

Filosofia Per Non Filosofi Louis Althusser

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The Rise and Fall of Structural Marxism
The Humanist Controversy and Other Writings
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The Gold and the Dross
A World to Win
Politics and Philosophy
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in the international renaissance of marxist theory during the 1960s and early 1970s few projects generated as much excitement or controversy as louis althusser s return to marx one of the most ambitious enterprises in the post war history of marxism althusser s reconstruction of marx s doctrine was heralded as a new start in some quarters dismissed as a refurbished stalinism in others today more than twenty years after the appearance of his major works and amidst the profound contemporary crisis of marxism althusser is the victim rather than the beneficiary of philosophical fashion paradoxically the oblivion into which he has now fallen affords the opportunity for a return to althusser a reassessment that advances beyond the unconsidered responses that marxist commentators have often given to his work in this first full scale study in english of althusser s career gregory elliot draws on a wide range of untranslated material surveying the political and intellectual context of althusser s initiative in for marx and reading capital he analyses the nature of the marxism developed in these works and charts their author s subsequent evolution

concluding with a balance sheet of the french marxist s contribution to historical materialism at once sympathetic and critical althusser the detour of theory will establish itself as the standard introduction to its subject

letters to franca offers an extensive selection from the 500 or so extraordinary letters louis althusser addressed to franca madonia between 1961 and 1972 the most productive period in althusser s life and the time when his most characteristic works were being elaborated and first received this correspondence allows therefore a unique insight into althusser s theoretical and political trajectory giving an intimate account of the establishment of althusserian marxism and the intellectual historical and institutional milieu within which it came to prominence it also charts the singular story of althusser s relationship with franca whom he encountered in 1961 and who became his lover intellectual confidante and italian translator the letters thus have a quasi novelistic dimension and afford a gripping vision of a remarkable couple the chronicle of a passion their correspondence consequently exhibits an exceptionally diverse tonal range alternately analytical lyrical ludic and sombre displaying an investment in language and expression barely suggested by althusser s previously published work at once the diary of an intellectual political existence and the narrative of a coup de foudre these letters also uniquely provide an astonishingly self reflexive account of althusser s experience of manic depression inviting the reader to witness its sometimes exhilarating sometimes devastating effects upon his private and public being featuring an extensive record of althusser s long term engagement with the thought and practice of psychoanalysis letters to franca bids the reader here and throughout to accompany althusser on a fascinating journey between theory and life

there can be little doubt that louis althusser was one of the most influential philosophers of the twentieth century and his influence subsists in many of the concepts currently deployed in disciplines such as cultural studies social theory and literary criticism yet althusser was also a leading intellectual in the french communist party and a foremost participant in the debates in the human sciences that are marked by the names of claude lvi strauss jacques lacan and georges canguilhem his writings were major interventions in a specific political and theoretical conjuncture and it is this aspect of his work that this new collection of previously untranslated texts seeks to reflect consisting of writings from the very height of althusser s intellectual powers during the period 1966 67 this book covers among other things the critique of lvi strauss s structuralism the theory of discourse and its relationship to psychoanalysis the place of ludwig feuerbach the tasks of marxist philosophy and the famous humanist controversy

best known for his theories of ideology and its impact on politics and culture louis althusser revolutionized marxist theory his writing changed the face of literary and cultural

studies and continues to influence political modes of criticism such as feminism postcolonialism and queer theory beginning with an introduction to the context of marxist theory this book goes on to explain how althusser interpreted and developed marx's work the political implications of reading ideology and its significance for culture and criticism althusser's aesthetic criticism of literature theatre and art placing althusser's key ideas in the context of earlier marxist thought as well as tracing their development and impact luke ferretter presents a wide ranging yet accessible guide ideal for those new to the work of this influential critical thinker

