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## **KEY=WRITINGS - GARDNER CHARLES**

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### **SELECTED WRITINGS ON SELF-ORGANIZATION, PHILOSOPHY, BIOETHICS, AND JUDAISM**

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**Fordham Univ Press** During the last thirty years, biophysicist and philosopher Henri Atlan has been a major voice in contemporary European philosophical and bio-ethical debates. In a massive oeuvre that ranges from biology and neural network theory to Spinoza's thought and the history of philosophy, and from artificial intelligence and information theory to Jewish mysticism and to contemporary medical ethics, Atlan has come to offer an exceptionally powerful philosophical argumentation that is as hostile to scientism as it is attentive to biology's conceptual and experimental rigor, as careful with concepts of rationality as it is committed to rethinking the human place in a radically determined yet forever changing world. --Book Jacket.

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## **ALIENATION EFFECTS**

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### **PERFORMANCE AND SELF-MANAGEMENT IN YUGOSLAVIA, 1945-91**

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**University of Michigan Press** Examines the interplay of artistic, political, and economic performance in the former Yugoslavia and reveals their inseparability

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## **SONIC FLUX**

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### **SOUND, ART, AND METAPHYSICS**

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**University of Chicago Press** From Edison's invention of the phonograph through contemporary field recording and sound installation, artists have become attracted to those domains against which music has always defined itself: noise, silence, and environmental sound. Christoph Cox

argues that these developments in the sonic arts are not only aesthetically but also philosophically significant, revealing sound to be a continuous material flow to which human expressions contribute but which precedes and exceeds those expressions. Cox shows how, over the course of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, philosophers and sonic artists have explored this "sonic flux." Through the philosophical analysis of works by John Cage, Maryanne Amacher, Max Neuhaus, Christian Marclay, and many others, *Sonic Flux* contributes to the development of a materialist metaphysics and poses a challenge to the prevailing positions in cultural theory, proposing a realist and materialist aesthetics able to account not only for sonic art but for artistic production in general.

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## **NEW MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION ACROSS RELIGIONS AND CULTURES**

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IGI Global "This book offers a unique opportunity in both the social sciences, humanities, and communication fields to provide concrete concepts and notions in the areas of inter-religious and inter-cultural dialogue"--

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## **NEITHER VERTICAL NOR HORIZONTAL**

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## **A THEORY OF POLITICAL ORGANIZATION**

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Verso Books How do we organize in a world after both Occupy and the Sanders campaign? A decade ago, a wave of mass mobilisations described as "horizontal" and "leaderless" swept the planet, holding the promise of real democracy and justice for the 99%. Many saw its subsequent ebb as proof of the need to go back to what was once called "the question of organisation". For something so often described as essential, however, political organisation remains a surprisingly under-theorised field. In this book, Rodrigo Nunes proposes to remedy that lack by starting again from scratch. Redefining the terms of the problem, he rejects the confusion between organisation and any of the forms it can take, such as the party, and argues that organisation must be understood as always supposing a diverse ecology of different initiatives and organisational forms. Drawing from a wide array of sources and traditions that include cybernetics, poststructuralism, network theory and Marxism, Nunes develops a grammar that eschews easy oppositions between "verticalism" and "horizontalism", centralisation and dispersion, and offers a fresh approach to enduring issues like spontaneity, leadership, democracy, strategy, populism, revolution, and the relationship between movements and parties.

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## **THE LOGIC OF FILTERING**

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## HOW NOISE SHAPES THE SOUND OF RECORDED MUSIC

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Oxford University Press Introduction. The Noise of Sound Media -- The Myth of Perfect Fidelity -- The Logic of Noise Reduction -- Ideal and Technical Filters -- Time and Transience -- The Logic of Filtering -- Conclusion. The 'Other Music'

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## SMALL BIBLES FOR BAD TIMES

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## SELECTED POEMS AND PROSE OF LILIANE ATLAN

