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Passagen Gespräche

A New Series

Initiated on the occasion of its 25th anniversary, **Passagen Gespräche** is an innovative bilingual book series that invites some of the most renowned contemporary philosophers, and leading intellectuals from Europe and the United States to discuss pressing social and political issues. Passagen Verlag enters into a dialogue with authors who have helped shape its philosophical profile and programmatic texture.

This enterprise underlines Passagen Verlag's image as a facilitator of discourses beyond the dissemination of books. A cultural, political-philosophical initiative with international input and global impact, Passagen Verlag attempts not only to analyze current social problems, but also to develop concepts to overcome them. Starting **Gespräche** once again reinforces Passagen Verlag's orientation as a sociopolitical endeavor. **Gespräche** actively engages in controversial debates about a wide range of topics, with current crises as its connective tissue.

The first title in the new series is **Philosophie und die Idee des Kommunismus**. In conversation with Peter Engelmann, Alain Badiou argues why he abides by the idea of communism despite its negative history. Badiou also discusses how significant communism is for his philosophy.

Passagen plans to publish future **Gespräche** with Hélène Cixous, Mihály Vajda, Peter Eisenman, and others.

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Passagen Gespräche



Demokratie und Gemeinschaft Im Gespräch mit Peter Engelmann

Jean-Luc Nancy

Published in 2015
ISBN 9783709201596
112 pages

What should the nature of democracy be, if it does not want to organize its individual members in mere coexistence, but to open the horizon of their mutual experience of meaning and the site of their being-together? Peter Engelmann and Jean-Luc Nancy discuss the conditions of the possibilities of a radical democracy in **Democracy and Community**, the fourth installment of the series Passagen Gespräche.

In conversation with Peter Engelmann, Jean-Luc Nancy explains his concept of a radical democracy. At the center of his discussion is the category of community. First and foremost, Nancy wishes to bring this tainted term into play without using metaphysical patterns of explanation. Along with a theoretically revelatory and a comprehensive assessment of historical totalitarianisms, the result is a concept of community as a guarantee of circulated meaning which distinguishes itself from the seemingly democratic administrative regimes of capitalism. The discussion runs the gamut of historical political analysis and theoretical reflection. This conversation reveals the intricacy of Nancy's numerous and diverse approaches and how they form close correlations which ultimately culminate in a concept of democracy.

Jean-Luc Nancy was born in 1940 and is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the Université Marc Bloch in Strassbourg. He teaches political philosophy and media aesthetics at the European Graduate School in Saas-Fee.

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Passagen Gespräche

Philosophie und die Idee des Kommunismus Im Gespräch mit Peter Engelmann

Alain Badiou

Published in 2013
ISBN 9783709200445
120 pages



In light of current social crisis scenarios, Alain Badiou discusses with Peter Engelmann why he holds on to the idea of communism, despite its negative historical track record. He explains how significant this attitude is in the complex edifice of his philosophy. Central to Badiou's thought are the anticipation of a stateless communism, the problem of the concept of democracy, and the analysis of capitalism as a pathological system. In discussing his political philosophy, Badiou also addresses current sociopolitical phenomena and developments such as the Arab Spring and the situation in China. With the ensuing debates, the conversation is not only a highly topical contribution to the possibilities of alternative social structures, but also an introduction to Badiou's philosophical thought, as it explains his central concepts within the context of contemporary thought and current political crises. **Philosophy and the Idea of Communism** is the first title in the new series, Passagen Gespräche.

Alain Badiou, born 1937 in Rabat, Morocco, is a philosopher, mathematician, and novelist. He lives in Paris. Peter Engelmann is a publisher, philosopher, and editor of postmodern and deconstructivist French philosophers in German.

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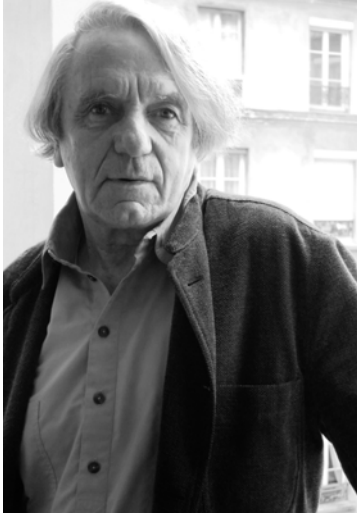
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Passagen Gespräche



Politik und Ästhetik Im Gespräch mit Peter Engelmann

Jacques Rancière

Published in 2016
ISBN 9783709201428
112 pages

In **Politics and Aesthetics** the fifth volume in the series Passagen Gespräche, the French Philosopher Jaques Rancière retraces the defining concepts of his own thinking.

