

Stefania Achella  
*Il "mondo" nella Psychologie der Weltanschauungen*

Dipartimento di Scienze filosofiche, pedagogiche ed economico-quantitative  
Università di Chieti-Pescara  
Italy  
e-mail: s.achella@unich.it

The aim of this paper is to analyse the concept of "world" in Karl Jaspers' *Psychology of Worldviews*, to show how the tension between the theoreticalcontemplative and existential approaches finds evident expression in the different roles that the "world" plays in the first and second parts of this work. In the first part, the world is still the object of a subject, although this relationship is neither evaluative (as in the *Wertphilosophie*) nor only gnoseological, but is also the result of an *Erlebnis*, thus presenting itself as a lived world. In the second part, beginning with the section on spiritual spheres, the world is characterised not only as a place of man's action, but also as a shock, a resistance that acts upon man. The essay goes on to question whether, beginning with this second conception of the world, it is possible to find a different approach to mental illness, surpassing that which subsequent critics have defined as Jaspers' "theorem of incomprehensibility", i.e. the inaccessibilità to the comprehension of the schizophrenic delusion.