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This bi-lingual French-English language collection of Liliane Atlan's poetry and non-fiction prose will help introduce the French writer Liliane Atlan to the wider world English language reading audience. Atlan (1932-2012) a writer of plays, poetry and prose, defies easy categorization. She's known as a "Jewish writer," "a Holocaust writer," an originator of l'écriture féminine, and a pioneering theatre artist. Her writing is steeped in Jewish sources-- Talmud, Torah, mystical texts, as well as Jewish history--and her French is inflected with Hebrew, Ladino, and Yiddish. Thematically she draws upon personal memories, the testimonials of Holocaust survivors, and her intensive study of Jewish literature. Her own consciousness of Jewish identity was deeply impacted by the German occupation and the collaborationist regime of Vichy. In 1939, seven-year-old Liliane and her sister Rachel were sent into hiding with a gentile family in the Auvergne. Her maternal grandmother and uncles had been deported and died in Auschwitz. Surviving the war and the Holocaust, Liliane's parents provided relief and resources to refugees and survivors after the war. Liliane's interactions with these survivors affected her deeply. These experiences became the wellspring for her writings which are dominated by one crucial question: how can we integrate within our conscience, without dying in the attempt, the shattering experience of Auschwitz? Atlan spent three years living and teaching in the U.S. (in both San Francisco and in Iowa City). In 1969, shortly after the Israeli-Arab Six-Day War, Liliane and her family moved to Israel, where they stayed until 1971. In Israel she performed street theater with Palestinian artists attempting to use theater to bridge these cultures. During the 1980s and 1990s she returned to the themes of the Holocaust with the publication of *Les passants* (1989)-it was later published in English as *The Passerby* in 1999) and *Un opera pour Terezin* (1997) commemorating the annihilation of European Jewish artists in the ghetto of Terezin (renamed Theresienstadt by the Germans). Until her death, in Israel, in 2012, Atlan, recipient of the Prix Mémoire de la Shoah, was active in Israeli-Palestinian peace and cultural initiatives.

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## BEYOND UNWANTED SOUND

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## NOISE, AFFECT AND AESTHETIC MORALISM

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Bloomsbury Publishing USA Noise is so often a 'stench in the ear' - an

unpleasant disturbance or an unwelcome distraction. But there is much more to noise than what greets the ear as unwanted sound. *Beyond Unwanted Sound* is about noise and how we talk about it. Weaving together affect theory with cybernetics, media histories, acoustic ecology, geo-politics, sonic art practices and a range of noises, Marie Thompson critiques both the conservative politics of silence and transgressive poetics of noise music, each of which position noise as a negative phenomenon. *Beyond Unwanted Sound* instead aims to account for a broader spectrum of noise, ranging from the exceptional to the banal; the overwhelming to the inaudible; and the destructive to the generative. What connects these various and variable manifestations of noise is not negativity but affectivity. Building on the Spinozist assertion that to exist is to be affected, *Beyond Unwanted Sound* asserts that to exist is to be affected by noise.

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### **ON TIME, BEING, AND HUNGER**

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### **CHALLENGING THE TRADITIONAL WAY OF THINKING LIFE**

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Fordham Univ Press Situating itself within the context of current debates in continental philosophy, and through a series of readings of Aristotle, Nietzsche, Heidegger and Derrida to recent developments in life sciences, this book offers a critical enquiry concerning the traditional way of understanding life in the history of metaphysics.

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### **WAR IN WORCESTER:**

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### **YOUTH AND THE APARTHEID STATE**

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Fordham Univ Press Filling a gap in the ethnographic analysis of the role of youth in armed conflict, this book describes, from the perspective of the young fighters themselves, the tactics that young local leaders used and how the state retaliated, young peoples' experiences of pain and loss, the effect on fighters of the extensive use of informers by the state as a weapon of war, and the search for an ethic of survival.

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### **HUMAN REMAINS**

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### **MEDICINE, DEATH, AND DESIRE IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY PARIS**

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Fordham Univ Press The living and the dead cohabited Paris until the late 18th century, when, in the name of public health, measures were taken to drive the latter from the city. Cemeteries were removed from urban space, and corpses started to be viewed as terrifyingly noxious substances. Working across a broad range of disciplines this book seeks to understand the meaning of the dead and their role in creating one of the most important cities of the contemporary world.

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## **THE COMPLETE LIVES OF CAMP PEOPLE**

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### **COLONIALISM, FASCISM, CONCENTRATED MODERNITY**

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Duke University Press In *The Complete Lives of Camp People* Rudolf Mrázek presents a sweeping study of the material and cultural lives of twentieth-century concentration camp internees and the multiple ways in which their experiences speak to the fundamental logics of modernity. Mrázek focuses on the minutiae of daily life in two camps: Theresienstadt, a Nazi “ghetto” for Jews near Prague, and the Dutch “isolation camp” Boven Digoel—which was located in a remote part of New Guinea between 1927 and 1943 and held Indonesian rebels who attempted to overthrow the colonial government. Drawing on a mix of interviews with survivors and their descendants, archival accounts, ephemera, and media representations, Mrázek shows how modern life's most mundane tasks—buying clothes, getting haircuts, playing sports—continued on in the camps, which were themselves designed, built, and managed in accordance with modernity's tenets. In this way, Mrázek demonstrates that concentration camps are not exceptional spaces; they are the locus of modernity in its most distilled form.