Starting from his rupture with structural marxism, Rancière reconstructs his philosophical biography: from the early studies on the emancipation of workers to his recent research on literature, cinema and visual arts. The connection between politics and aesthetics emerges as a *fil rouge* in the French philosopher's thinking. Politics in the form of dissent can derange the established order. Distancing himself from Althusser and Bourdieu, Rancière insists on the egalitarian nature of aesthetics and perception. He drafts therefore a concept of aesthetics as the "regime of the experience" with the intention of rewriting the acknowledged truths of art history and criticising the modernist dogma. In the final part the dialogue looks into contemporary artistic and political movements in search of their subversive potential.

Jacques Rancière is a Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and an art historian. He has gained international renown with his works on political philosophy and aesthetics.

Peter Engelmann is a publisher, philosopher, and editor of postmodern and deconstructivist French philosophers in German.

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Passagen Gespräche

Markt und Moral Im Gespräch mit Peter Engelmann

Colin Crouch



Published in 2014
ISBN 9783709201107
136 pages

“A plea for social justice is not only a question of a redistribution of income and goods, but also one of power and, therefore, a question of democracy.”
Colin Crouch

In **Market and Morality**, the second volume of the series *Passagen Gespräche*, Peter Engelmann asks the renowned British political scientist and sociologist Colin Crouch about the functions and effects of neoliberalism. Neoliberalism has shaped our society in a lasting way. Global financial markets are largely withdrawn from oversight; democracy has been hollowed out. While the political and economic elites follow their own interests, social injustice is on the rise, the gap between the poor and the wealthy is growing. Democratic institutions, political parties, and decision-makers are rapidly losing the trust of an increasingly dissatisfied public.

Colin Crouch is a British political scientist and sociologist, and became internationally renowned with his work on post-democracy. He is a Professor Emeritus of Governance and Public Management at the University of Warwick.

Peter Engelmann is a publisher, philosopher, and editor of postmodern and deconstructivist French philosophers in German.

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Passagen Gespräche

Für eine Politik des Gemeinwohls Im Gespräch mit Peter Engelmann

Alain Badiou



Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202470
120 pages

In volume six of the Passagen Talks series, Alain Badiou and Peter Engelmann pursue their controversial discussion ongoing since 2012 on the idea of communism, its potential and risks as well as its meaning for today's urgent political questions.

Whereas the first volume of the Passagen Talks series dealt with the philosophical foundations of Badiou's communist hypothesis, this volume refers directly to the current political global situation. Confronted with issues such as migration, Islamic terrorism, and resurging nationalism, the validity and applicability of Badiou's theses are on trial. In debate, Badiou presents his conviction that the current times' political challenges can only be met by a solidary bridging of the chasms separating different nations and classes sharper than ever before. Only a policy which defines itself as a policy of human beings instead of acting on behalf of a certain individual group – be it a nation, a religion, or a community of values – can rescue the world from the current crisis of globalized capitalism.

Alain Badiou, born 1937 in Rabat, Morocco, is a philosopher, mathematician, and novelist. He lives in Paris. Peter Engelmann is a publisher, philosopher, and editor of postmodern and deconstructivist French philosophers in German.

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Passagen forum

Aus Montaignes Koffer Im Gespräch mit Peter Engelmann

Hélène Cixous



Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202517
184 pages

The present discussion volume presents a glimpse in the world of experience and thought of one of the most important contemporary French writers: Hélène Cixous. "What I do when I am writing is actually that I am writing the most intimate, the most hidden and forbidden, namely where it is associated with world history and communicates with it. That is my constant concern." (Hélène Cixous)

In four conversations, which are published here for the first time, Peter Engelmann traces Hélène Cixous's major topics throughout her works. The author's childhood during WWII is of utmost importance to her – living in Algeria together with her grandmother, who escaped National Socialism from Osnabrück to Oran, Osnabrück is present to Hélène as a fantasy city. Moreover, this Algerian childhood experience connects Cixous with her life-long friend Jacques Derrida with whom she maintained a lively creative exchange of ideas. Thus, Cixous's biography, her relation to Derrida, and her political engagement constitute this volume's threads.

Hélène Cixous, born 1937 in Algeria, lives as an author and professor in Paris.

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Passagen Thema



Charlie versus Mohammed Plädoyer für die Meinungsfreiheit

Nina Scholz, Heiko Heinisch

Published in 2015
ISBN 9783709201923
112 pages

The terrorist attacks on the satire magazine Charlie Hebdo and the Jewish supermarket in Paris sparked grief and trauma. But it did not take long until some started asking whether Charlie Hebdo may have gone too far. Too far with what? Did the victims in the Jewish supermarket go too far as well? The most recent attacks on November 13, 2015, in Paris have shown that Muslim extremists are not provoked by caricatures; it is much rather the hatred of our free pluralistic society, of our way of life, that motivates their actions.

The attack on the Charlie Hebdo headquarters so far has been the saddest culmination of the assaults on freedom of speech in the name of Muhammad or God, which started a quarter of a century ago with the fatwa against Salman Rushdie and the subsequent acts of terrorism.