the primary concern of this book is to investigate whether or not structuralism constitutes a distinctive framework in the social sciences the author focuses on two major structuralist thinkers louis althusser and claude lévi strauss she analyses and compares the structure of their theory and places them within the context of their respective disciplines dr glucksmann began working on this book at a time when structuralism was at the height of its popularity in france and was thought to be a homogenous alternative to bourgeois sociology the progress of her study implicitly reflects the developments and divergences within structuralist thought that have emerged since then in particular she examines the differences between the political and philosophical thought of althusser and lévi strauss which have become increasingly manifest

french philosopher louis pierre althusser 1918 1990 helped define the politico theoretical conjuncture of pre and post 1968 today there is a recrudescence of interest in his thought especially in light of his later work published in english as philosophy of the encounter verso 2006 this has led to renewed debates on the reformulation of conflicting notions of materialism on the event as both philosophical concept and political construction and on the nature of politics and the political these original essays by leading scholars aim to provide a new assessment of althusser's thought especially in relation to contemporary debates organized in four sections that represent the main currents in althusser's scholarship the book discusses materialism and the different formulations of the relationship between politics and philosophy althusser's interpretations of political thinkers including machiavelli deleuze and gramsci the resources he provides to critique political economy and politics in post marxist thought and the theorization of ideology and politics encountering althusser is a groundbreaking resource that highlights althusser's continuing relevance to contemporary radical thought

intended to contribute in his own words to a left wing critique of stalinism that would help put some substance back into the revolutionary project here in the west they are the record of a shared history at the same time they chart althusser's critique of the theoretical system unveiled in his own major works and his developing practice of philosophy as a revolutionary weapon attesting to the unique place which althusser has

occupied in modern intellectual history between a tradition of marxism which he sought to reconstruct and a post marxism which has eclipsed its predecessor these texts are indispensable reading

in the last decade there has been an international resurgence of interest in the philosophy of louis althusser new essays journalism collections secondary literature and even manuscripts by althusser himself are emerging speaking in fresh ways to audiences of theorists and activists althusser is especially important in educational thought as he famously claimed that school is the most impactful ideological state apparatus in modern society this insight inspired a generation of educational researchers but althusser s philosophy unique in a number of ways one of which was its emphasis on education largely lost popularity despite this resurgence of interest and while althusser s philosophy is important for educators and activists to know about it remains difficult to understand the gold and the dross althusser for educators with succinct prose and a creative organization introduces readers to althusser s thinking intended for those who have never encountered althusser s theory before and even those who are new to philosophy and critical theory in general the book elaborates the basic tenets of althusser s philosophy using examples and personal stories juxtaposed with selected passages of althusser s writing starting with a beginner s guide to interpellation and althusser s concept of ideology the book continues by elaborating the epistemology and ontology althusser produced and concludes with his concepts of society and science the gold and the dross makes althusser s philosophy more available to contemporary audiences of educators and activists

epic new biography of karl marx for the 200th anniversary of his birth in this essential new biography the first to give equal weight to both the work and life of karl marx sven eric liedman expertly navigates the imposing complex personality of his subject through the turbulent passages of global history a world to win follows marx through childhood and student days a difficult and sometimes tragic family life his far sighted journalism and his enduring friendship and intellectual partnership with friedrich engels building on the work of previous biographers liedman employs a commanding knowledge of the nineteenth century to create a definitive portrait of marx and his vast contribution to the way the world understands itself he shines a light on marx s influences explains his political and intellectual interventions and builds on the legacy of his thought liedman shows how marx s masterpiece capital illuminates the essential logic of a system that drives dizzying wealth grinding poverty and awesome technological innovation to this day compulsively readable and meticulously researched a world to win demonstrates that two centuries after marx s birth his work remains the bedrock for any true understanding of our political and economic condition

louis althusser s interpretation of niccolò machiavelli has never really been studied in any

detail as an analysis of political action and intervention the same is also true for althusser's notion of aleatory materialism instead these have conventionally been studied from the viewpoint of a philosophical perspective in which politics is excluded the objective of the present book thus runs against many of the prevailing views on althusser here the emphasis is placed on althusser's advancement of a theory of materialist politics the main argument put forward is that for althusser it was essential to reflect on how the conjunctural understanding of history and reality could offer a theoretical starting point for a subversive political strategy

