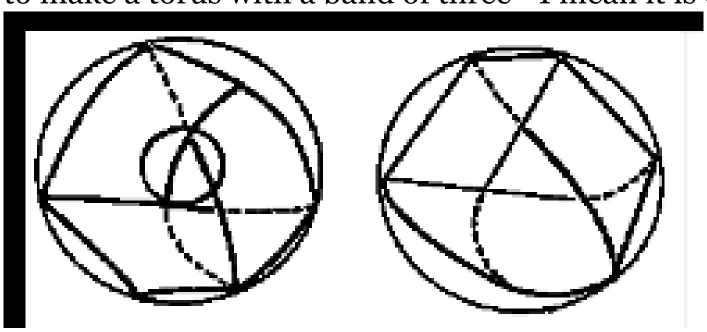
The Surrounding Band then has two borders, two borders in the band of three, the Mobius band of three.

It is an important point. You can control the envelope—circular in this case. There is something common between all the Mobius bands, nothing more than this rotation.

Is it possible to cut the Mobius bands? It is not only possible to cut each one, but also to cut what I call the "lining."

What is this lining? It is possible to only have a lining, but in that case it is necessary to cut the Mobius band, the Mobius band that is, in short, the soul of the matter.

There is a way to draw a Mobius band on a torus. I have the way to draw it here if it is a band of three. This requires pinching the torus and clasping the borders of the two surfaces of the torus. The inner side disappears, it is plugged up—crushed. It is also easy to make a torus with a band of three—I mean it is easy to make a band of one.



There is nevertheless a gap between psychoanalysis and topology. I try hard to fill in this gap. Topology is exemplary, it allows in practice to make a certain number of metaphors. There is an equivalence between structure and topology. That is the It in question in Groddeck, that is what It is.

It is necessary to orient in the structure. It is not only the Borromean knots. To generalize what is called the Borromeon knots, by cutting one you release the others. There is a way of clarifying that, by cutting two of five, it is precisely the way the three remain free. This is called the generalization of the Borromean knots. By cutting two of five, the other three are free. I will give you an example by the end of the year.

This is good. I have spoken for an hour. Thank you for your attention.