Charlie Hebdo does not shy away from criticizing or mocking Islam; their editorial position is not exclusive, but deeply inclusive: Its satire targets everyone, the left and the right, liberals and conservatives, and representatives of all religions. By ignoring lines and stepping over them, Charlie Hebdo eliminates borders between various groups and creates égalité: We all have the right to be offended by Charlie Hebdo. By way of satirical exaggeration, this is the basis of an open society.

Nina Scholz, born in Zeitz/Sachsen-Anhalt, is a political scientist and lives in Vienna. Heiko Heinisch is an independent historian in Vienna.

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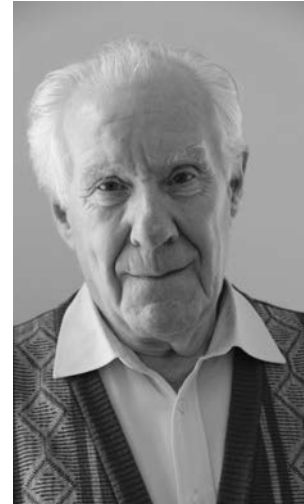
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Passagen Hefte

Trump Amerikas Wahl

Alain Badiou



Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709203187
72 pages

How to explain Donald Trump's election victory ? What kind of subjectivity is necessary to enable resistance in the present circumstances? What can political programs and actions look like in light of the Western democracies' crises which Trump symbolizes?

One day after Donald Trump's election to the presidency of the United States of America, Alain Badiou gave a talk at UCLA, and several days after, a second one at Tufts University in Boston. In these highly topical and politically charged speeches, the philosopher takes a stand on the situation in the US. In addition to an analysis of sources and reasons enabling a politician, whom he refers to as "democrat fascist", to become the world's most powerful man, Badiou develops a concept for a radical alternative draft: he looks ahead and tries to outline what political resistance could look like in light of the recent events. Western democracies' crisis, most recently and probably most spectacularly symptomized by Trump's victory, entails not only a threat, but perhaps also a possibility of a refocusing of policy, a departure to new forms of political engagement beyond well-established institutions. Is the shock followed by a political awakening in the West?

Alain Badiou, born in 1937 in Rabat, Morocco, is a philosopher, mathematician and novelist, and lives in Paris, France.

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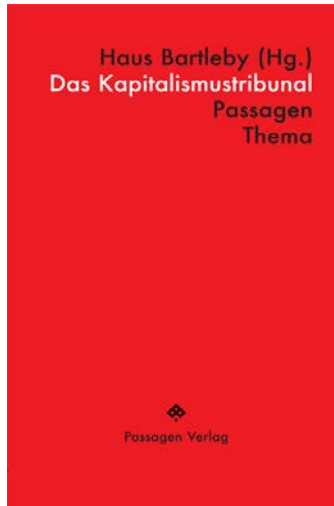
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Passagen Thema



Das Kapitalismustribunal Zur Revolution der ökonomischen Rechte (Das rote Buch)

Edited by Anselm Lenz, Alix Faßmann,
Hendrik Sodenkamp, Haus Bartleby

Published in 2016
ISBN 9783709202203
168 pages

The Capitalism Tribunal tries to identify what should never happen again in economy. The book is not only a reckoning on a system with no future but also an introduction to a revolution of economic values.

The Capitalism Tribunal represents a civil trial against the alleged crimes of the economy system in Europe and its protagonists. The participants and backers of the trial present in original contributions the gap between effective law and economy present events. This anthology supplies legal, cultural and literary groundwork to the idea of a possible revolution of the economical rights of mankind. It helps preparing the conception of new economy laws, which people can create themselves.

The collective Haus Bartleby was grounded in 2014 by scholars, workers, technicians and authors as a "Zentrum für Karriereverweigerung" (centre for career refusal) in Berlin with the aim of becoming a lobby and a think tank to research a new possible interpretation of work.

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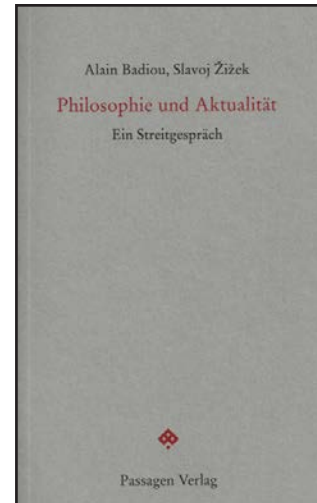


Passagen forum

Philosophie und Aktualität Ein Streitgespräch

Alain Badiou, Slavoj Žižek

Published in 2012
ISBN 9783709200308
104 pages



Two controversial thinkers address a timeless and pressing issue: Should philosophers intervene in current events?

Nothing less than philosophy itself is at stake here: If philosophy does not wish to congeal in academic discipline, it can only exist as an intervention and as a commitment. Philosophy is foreign and new, and yet, it speaks out in the name of everyone – as Badiou shows with his theory of universality, which he wants to be regarded as the epitome of his philosophy.