louis althusser is remembered today as the scourge of humanist marxism but that was his later incarnation an identity formed by years grappling with the intellectual inheritance of hegel and catholicism the spectre of hegel collects the writings of the young althusser before his final epistemological break with the philosopher's work in 1953 the spectre of hegel gives a unique insight into althusser's engagement with a philosophy he would later renounce

on the morning of 16th november 1980 the french marxist philosopher louis althusser burst out of his university apartment into the courtyard of the ecole normale screaming that he had killed his wife spared trial on grounds of mental illness he lived out the rest of his life in clinics until his death in 1990

this textbook analyses the work of classical and contemporary sociological theorists the first part is dedicated to comte spencer marx durkheim weber pareto and simmel the second part covers the major contemporary sociological perspectives functionalism marxism conflict theory symbolic interactionism phenomenological sociology and rational choice theory the third part is devoted to postmodern theory feminist theory postcolonial theory and race theory the author combines academic rigour with clear and accessible language offering students an in depth and extensive overview of the main recurring problems that have troubled sociological theory from its origins to the present day the textbook uses contemporary examples analysing how sociological theory can explain the most tragic phenomena of our time including the war in ukraine the israeli palestinian conflict us china competition over taiwan nuclear proliferation radicalization neofascism white suprematism jihadism and terrorism with pedagogic features aiding learning this book helps navigate the various approaches methods and research that divide sociologists into distinct schools this textbook is therefore an invaluable tool to any sociology student looking to gain a comprehensive understanding of the foundational thinkers that have shaped the discipline

när muren revs och sovjet och dess imperium föll samman trodde många att karl marx därmed skulle förlora all aktualitet men så blev det inte tvärtom har han åter kommit i centrum i en tid av skenande kapitalism det är som kapitalismens främste kritiker han lever vidare inte som den avlägsne anfadern till sovjetkommunismen marxismen är inte hans

verk ett lämpligare namn är engelsismen efter friedrich engels hans vän välgörare och medarbetare marx själv slog sig inte till ro med några färdiga resultat han fullbordade inte kapitalet sitt viktigaste arbete trots att han arbetade med det i flera årtionden ständigt var han redo att tillägna sig nya tankar och nytt material samtidigt är det han som gett den mest levande fortfarande träffande bilden av det moderna kapitalistiska samhället där allt som är fast förflyktigas bilden av marx har i grunden förändrats genom de senaste årtiondenas internationella forskning och inte minst genom den stora kritiska utgåvan av hans skrifter brev och anteckningar det är denna nya bild som sven eric liedman förmedlar i karl marx en biografi men därutöver rymmer boken flera egna resultat det gäller både marx syn på politikens roll och möjligheter i samhället och flera av hans grundläggande begrepp som dialektik och alienation inte minst klargörs både likheter och skillnader mellan marx och hans efterföljare

a panoramic view of the cosmos must begin with the tension of a single political moment in quantum history slavoj žižek brings together hegelian dialectics lacan psychoanalysis and quantum mechanics to rethink history reality and political possibility taking up lenin s challenge to radically reconsider materialism in the wake of each big scientific discovery and rejecting the recent vogue for giving a vague spiritualist spin to wave mechanics žižek embraces the philosophical implications of quantum mechanics with characteristic erudition and verve drawing on the central themes of the holographic universe non commutativity and the collapse of superpositions žižek evolves a quantum inspired ontology which reinvents the historical materialism of hegel and heidegger and compels a brutal often darkly funny inquisition into the chances of radical emancipatory acts today quantum history takes the reader from the absolute contradiction of the primordial void through quantum oscillations to our ordinary reality weaving in lacan and deleuze roventi and schelling opera cinema sex and war žižek is at his sharpest saddest most provocative best as he demonstrates that there is no way of extracting ourselves from the texture of history no neutral position from which the workings of the world can be observed transparently we must act from a contingent complex and inscrutable political moment in sadness and in doubt but defiantly

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