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## **SCIENCE AND AMERICAN LITERATURE IN THE 20TH AND 21ST CENTURIES**

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### **FROM HENRY ADAMS TO JOHN ADAMS**

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Cambridge Scholars Publishing Since its origin, American literature has always had an uneasy relationship with science: born at a time when science was becoming a profession, it repeatedly referred to it, implicitly or explicitly, in order to assert its difference or, on the contrary, to gain a certain form of legitimacy. The purpose of this book is to show how scientific discourse informs literary writing, and to consider the relationship the two types of discourse have maintained: mutual metaphorization, questioning or legitimating. Focusing on the literary production of the United States in the 20th and 21st centuries, the book is organized in four parts: the first one, which concerns the works of Henry Adams and Thomas Pynchon, examines the way in which literature writes a history of science; the second deals with the relationship between literature and the developing field of neurosciences, first from a theoretical perspective, then through the study of science-fiction novels; the third one includes essays which, one way or another, raise the issue of the ethics of science and offer a literary answer to the dilemmas raised by scientific progress; the two essays in the last part analyze how digital technology has influenced recent American writing and the consequences of this new mode on reading procedures.

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## **INHUMAN NETWORKS**

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### **SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF CONNECTION**

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**Bloomsbury Publishing USA** Social media's connectivity is often thought to be a manifestation of human nature buried until now, revealed only through the diverse technologies of the participatory internet. Rather than embrace this view, *Inhuman Networks: Social Media and the Archaeology of Connection* argues that the human nature revealed by social media imagines network technology and data as models for behavior online. Covering a wide range of historical and interdisciplinary subjects, Grant Bollmer examines the emergence of “the network” as a model for relation in the 1700s and 1800s and follows it through marginal, often forgotten articulations of technology, biology, economics, and the social. From this history, Bollmer examines contemporary controversies surrounding social media, extending out to the influence of network models on issues of critical theory, politics, popular science, and neoliberalism. By moving through the past and present of network media, *Inhuman Networks* demonstrates how contemporary network culture unintentionally repeats debates over the limits of Western modernity to provide an idealized future where “the human” is interchangeable with abstract, flowing data connected through well-managed, distributed networks.

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### **SOUND OBJECTS**

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**Duke University Press** Is a sound an object, an experience, an event, or a relation? What exactly does the emerging discipline of sound studies study? *Sound Objects* pursues these questions while exploring how history, culture, and mediation entwine with sound's elusive objectivity. Examining the genealogy and evolution of the concept of the sound object, the commodification of sound, acousmatic listening, nonhuman sounds, and sound and memory, the contributors not only probe conceptual issues that lie in the forefront of contemporary sonic discussions but also underscore auditory experience as fundamental to sound as a critical enterprise. In so doing, they offer exciting considerations of sound within and beyond its role in meaning, communication, and information and an illuminatingly original theoretical overview of the field of sound studies itself.

**Contributors.** Georgina Born, Michael Bull, Michel Chion, Rey Chow, John Dack, Veit Erlmann, Brian Kane, Jairo Moreno, John Mowitt, Pooja Rangan, Gavin Steingo, James A. Steintrager, Jonathan Sterne, David Toop

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### **CASTORIADIS**

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#### **PSYCHE, SOCIETY, AUTONOMY**

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**BRILL** This book is a critical exploration of the philosophical underpinnings and implications of Cornelius Castoriadis reflections on Being, society and the self. The book introduces the reader to the main concepts of

Castoriadis work, but goes further to uncover the fundamental philosophical issues addressed by Castoriadis, and to critically examine the issues his work opens up, assessing and, where necessary, offering suggested amendments to the answers Castoriadis himself puts forward. Key conceptual problems addressed include the distinction between autonomy and heteronomy, the nature of the self and self-creation, and the nature of determination in a fundamentally indeterminate universe.

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### **RECURSIVITY AND CONTINGENCY**

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Rowman & Littlefield This book is an investigation of algorithmic contingency and an elucidation of the contemporary situation that we are living in: the regular arrival of algorithmic catastrophes on a global scale. Through a historical analysis of philosophy, computation and media, this book proposes a renewed relation between nature and technics.

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### **THE SELF-DESTRUCTION OF THE WEST**

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### **CRITICAL CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

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Editions Publibook Voilà désormais plus de 10 000 ans que la civilisation occidentale s'est installée et voilà 10 000 ans qu'elle viole le sens même de la nature : la vie. En s'appropriant sans concession ce qui l'entourait, l'homme de l'Ouest a vu son horizon ployer sous la charge de la destruction qu'il lui avait lui-même réalisée. Sommes-nous des lycanthropes ou des vampires? Ces monstres si terrifiants qui sortent de notre imagination sont-ils en réalité la copie de notre comportement dévastateur? Prédateurs, nous pompons sans remords les énergies qui nous entourent. Jusqu'où ira-t-on?.