Žižek argues in similar terms: The philosopher ought to intervene, but in a different way. A philosopher cannot give guidance in current matters of dispute, but he can show that the questions themselves are wrong: We need to change the terms of the debate! says Žižek and ends up with the concept of philosophy as abnormality and excess.

Alain Badiou, born in 1937 in Rabat, Morocco, is a philosopher, mathematician and novelist, and lives in Paris, France.

Slavoj Žižek, born in 1949 in Ljubljana, is a philosopher and psychoanalyst.

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Passagen Philosophie



Performanz und Biomacht Textstrategien im gesellschaftlichen Feld

Sophie Reyer

Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709202754
102 pages

According to Michel Foucault's theories, we are living in an era of BioPower. In all its modalities, life is increasingly controlled and optimised. Sophie Reyer deals with creative as well as scientific possibilities to resist BioPower's hegemony.

BioPower, according to Foucault, this is the form of rule taking over life in general. Its aim is to create a normalised society by taking on individual life processes and directing a population's development on the bodily level. Its sphere of influence extends from nutrition, hygiene, and migration to medicine and health care. Sophie Reyer analyses BioPower and all its realms, partly in an ironic, partly in a playful way, while refracting it in a kaleidoscope while the status quo of power is made visible from the inside and the outside.

Sophie Reyer is an independent author and artist based in Vienna.

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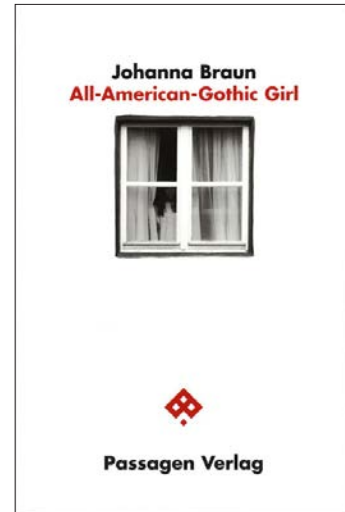
Passagen Kunst

All-American-Gothic Girl

Das Gerechtigkeiteinfordernde
Mädchen in US-amerikanischen
Erzählungen

Johanna Braun

Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202487
216 pages



This artistic-philosophical picture and textbook investigates on the role of the haunting girl in US-American stories as relevant current phenomenon which hints at an extensive historical sub-structure and enables a reference to contemporary legal discourse.

The hysterical girl, who was highly celebrated and worshipped in Vienna at the turn of the century, appears 100 years later in undeniable frequency in US-American literature, film and TV productions as a girl demanding law and justice. These girls, obsessively standing up for law and order, constitute the core of Johanna Braun's artistic and scientific work. Braun interprets these girls, who particularly seize the moment of haunting for their juridical aims, as politically motivated protagonists, and investigates their representations in their particular historical and juridical contexts. Hence, the author weaves her scholarly and artistic research into an artistic-philosophical picture and textbook

Johanna Braun, born in 1987 in Vienna, is an internationally active artist and cultural theorist.

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Passagen Philosophie



Milk / Milch Gabe, Lust und Verlust

Edited by Irimi Athanassakis

Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709202463

176 pages

Original text in English, French and German

In the beginning, there was milk. Because when the gift of life is given, another giving becomes necessary – the gift of (breast-)milk. Milk, a given – or not-given – fact is produced in order to be given and taken, to be sucked up in pleasure.

Irimi Athanassakis's work with and on breast milk started with a series of breast milk drops on white paper, to the left and to the right, and developed in the following to fragile transparent mind maps, associative commentaries on the anatomy of the breast, to processes and experiences of lactating, of colostrum. They circumscribe thoughts on mythology, technology and economy of breastfeeding. Thereby, Athanassakis continues the long tradition of artistic work with body fluids in white, she copies and quotes unhesitatingly science, social science, cultural theories, and arts, and relates the realms spatially and without any causality on milky sheets, the final aim being a plea for a (bio-)practice of absolute giving. Considerable authors accompany this quest for the milk ocean's significance which constitutes – according to Indian mythology – the origin of everything (cows are mothers, too.)

Irimi Athanassakis, born in 1968, lives and works as a visual artist in Paris and Athens.

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Passagen Thema

Der arabische (Alb-)Traum

Aufstand ohne Ziel

Anne-Béatrice Clasmann

Published in 2015
ISBN 9783709201732
300 pages



Why have most revolutionary movements of the Arab Spring failed? How harmful is the influence of regional powers like Saudi-Arabia and Iran? And what is impending when states in the Middle East and Northern Africa remain unstable over years or even collapse?

The protesters and insurgents that shook the foundations of the old order of several Arab states in 2011 lacked a common vision. And it came back to haunt them. In the majority of Arab states in upheaval the situation is much more dire today than the status quo before. Instead of an oppressive state, war and terror now reign supreme. In **The Arab Dream/Nightmare**, Anne-Béatrice Clasmann demonstrates how the old regimes' neglect of human rights and anti-educational political culture continue to have an effect today.

