ABSTRACT

WHAT DOES A MAN WANT?

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What has psychoanalysis really brought to women, except for the questionable Electra's complex, followed by controversial and irritating slogans, Sigmund Freud's question: "What does a woman want?" and Jacques Lacan's statement: "A woman doesn't exist". Women's role in psychoanalytical theory and praxis is undeniable but yet, have women ever answered Freud's question about their want? In the era when the question about one's wish is the most difficult one, when "wishing" hardly helps? Is not that also the answer to the liberated question - but what is that that men really want? Is it true that mysteriousness means consent to invisibility, to silent presence?

As jokes are one of the ways to our unconscious, the author uses obscene jokes on Bosnian woman as one of the ways of recognizing female identity, considering her as an archetypal figure like Antigone or Electra, and thus also as revealing factor of our unconscious.