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### **THE FASCINATION WITH DEATH IN CONTEMPORARY FRENCH THOUGHT**

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### **A LONGING FOR THE ABYSS**

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Springer Nature This book analyses a cultural phenomenon that goes to the very roots of Western civilization: the centrality of death in our sense of human existence. It does so through a close reading of seminal works by the most creative authors of modern French thought, such as Maurice Blanchot, Jacques Lacan, and Jacques Derrida. These works encode an entire ethics of postmodernism. Betty Rojtman offers the reader a prism through which to see anew the key issues of the twentieth century: tragedy, finitude, nothingness—but also contestation, liberty, and sovereignty. Little by little we understand that this fascination with death may be just the other side of humankind's great protest, its thirst for the infinite and its desire to be. Finally, Rojtman tries to offer another view on these fundamental questions by shifting to a parallel cultural reference: Kabbalah.

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## **BIODECONSTRUCTION**

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### **JACQUES DERRIDA AND THE LIFE SCIENCES**

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State University of New York Press Analyzes Derrida's 1975 seminar "La vie la mort" as a deconstruction of biology with relevance to his work more broadly. In Biodeconstruction, Francesco Vitale demonstrates the key role that the question of life plays in Jacques Derrida's work. In the seminar La vie la mort (1975), Derrida engages closely with the life sciences, especially biology and evolution theory. Connecting this line of thought to his analysis of cybernetics in Of Grammatology, Vitale shows how Derrida develops a notion of biological life as itself a sort of text that is necessarily open onto further articulations and grafts. This sets the stage for the deconstruction of the traditional opposition between life and death, conceiving of death as an internal condition of the constitution of the living rather than being the opposite of life. It also provides the basis for the deconstruction of the rigidly deterministic concept of the genetic program, an insight that anticipates recent achievements of biological research in epigenetics and sexual reproduction. Finally, Vitale argues that this framework can enrich our understanding of Derrida's late work devoted to political issues, connecting his use of the autoimmunitarian lexicon to the theory of cellular suicide in biology. Francesco Vitale is Professor of Aesthetics at the University of Salerno, Italy. He is the author of The Last Fortress of Metaphysics: Jacques Derrida and the Deconstruction of Architecture, also published by SUNY Press, and the author and editor of several books in Italian on Derrida and contemporary French philosophy. Mauro Senatore is a British Academy Fellow at Durham University in the United Kingdom and Adjunct Professor of Contemporary French Philosophy at the Instituto de Humanidades, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile. He is the author of Germs of Death: The Problem of Genesis in Jacques Derrida, also published by SUNY Press.

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## **THE GENESIS AND GEOMETRY OF THE LABYRINTH**

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### **ARCHITECTURE, HIDDEN LANGUAGE, MYTHS, AND RITUALS**

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Simon and Schuster A groundbreaking look at the phenomenon of the labyrinth, connecting this ancient symbol to modern scientific principles. • Illustrated with labyrinths from around the world and throughout history. • Demonstrates how the labyrinth differs from a maze and how it is a tool for interpreting ancient myths and religious beliefs. • Draws parallels between the labyrinth and quantum physics, showing how through the secrets of the labyrinth we can unlock the mystery of life itself. The powerful symbol of the labyrinth exists in countless cultures spanning the globe from Africa and ancient Greece to India, China, and pre-Columbian North and South America. For centuries they have been used for religious rituals, meditation, and spiritual and physical healing. In the labyrinth humanity

finds a model of the quintessential sacred space that depicts the most profound levels of consciousness. Its center is regarded in many cultures as a door between two worlds, thus providing individuals with the ideal place for self questioning and meditation. In a comprehensive exploration of this time-honored symbol, Patrick Conty shows how the geometrical construction of the ancient labyrinth corresponds exactly with today's modern geometry, illustrating that recent developments in math and physics parallel the science of ancient civilizations. By looking at the way the two systems complement each other, Conty draws new conclusions about the ancient world and how that world can benefit us right now. Conty explores not only physical labyrinths but also reveals how the same transcendent principles are at work in Celtic knot work; the designs of ancient Chinese cauldrons; the tattoos and tracings of primitive art; the textiles of Africa, Peru, and Central America; and the geometric patterns in Islamic art.

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## **OEDIPUS UNBOUND**

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### **SELECTED WRITINGS ON RIVALRY AND DESIRE**

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Stanford University Press These hard-to-find writings afford an inside look at the emergence of Girard's scapegoat theory from his pioneering analysis of rivalry and desire. Girard unbinds the Oedipal triangle from its Freudian moorings, replacing desire for the mother with desire for anyoneor anything a rival desires."