Anne-Béatrice Clasmann, born 1968 in Cologne, has been examining Arab politics since her time as a student. For many years, she has lived and worked in Cairo and Istanbul as a journalist

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Passagen Kunst

Der Sand aus den Uhren

Edited by Benjamin A. Kaufmann



Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202555
120 pages

Humility towards the dead requires picturelessness in light of the undepictable, but speechlessness in light of the unspeakable would betray them. If, however, the attempt to speak fails, there is an ultimate strategy left: to draw attention to silence.

This volume presents new texts on the possibilities of artistic production after Auschwitz. Post War, Postmodernism, Contemporary, Postcontemporary: since Adorno's famous dictum, writing a poem after Auschwitz is barbarous, the concept of art has changed decisively. Has the search for a legitimate artistic expression, or to reconcile with the failed attempt, succeeded? What about the relationship of aesthetics, theoretical practice and politics? How to deal with survivors' testimony? How to adequately point to semiotic shifts in language, when history is agent? This investigation is part of the interdisciplinary project "Sand from Hourglasses" which tries to answer these questions by means of visual arts, poetry, and music with contributions of Eva Geulen, Benedikt Ledebur, Benjamin A. Kaufmann and Gerhard Scheit.

Benjamin A. Kaufmann is a poet, curator, editor and LICRA board member in Austria.

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Passagen XMedia

Klang im Zeitalter technischer Medien

Eine Einführung

Rolf J. Goebel



Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202791
140 pages

The book offers an introduction in the heterogeneous field of sound exploration in dialogue with contemporary media theory, literature and philosophy, while illuminating the significance of auditory reception in light of mechanical reproduction of music, noise and other sound phenomena.

Our postmodernist, late capitalist society constantly pushes forward its acceleration by means of a circulation of medially (re)produced discourses, picture series and sound sequences beyond geopolitical and historic borders. This situation raises the question of the relation between technical sound media and immediate experience of auditory realities. In both auditory realms – be it music or pointless noise – sound breaks distanced-objective vision and verbal language's meanings in order to open up a new truth through auditory understanding of the world. This introduction in selected areas of Sound Studies illuminates its topics in interrelation with contemporary media theory on the one hand and concrete examples of literary and philosophical history on the other hand. The examination aims for clarity and comprehensibility and is directed not only to specialists, but purposely tries to reach a broader public.

Rolf J. Goebel is Distinguished Professor of German at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, USA

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Passagen Philosophie



**Verflucht ist,
wer sich nicht schämt**
Kleine Philosophie
des Schamgefühls

Ursula Ernst

Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202890
126 pages

Alongside decisive texts, the author develops a “little philosophy of shame” which particularly emphasizes the amalgamation of shame and guilt while the latter is not – as once by Adam and Eve – concealed by passing the buck to others.

Following Plato’s myth on the origin and purpose of shame, the ancients considered it to be fear of disgrace. This perspective changes with Descartes who talks of a fear of humiliation, and again with Kant who speaks up against the old notion of shame as instrument in children’s education. One of Kierkegaard’s essays draws attention to the significance of fear. And finally, Thomas Aquinas’s virtue doctrine leads to a negative philosophical text of Adorno’s on Kierkegaard’s doctrine of love, whereas the Danish man’s positive religious traces lead back to the significance of shame in Walter Benjamin.

Ursula M. Ernst, born in 1946 in Kapfenberg, Austria, is translator and lector in Erna Nairz-Wirth’s research team at the University for Economics in Vienna.

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Passagen Philosophie

Todeskonzepte der russischen Moderne von Tolstoj bis Lenin

Felix Philipp Ingold

Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202548
640 pages



In remembrance of the Russian Revolution's 100th anniversary we publish this monography which tries to accomplish a thorough analysis of death concepts in Russian Modernism – a contemplation of death in all its facets. Thus, a variety of dispersed texts is collected and via translations made accessible to the German-speaking world for the first time. The historic-critic treatise gains hence the significance of an epoch-making, extensively annotated fundamental work.

Journalistic, philosophic, and literary texts, and political as well as private documents from 1890 to 1930, are taken into account with constant reference to the historical context in order to synthesize the thanatological discourse of Russian Modernism while at the same time displaying their characteristics and contradictions. Not only are various attitudes towards individual death treated as "death concepts", but also much-discussed topoi such as the end of history, the decline of the West or "the Russian", Christian apocalyptic thinking, civilising decadence and degeneration, and breaking with tradition or the arts' pressure to innovate. Whether it might be labelled decline, end, or death – there remains the question of what is behind the veil.

Felix Philipp Ingold, born in 1942 in Basel, Switzerland, is a retired professor at the School of Human and Social Sciences of the University St. Gallen and Fellow of the Berlin-based Wissenschaftskolleg. He lives and works as an independent author, publisher and translator in Romainmôtier (French-speaking Switzerland).