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## **EVOLUTION AND CONVERSION**

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### **DIALOGUES ON THE ORIGINS OF CULTURE**

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Bloomsbury Publishing Evolution and Conversion explores the main tenets of René Girard's thought in a series of dialogues. Here, Girard reflects on the evolution of his thought and offers striking new insights on topics such as violence, religion, desire and literature. His long argument is a historical one in which the origin of culture and religion is reunited in the contemporary world by means of a reinterpretation of Christianity and an understanding of the intrinsically violent nature of human beings. He also offers provocative re-readings of Biblical and literary texts and responds to statements by Daniel Dennett and Richard Dawkins. Including an introduction by the authors, this is a revealing text by one of the most original thinkers of our time.

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## **GERMS OF DEATH**

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### **THE PROBLEM OF GENESIS IN JACQUES DERRIDA**

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State University of New York Press An analysis of Derrida's early work engaging Plato, Hegel, and the life sciences. Germs of Death explores the idea of genesis, or dissemination, in the early work of Jacques Derrida.

Looking at Derrida's published and unpublished work from "Force and Signification" in 1963 to Glas in 1974, Mauro Senatore traces the development of Derrida's understanding of genesis both linguistically and biologically, and argues that this topic is an overlooked thread that draws together Derrida's readings of Plato and Hegel. Demonstrating how Derrida's analysis liberates the understanding of genesis from Platonic and Hegelian presupposition, Senatore also highlights Derrida's engagement with the biological thought of his day. Senatore also shows that the implications of Derrida's insights extend into contemporary ethical and political questions relating to postgenomic conceptions of life. Mauro Senatore is a British Academy Fellow at Durham University, United Kingdom, and Adjunct Professor of Contemporary French Philosophy at the Instituto de Humanidades, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile. He is the author and editor of several books, including *Performatives After Deconstruction*.

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## **VIVANT POSTGÉNOMIQUE (LE)**

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Odile Jacob

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## **WRITING OTHERWISE**

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## **ATLAN, DURAS, GIRAUDON, REDONNET, AND WITTIG**

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Rodopi Essentially a comparative and contrastive analysis, *Writing Otherwise* examines the prose of five French women authors: Liliane Atlan, Marguerite Duras, Liliane Giraudon, Marie Redonnet, and Monique Wittig. Through close readings of texts published after 1985, this book explores the broad concerns and preoccupations infusing the ontological enterprise that is *écriture*. While maintaining a sensitivity to the diversity of styles and themes, as well as the unique qualities of the poetic voice evident in the five texts under consideration, this study seeks to highlight, in very general terms, what is common to them. The intertextual ground that informs the works, the construction of subjectivity, and the ambivalence and tension inherent to the practice writing constitute significant and important areas of convergence. These features form the ground of each chapter, while specific areas of divergence complete the discussion of individual aesthetics. Inspired by feminist literary theory, *Writing Otherwise* is also concerned with how these five women writers negotiate their relationship to writing.

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## **LIMINALITY AND EXPERIENCE**

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## **A TRANSDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO THE PSYCHOSOCIAL**

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Springer This book breathes new life into the study of liminal experiences of transition and transformation, or 'becoming'. It brings fresh insight into affect and emotion, dream and imagination, and fabulation and symbolism by tracing their relation to experiences of liminality. The author proposes a

distinctive theory of the relationship between psychology and the social sciences with much to share with the arts. Its premise is that psychosocial existence is not made of 'stuff' like building blocks, but of happenings and events in which the many elements that compose our lives are temporarily drawn together. The social is not a thing but a flow of processes, and our personal subjectivity is part of that flow, 'selves' being tightly interwoven with 'others'. But there are breaks and ruptures in the flow, and during these liminal occasions our experience unravels and is rewoven. This book puts such moments at the core of the psychosocial research agenda. Of transdisciplinary scope, it will appeal beyond psychosocial studies and social psychology to all scholars interested in the interface between experience and social (dis)order.

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## **PATHOLOGICAL REALITIES**

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### **ESSAYS ON DISEASE, EXPERIMENTS, AND HISTORY**

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Fordham Univ Press Mirko D. Grmek (1924-2000) is one of the most significant figures in the history of medicine, and has long been considered a pioneer of the field. The singular trajectory that took Grmek from Yugoslavia to the academic culture of post-war France placed him at the crossroads of different intellectual trends and made him an influential figure during the second half of the twentieth century. Yet, scholars have rarely attempted to articulate his distinctive vision of the history of science and medicine with all its tensions, contradictions, and ambiguities. This volume brings together and publishes for the first time in English a range of Grmek's writings, providing a portrait of his entire career as a historian of science and an engaged intellectual figure. *Pathological Realities* pieces together Grmek's scholarship that reveals the interconnections of diseases, societies, and medical theories. Straddling the sciences and the humanities, Grmek crafted significant new concepts and methods to engage with contemporary social problems such as wars, genocides and pandemics. Uniting some major strands of his published work that are still dispersed or simply unknown, this volume covers the deep epistemological changes in historical conceptions of disease as well as major advances within the life sciences and their historiography. Opening with a classic essay - "Preliminaries for a Historical Study of Diseases," this volume introduces Grmek's notions of "pathocenosis" and "emerging infections," illustrating them with historical and contemporary cases. *Pathological Realities* also showcases Grmek's pioneering approach to the history of science and medicine using laboratory notebooks as well as his original work on biological thought and the role of ideologies and myths in the history of science. The essays assembled here reveal Grmek's significant influence and continued relevance for current research in the history of medicine and biology, medical humanities, science studies, and the philosophy of science.

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## **BECOMING POLITICAL**

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### **SPINOZA'S VITAL REPUBLICANISM AND THE DEMOCRATIC POWER OF JUDGMENT**

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University of Chicago Press In this pathbreaking work, Christopher Skeaff argues that a profoundly democratic conception of judgment is at the heart of Spinoza's thought. Bridging Continental and Anglo-American scholarship, critical theory, and Spinoza studies, *Becoming Political* offers a historically sensitive, meticulous, and creative interpretation of Spinoza's texts that reveals judgment as the communal element by which people generate power to resist domination and reconfigure the terms of their political association. If, for Spinoza, judging is the activity which makes a people powerful, it is because it enables them to contest the project of ruling and demonstrate the political possibility of being equally free to articulate the terms of their association. This proposition differs from a predominant contemporary line of argument that treats the people's judgment as a vehicle of sovereignty—a means of defining and refining the common will. By recuperating in Spinoza's thought a "vital republicanism," Skeaff illuminates a line of political thinking that decouples democracy from the majoritarian aspiration to rule and aligns it instead with the project of becoming free and equal judges of common affairs. As such, this decoupling raises questions that ordinarily go unasked: what calls for political judgment, and who is to judge? In Spinoza's vital republicanism, the political potential of life and law finds an affirmative relationship that signals the way toward a new constitutionalism and jurisprudence of the common.

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## **BOOKS IN PRINT SUPPLEMENT**

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### **SYSTEMS OF LIFE**

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#### **BIOPOLITICS, ECONOMICS, AND LITERATURE ON THE CUSP OF MODERNITY**

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Fordham Univ Press *Systems of Life* offers a wide-ranging reevaluation of the emergence of biopolitics in Europe from the mid- eighteenth to the mid-nineteenth century. In staging an encounter among literature, political economy, and the still emergent sciences of life in that historical moment, the essays collected here reopen the question of how concepts of animal, vegetable, and human life, among other biological registers, had an impact on the Enlightenment project of thinking politics and economics as a joint enterprise. The volume's contributors consider politics, economics, and the biological as distinct, semi-autonomous spheres whose various combinations required inventive, sometimes incomplete, acts of conceptual mediation, philosophical negotiation, disciplinary intervention, or aesthetic representation.

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## **LEVELS OF ORGANIC LIFE AND THE HUMAN**

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### **AN INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

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Fordham University Press The most important work by a key figure in German thought, Helmuth Plessner's *Levels of Organic Life and the Human*, originally published in 1928, appears here for the first time in English, accompanied by a substantial Introduction by J. M. Bernstein, after having served for decades as an influence on thinkers as diverse as Merleau-Ponty, Peter Berger, Habermas, and the new naturalists. The *Levels*, as it has long been known, draws on phenomenological, biological, and social scientific sources as part of a systematic account of nature, life, and human existence. The book considers non-living nature, plants, non-human animals, and human beings in turn as a sequence of increasingly complex modes of boundary dynamics—simply put, interactions between a thing's insides and surrounding world. On Plessner's unique account, living things are classed and analyzed by their "positionality," or orientation to and within an environment. "Life" is thereby phenomenologically defined, and its universal yet internally variable features such as metabolism, reproduction, and death are explained. The approach provides a foundation not only for philosophical biology but philosophical anthropology as well. According to Plessner's radical view, the human form of life is excentric—that is, the relation between body and environment is something to which humans themselves are positioned and can take a position. This "excentric positionality" enables human beings to take a stand outside the boundaries of their own body, a possibility with significant implications for knowledge, culture, religion, and technology. Plessner studied zoology and philosophy with Hans Driesch in the 1910s before embarking on a highly productive philosophical career. His work was initially obscured by the superficially similar views of Max Scheler and Martin Heidegger and by his forced exile during World War II. Only in recent decades, as scholarship has moved more squarely into engagement with issues like animality, embodiment, human dignity, social theory, the philosophy of technology, and the philosophy of nature, has the originality and depth of Plessner's vision been appreciated. A powerful and sophisticated account of embodiment, the *Levels* shows, with reference both to science and to philosophy, how life can be seen on its own terms to establish its own boundaries, and how, from the standpoint of life, the human establishes itself in relation to the nonhuman. As such, the book is not merely a historical monument but a source for invigorating a range of vital current conversations around the animal, posthumanism, the material turn, and the biology and sociology of cognition. This modern philosophical classic, long-awaited in English translation, is a key book both historically and for today's interest in understanding philosophy and social theory together with science, without reducing the former to the latter.