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Passagen Philosophie



Flugblatt - Zeitung - Blog Materialität und Medialität als Literaturen

Torsten Flüh

Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202524
292 pages

Confronted with digitalization, the question of mediality of literary texts is currently challenged and in a number of ways reformulated. All of a sudden, journalists on a media conference in Berlin talk naturally of “wooden media”.

What are these wooden media about? In times of e-papers, digitality, self-publishing, e-books, blogs, microblogs and nanoblogs such as Facebook and Twitter, a certain material is needed to mark a difference. Going back to how literature is presented on the internet, the present – printed – book combines thirteen praxeological essays on the following authors: Ginka Steinwachs, Johann Wolfgang Goethe, Heinrich von Kleist, Heinrich Heine, Bettina von Arnim, Karl Marx, Jacob Moleschott, Elde Lasker-Schüler, Walter Benjamin, Ronald M. Schernikau, Herta Müller, Navid Kermani and Rainald Goetz. Within the new practical framework and with reference to a relation between picture and text, literatures have to be re-thought. Surprisingly, the same holds true already for a leaflet by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe which became successful in German literature.

Torsten Flüh, born in 1962, teaches literature and blog theories in Berlin. He runs the blog NIGHT OUT @ BERLIN

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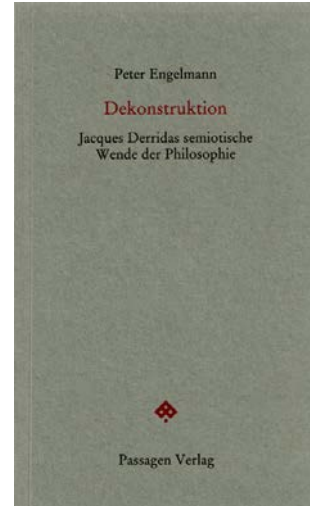


Passagen Philosophie

Dekonstruktion Jacques Derridas semiotische Wende der Philosophie

Peter Engelmann

Published in 2013
ISBN 9783851659573
248 pages



Jacques Derrida's philosophical approach of deconstruction is the most successful and, at the same time, the most unknown philosophical innovation since Heidegger's fundamental ontology. Deconstruction has established itself in countless ramifications in various artistic and literary practices, without having tied to it a clear representation of its very concept and philosophical strategy. The antitotalitarian motivation behind deconstruction, which is essential if we want to understand it, has remained almost completely hidden. In fact, deconstruction makes a soberly scientific description thereof rather difficult, since it systematically rejects any finality in its conceptual definition. This characteristic is not only at the core of Derrida's philosophical intervention, but also a necessary condition of an antitotalitarian political stance that does not itself turn into rigid totalitarianism. Engelmann shows that Saussure's semiotics is the sober scientific language with which Derrida developed deconstruction and with which we can understand deconstruction without covering up its idiosyncrasies and cognitive potential with the language we use to describe it. **Deconstruction: Jacques Derrida's Semiotic Turn in Philosophy** places deconstruction in the larger context of historic and contemporary approaches to the philosophy of difference and reestablishes them in the context of philosophical discursivity.

Peter Engelmann is a publisher, philosopher, and editor of postmodern and deconstructivist French philosophers in German.

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Transdisziplinäre Gestaltung

Essays der Folkwang
Universität der Künste

Edited by Alan N. Shapiro,
Marion Digel, Irmi Wachendorff

Published in 2017
ISBN 9783709202593
330 pages

Original text in English and German

Transdisciplinary Design marks the interface of theory and practice. Hence, humanistic faculties cannot simply transfer *en bloc* and without adaptation academic subjects such as philosophy, sociology, media science, cultural studies, history of arts, etc.

Within the framework of Transdisciplinary Design, knowledge, ideas, and theories are to be interpreted as fragments primarily arranged into a context with regard to a concrete design project – a work of art, a film, a computer game. Thus, Transdisciplinary Design raises a number of questions: What's the significance of fiction in the designer's creative act? What is Social Choreography, what is Biodesign? Can we think of a special internet by which artist and designer should be able to change the importance of money through merging to an economy of sustainability of their creative work? What does Artificial Intelligence mean for a designer? How do Queer, Transgender and Feminist Studies influence design and technology? Finally, personal, existential and biographic, bodily and performance-related momentums matter in Transdisciplinary Design.

Alan N. Shapiro taught Transdisciplinary Design, Media Theory, Creative Coding, Science Fiction and French Philosophy in Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

Marion Digel is department head of the Design Faculty of the Folkwang University of Arts in Essen.

Irmi Wachendorff is research associate in the Graduate Program for Transdisciplinary Design Heterotopia.

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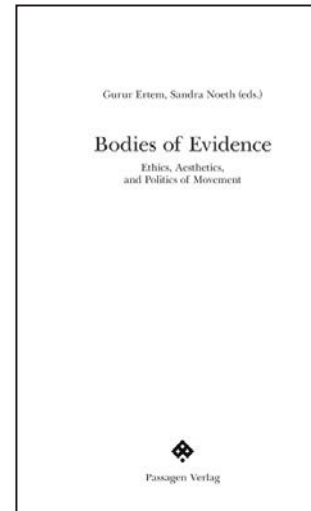


Passagen Gesellschaft

Bodies of Evidence Ethics, Aesthetics, and Politics of Movement

Edited by Gurur Ertem
and Sandra Noeth

Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709203033
280 pages
Original text in English



This book focuses on the human body in, of, and as evidence. It illuminates how the body appears simultaneously as witness, document, and agent as it moves across borders drawn by vectors of power such as nationhood, sovereignty, and normalcy.

From multiple perspectives traversing the fields of visual and performing arts, social anthropology, political theory, critical journalism, and philosophy, this book interrogates the complex ways in which the body is implicated in contemporary "crises" and addresses its political and ethical repercussions. Contributions to the volume include commissioned articles, essays, interviews, dialogues and case studies that offer insights into corporeality as the often-neglected dimension that cuts through ethics, aesthetics, and politics. The book is commissioned by tanzhaus nrw Düsseldorf.

Gurur Ertem is a social scientist and performance studies scholar specializing in the sociology of culture and the arts, and the body and social theory. Ertem is the founding co-director of iDANS (Istanbul) where she has been responsible for curatorial research and publications. Sandra Noeth is a curator, researcher and author. Her work focuses on ethical and political perspectives toward body-practice and theory as well as on dramaturgy in dance and choreography.

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The Good Pain? Applied Theatre and Social Circus in Palestine Today

Kristin Flade

Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709203378
approx. 252 pages
Original text in English

This book unfolds the conditions, aims and challenges of culture in Palestine today. It focuses on contemporary applied theatre, and highlights how facilitators and participants alike position these practices and their inherent promise of change.

The Good Pain? draws a vivid and dense portrait of the conditions of life and culture in the Palestinian West Bank. It shows how culture – Playback Theatre, Forum Theatre and Social Circus projects in particular – is tied up in paradox promises and demands to effect positive change for a society fragmented and frustrated by a decade long political status quo. The book traces the impact of applied theatre in its efforts to increase national and cultural cohesion, to mobilise solidarity within the Palestinian society as well as from an international public, and to enhance the sensitisation of participants and audiences.

Kristin Flade is a performance scholar based in Berlin. Her thinking and writing are concerned with political violence, and the emergence of resistance in contemporary performance cultures.

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Passagen Hefte

Der Kampf um die Globalisierung

Colin Crouch

Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709203019
88 pages



Globalization is the most controversial concept of the recent political history. It brings along also confusion in the fronts of left and right. Colin Crouch formulates in this book a precise analysis of the term.

Colin Crouch explains the two conflicting positions in the battle for globalization with the historical conflict between conservatives, who want to preserve the status quo and the "supporters of the Enlightenment", who endorse rational progress and values such as freedom and equality. The problem arises since these values are shared between both the advocates of the social market economy and the champions of free market. The "Enlightenment front" gets thus divided. On both sides moreover the idea of the strong national State reappears, which promises the safety, taken away from the globalized world.

Colin Crouch's position is clear: to stop globalization is neither possible nor desirable, but it's necessary to strengthen the international institutions through social democratic reforms.

Colin Crouch is a British sociologist and political analyst, Member of the British Academy.

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Philosophy on Stage Philosophie als künstlerische Forschung

Edited by Arno Böhler
and Susanne Valerie Granzer

Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709203002
280 pages

What happens when philosophy is understood as an artistic activity? This book collates contributions from the "Philosophy on stage" Festival.

What changes in our idea of philosophy, if philosophers and artists describe the process of thinking as an artistic activity? Philosophy since Nietzsche is on its way to a better anchorage to the material and perceptive reality. From this input the research of the philosopher Arno Böhler and the artist Susanne Valerie Granzer unfolds, who since 20 years are trying to develop a non-ascetic thinking method, which leaves space and meaning to body and desire. This book presents a philosophical contextualization of these topics within the program of the festival "*Philosophy on stage #4: Nietzsche et cetera*". It is a part of the PEEK-Project "*Artist-philosophers. Philosophy as arts-based research*" funded by the Austrian Fund for Science. Texts by Arno Böhler, Susanne Valerie Granzer, Anke Haarmann, Krassimira Kruschkova, Alice Lagaay, Anton Ray and Elisabeth Schäfer.

Arno Böhler teaches philosophy at the University of Vienna and the University for applied Arts.

Susanne Valerie Granzer is an actress and professor at the acting academy Max Reinhardt Seminar in Vienna. Together they developed the format "Philosophy on stage".

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Passagen Thema

Wie können wir über Opfer reden?