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## THE PLOY OF INSTINCT

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### VICTORIAN SCIENCES OF NATURE AND SEXUALITY IN LIBERAL GOVERNANCE

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Fordham Univ Press It is paradoxical that instinct became a central term for late Victorian sexual sciences as they were elaborated in the medicalized spaces of confession and introspection, given that instinct had long been defined in its opposition to self-conscious thought. *The Ploy of Instinct* ties this paradox to instinct's deployment in conceptualizing governmentality. Instinct's domain, Frederickson argues, extended well beyond the women, workers, and "savages" to whom it was so often ascribed. The concept of instinct helped to gloss over contradictions in British liberal ideology made palpable as turn-of-the-century writers grappled with the legacy of Enlightenment humanism. For elite European men, instinct became both an agent of "progress" and a force that, in contrast to desire, offered a plenitude in answer to the alienation of self-consciousness. This shift in instinct's appeal to privileged European men modified the governmentality of empire, labor, and gender. The book traces these changes through parliamentary papers, pornographic fiction, accounts of Aboriginal Australians, suffragette memoirs, and scientific texts in evolutionary theory, sexology, and early psychoanalysis.

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## WORDING THE WORLD

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### VEENA DAS AND SCENES OF INHERITANCE

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Fordham Univ Press The essays in this book explore the critical possibilities that have been opened by Veena Das's work. Taking off from her writing on pain as a call for acknowledgment, several essays explore how social sciences render pain, suffering, and the claims of the other as part of an ethics of responsibility. They search for disciplinary resources to contest the implicit division between those whose pain receives attention and those whose pain is seen as out of sync with the times and hence written out of the historical record. Another theme is the co-constitution of the event and the everyday, especially in the context of violence. Das's groundbreaking formulation of the everyday provides a frame for understanding how both violence and healing might grow out of it. Drawing on notions of life and voice and the struggle to write one's own narrative, the contributors provide rich ethnographies of what it is to inhabit a devastated world. Ethics as a form of attentiveness to the other, especially in the context of poverty, deprivation, and the corrosion of everyday life, appears in several of the essays. They take up the classic themes of kinship and obligation but give them entirely new meaning. Finally, anthropology's affinities with the literary are reflected in a final set of essays that show how forms of knowing in art and in anthropology are related through work with painters, performance artists, and writers.

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## **BEING BRAINS**

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### **MAKING THE CEREBRAL SUBJECT**

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Fordham University Press **Being Brains** offers a critical exploration of neurocentrism, the belief that “we are our brains,” which became widespread in the 1990s. Encouraged by advances in neuroimaging, the humanities and social sciences have taken a “neural turn,” in the form of neuro-subspecialties in fields such as anthropology, aesthetics, education, history, law, sociology, and theology. Dubious but successful commercial enterprises such as “neuromarketing” and “neurobics” have emerged to take advantage of the heightened sensitivity to all things neuro. While neither hegemonic nor monolithic, the neurocentric view embodies a powerful ideology that is at the heart of some of today’s most important philosophical, ethical, scientific, and political debates. **Being Brains**, chosen as 2018 Outstanding Book in the History of the Neurosciences by the International Society for the History of the Neurosciences, examines the internal logic of such ideology, its genealogy, and its main contemporary incarnations.