Kirstin Breitenfellner

Published in 2018
ISBN 9783709203354
approx. 160 pages



Victims of sexual abuse, terrorism, natural disasters – victims are in the center of the media attention. But they get easily exploited as political or moral weapons. Why does this happen? And how is it possible to get a more rational approach on the public debate on them?

The victim is a central figure in the media debate nowadays. Kirstin Breitenfellner reconstructs the history of this easily exploited term and its usage. She unfolds the anthropological and religious roots of the “victim” and focuses on the process of shaming and creation of scapegoats as acts of collective violence, which determine the border between sacred and profane. This book explores the dodgy relation between victims, offenders and self-nominated saviours, who, in our social-media era, can easily become persecutors. Eventually the author makes proposals for a more honest and rational reporting (narration?) about victims and culprits.

Kirstin Breitenfellner is born in 1966 in Vienna. She is an independent author, journalist and yoga teacher.

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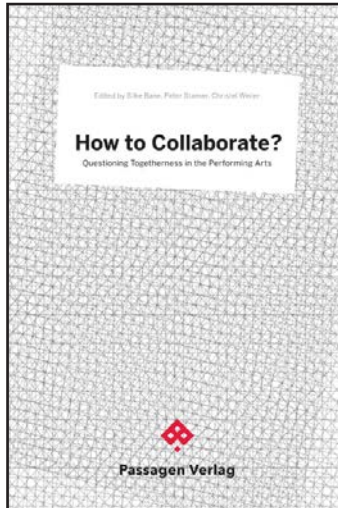
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Passagen Kunst



How to Collaborate? Questioning Togetherness in the Performing Arts

Edited by Silke Bake,
Peter Stamer, Christel Weiler

Published in 2016
ISBN 9783709201725
136 pages
45 B/W images
Original text in English

How to collaborate? questions the conditions and challenges of the cooperation in the philosophical, artistic and (cultural-)political practice.

The book starts from the 2013 project "A Future Archeology", a meeting of artists and architects from Europe and the Middle East who worked on performative and building ideas. Some of them inaugurated in 2014 the dialogue series "How to Collaborate?", which tried, with the consultancy of experts from different fields, to analyze theories and practices of the cooperation in art, philosophy and politics. This anthology collects their reflections on the topic and proposes collaboration as a possible alternative method for cognitive and productive work in our society.

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Passagen Philosophie

Der neue Glaube an die Unsterblichkeit

Zur Dialektik von Mensch und Technik in den Erlösungsphantasien des Transhumanismus

Philipp von Becker

Published in 2015
ISBN 9783709201640
152 pages



God is dead, but the belief in immortality lives on in the biotechnical concepts of transhumanist thinkers about artificial intelligence, nano-invasively altered bodies, and brain uploads. It is time for a demystification of the new techno-utopian promises of salvation.

Fantasies of transhumanism seemed pure science fiction until very recently. But today, with Apple Watches, Google Glasses, genetic engineering, and nano-robots, the invasion of the human body is already well underway – with the professed intent to improve the human condition. The reason and driving force behind these research projects is a techno-utopian philosophy that defines cultural progress only via technological developments. As **The New Belief in Immortality** argues, this suppresses both the implications and consequences of the (capitalist) logic of increase and acceleration and the socio-economic and power-political realities. Consequently, the exact opposite of the new promise of transcendence: the entirely predictable, manipulable, and controllable individual. As antagonists of a “social physics” of algorithms which determines what we should think, feel, and do, we need a new “social metaphysics,” which opens up a discussion how we want to live in the first place.

Philipp von Becker, born in 1979, is a filmmaker and author in Berlin.

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Passagen forum



Jenseits des Neoliberalismus Ein Plädoyer für die soziale Gerechtigkeit

Colin Crouch

Published in 2013
ISBN 9783709200674
232 pages

Colin Crouch, author of the bestsellers "Post-Democracy" and "The Strange Non-Death of Neoliberalism," makes a bold claim in his new book, **Beyond Neoliberalism: A Plea for Social Justice** (published in English by Polity Press as "Making Capitalism Fit for Society"): In order to effectively resist neoliberalism, social democracy needs to be shaken out of the defensive posture to which it has shrunk for several years now.

Neoliberalism has already shaped our society with lasting effect; the changes that have taken place in the past decades are irreversible. This is why, according to Colin Crouch, creative remedies are only possible from within the system: Social democracy needs to focus its efforts on eradicating the undesirable effects of a structurally inefficient market economy. Its task is to render the welfare state into a social investment welfare state. The author puts particular emphasis on family-friendly labor policies, sustainable infrastructure, and the strengthening of trade unions, which have to start working with the market forces, instead of against them. In his new book, Crouch argues why it is only social democracy that can demand and enforce the necessary measures to accomplish this vision.

Colin Crouch is a British political scientist and sociologist, and became internationally renowned with his work on post-democracy. He is a Professor Emeritus of Governance and Public Management at the University of Warwick.

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