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### **REALIZING THE WITCH**

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#### **SCIENCE, CINEMA, AND THE MASTERY OF THE INVISIBLE**

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Fordham Univ Press Benjamin Christensen’s **Häxan (The Witch, 1922)** stands as a singular film within the history of cinema. Deftly weaving contemporary scientific analysis and powerfully staged historical scenes of satanic initiation, confession under torture, possession, and persecution, **Häxan** creatively blends spectacle and argument to provoke a humanist re-evaluation of witchcraft in European history as well as the contemporary treatment of female “hysterics” and the mentally ill. In **Realizing the Witch**, Baxstrom and Meyers show how **Häxan** opens a window onto wider debates in the 1920s regarding the relationship of film to scientific evidence, the evolving study of religion from historical and anthropological perspectives, and the complex relations between popular culture, artistic expression, and concepts in medicine and psychology. **Häxan** is a film that travels along the winding path of art and science rather than between the narrow division of “documentary” and “fiction.” Baxstrom and Meyers reveal how Christensen’s attempt to tame the irrationality of “the witch” risked validating the very “nonsense” that such an effort sought to master and dispel. **Häxan** is a notorious, genre-bending, excessive cinematic account of the witch in early modern Europe. **Realizing the Witch** not only illustrates the underrated importance of the film within the canons of classic cinema, it lays bare the relation of the invisible to that which we cannot prove but nevertheless “know” to be there.

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## THE HELMHOLTZ CURVES

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### TRACING LOST TIME

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Fordham Univ Press This book reconstructs the emergence of the phenomenon of “lost time” by engaging with two of the most significant time experts of the nineteenth century: the German physiologist Hermann von Helmholtz and the French writer Marcel Proust. Its starting point is the archival discovery of curve images that Helmholtz produced in the context of pathbreaking experiments on the temporality of the nervous system in 1851. With a “frog drawing machine,” Helmholtz established the temporal gap between stimulus and response that has remained a core issue in debates between neuroscientists and philosophers. When naming the recorded phenomena, Helmholtz introduced the term *temps perdu*, or lost time. Proust had excellent contacts with the biomedical world of late-nineteenth-century Paris, and he was familiar with this term and physiological tracing technologies behind it. Drawing on the machine philosophy of Deleuze, Schmidgen highlights the resemblance between the machinic assemblages and rhizomatic networks within which Helmholtz and Proust pursued their respective projects.

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## THE ECLIPSE OF THE UTOPIAS OF LABOR

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Fordham Univ Press *The Eclipse of the Utopias of Labor* traces the shift from the eighteenth-century concept of man as machine to the late twentieth-century notion of digital organisms. Step by step—from Jacques de Vaucanson and his *Digesting Duck*, through Karl Marx’s *Capital*, Hermann von Helmholtz’s social thermodynamics, Albert Speer’s *Beauty of Labor* program in Nazi Germany, and on to the post-Fordist workplace, Rabinbach shows how society, the body, and labor utopias dreamt up future societies and worked to bring them about. This masterful follow-up to *The Human Motor*, Rabinbach’s brilliant study of the European science of work, bridges intellectual history, labor history, and the history of the body. It shows the intellectual and policy reasons as to how a utopia of the body as motor won wide acceptance and moved beyond the “man as machine” model before tracing its steep decline after 1945—and along with it the eclipse of the great hopes that a more efficient workplace could provide the basis of a new, more socially satisfactory society.

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## TRANSPLANTING THE METAPHYSICAL ORGAN

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### GERMAN ROMANTICISM BETWEEN LEIBNIZ AND MARX

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Fordham Univ Press Around 1800, German romanticism developed a philosophy this study calls “Romantic organology.” Scientific and philosophical notions of biological function and speculative thought converged to form the discourse that *Transplanting the Metaphysical Organ* reconstructs—a metaphysics meant to theorize, and ultimately alter,

the structure of a politically and scientifically destabilized world.

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### **WHAT'S THESE WORLDS COMING TO?**

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**Fordham Univ Press** The eminent philosopher and an emerging astrophysicist return to the ancient art of cosmology in a study of plural worlds and their rebuilding. Our contemporary challenge, according to Jean-Luc Nancy and Aurelien Barrau, is that a new world has stolen up on us. We no longer live in a world, but in worlds. We do not live in a universe anymore, but rather in a multiverse. We no longer create; we appropriate and montage. And we no longer build sovereign, hierarchical political institutions; we form local assemblies and networks of cross-national assemblages—and we do this at the same time as we form multinational corporations that no longer pay taxes to the state. Nancy and Barrau invite us on an uncharted walk into barely known worlds when an everyday French idiom, “What’s this world coming to?” is used to question our conventional thinking about the world. We soon find ourselves living among heaps of odd bits and pieces that are amassing without any unifying force or center, living not only in a time of ruin and fragmentation but in one of rebuilding. Astrophysicist Aurelien Barrau articulates a major shift in the paradigm of contemporary physics from a universe to a multiverse. Meanwhile, Jean-Luc Nancy’s essay “Of Struction” is a contemporary comment on the project of deconstruction and French poststructuralist thought. Together Barrau and Nancy argue that contemporary thought has shifted from deconstruction to what they carefully call the struction of dis-order.