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john mcgowan brings a fresh perspective to ongoing debates about the political implications of postmodernist thought and the relationship of intellectuals to contemporary culture in addition to providing a comprehensive overview of the philosophical context of postmodernism he considers the kinds of freedom and oppositional politics that are possible under postmodern conditions

the author in criticism italo calvino s authorial image in italy the united states and the united kingdom explores the cultural and historic patterns and differences in the critical readings of italian author italo calvino s works in the united states of america the united kingdom and italy it considers the external factors that contribute to create recognizable patterns in the readings of calvino s texts in different contexts this volume therefore covers most notably matters of genre science fiction postmodernism cultural perceptions and conventions the recurrent image of the author in different media academic schools curricula and canons biographical information such as gender and background and translation and the language in which the author speaks or fails to speak to us it traces the influence of these aspects in the academic discourse on calvino the author in criticism also analyzes calvino s various professional roles as writer editor essayist journalist private correspondent and public cosmopolitan intellectual reappraising their often little acknowledged importance for academic criticism an important underlying idea is that the preconceived image that every critic has of calvino before even opening one of his books is often solidified and repeated even in the most refined and complex critical analyses this volume purposefully foregrounds the textual and non textual parts that are usually considered peripheral to the works of an author such as book covers blurbs reviews talks interviews etc in this way this book provides insight into the reception of calvino s works in different countries moreover it forms a broader reflection of and on important constants in the workings of literary criticism and on the way academic discourses have developed in various cultural contexts over the last decades

a k m adam offers plain language explanations and examples of the related critic assumptions that are now called postmodernism included are deconstruction ideological criticism postmodern feminism transgressive postmodernism and others

this work explores the philosophical positions of five postmodern thinkers lyotard rorty schrag foucault and derrida to show how their critiques imply that scholars are unduly limited by the belief that inquiry is fundamentally about gaining knowledge of phenomena that are assumed to exist prior to and independent of inquiry and to persist essentially unchanged by inquiry the author argues that there are good reasons why this constraint is both unnecessary and undesirable and he resituates the disciplines within a more flexible foundation that would expand what counts as legitimate inquiry this foundation would emphasize the inquirer as a cause of reality not just an observer who aims to accurately describe and explain phenomena mourad proposes an intellectual and organizational form which he calls post disciplinary research programs these dynamic programs would be composed of scholars from diverse disciplines who collaborate to juxtapose disparate disciplinary concepts in order to create contexts for post disciplinary inquries

this book offers a history of literary criticism from plato to the present arguing that this history can best be seen as a dialogue among three traditions the platonic neoplatonic and the humanistic originated by aristotle there are many histories of literary criticism but this is the first to clarify our understanding of the many seemingly incommensurable approaches employed over the centuries by reference to the three traditions making its case by careful analyses of individual critics the book argues for the relevance of the humanistic tradition in the twenty first century and beyond

although postmodernism has had clear impact on literary criticism the social and political implications of this philosophy have not been systematically investigated murphy s study is the first to bring a broad interdisciplinary perspective to the subject and to present postmodernism as a coherent social theory responding with compelling arguments to critics of postmodernism murphy develops a

model that offers a viable alternative to traditional approaches to conceptualizing and studying social life in an introductory chapter murphy looks at the differences between modernism and postmodernism and discusses the metanarratives that characterize the former he goes on to clarify key assumptions and concepts especially the postmodern opposition to the traditional western separation of subject and object in subsequent chapters he describes the research methodology used by postmodernists their views of social ontology and the relationship between order and structure and the creation of socially responsible institutions the postmodernists reconceptualization of key aspects of cultural reality including time space reason and social relations is examined in detail murphy concludes by exploring the political ramifications of the postmodernist model and its potential as a vehicle for building a genuinely democractic society this study will be of particular interest to philosophers economists and sociologists concerned with contemporary developments in european social philosophy it is relevant to courses or study in social theory and philosophy communication theory cultural criticism and related fields

recent years have witnessed radical changes in our social and political existence with traditional ideas and ways of living increasingly being called into question such questioning has led to a crisis of authority that goes under the general name of postmodernism but what does this word mean and why is it so important the routledge companion to postmodernism provides all the answers you need it is an accessible and comprehensive survey of the intellectual developments that have brought about a wholesale shift in cultural perspectives combining detailed essays written by experts in the subject with an invaluable a z guide to who s who and what s what in postmodernism this is the guide to a phenomenon that has shaped today s world en la solapa

postmodernism and notions of national difference examines the critical construction of postmodern fiction raising the question of whether the construction of postmodernism has sufficiently accounted for national difference geoffrey lord argues that current meta national conceptions of postmodernism need serious reconsideration to take national cultural contexts into account through a comparative investigation of the theoretical debate literary traditions

and close textual reading of a number of postmodern texts lord makes a persuasive case for his broad claim that national cultural differences are more persistent and powerful than usually allowed by established theories of postmodernity which claim a general collapse of traditional cultural orders and the meta narratives that justify them

postmodernism and japan is a coherent yet diverse study of the dynamics of postmodernism as described by lyotard baudrillard deleuze and guatarri from the often startling perspective of a society bent on transforming itself into the image of western enlightenment wealth and power this work provides a unique view of a society in transition and confronting like its models in the west the problems induced by the introduction of new forms of knowledge modes of production and social relationships

scottish creative writing in the twentieth century was notable for its willingness to explore and absorb the literatures of other times and other nations from the engagement with russian literature of hugh macdiarmid and edwin morgan through to the interplay with continental literary theory scottish writers have proved active participants in a diverse international literary practice scottish criticism has arguably often been slow in appreciating the full extent of this exchange preoccupied with marking out its territory with identifying an independent and distinctive tradition scottish criticism has occasionally blinded itself to the diversity and range of its writers in stressing the importance of cultural independence it has tended to overlook the many virtues of interdependence the essays in this book aim to offer a corrective view they celebrate the achievement of scottish writing in the twentieth century by offering a wider basis for appreciation than a narrow idea of scottishness each essay explores an aspect of scottish writing in an individual foreign perspective together they provide an enriching account of a national literary practice that has deep and often surprisingly complex roots in international culture

this book sets out a variety of reasons why we should move away from seeing the recent era as postmodern and our culture as postmodernist through a series of analyses of contemporary culture

the burgeoning use of modern literary theory and cultural criticism in recent biblical studies has led to stimulating but often bewildering new readings of the bible this book argued from a perspective shaped by postmodernism is at once an accessible guide to and an engagement with various methods theories and critical practices transforming biblical scholarship today written by a collective of cutting edge scholars with each page the work of multiple hands the postmodern bible deliberately breaks with the individualist model of authorship that has traditionally dominated scholarship in the humanities and is itself an illustration of the postmodern transformation of biblical studies for which it argues the book introduces illustrates and critiques seven prominent strategies of reading several of these interpretive strategies rhetorical criticism structuralism and narratology reader response criticism and feminist criticism have been instrumental in the transformation of biblical studies up to now many feminist and womanist criticism ideological criticism poststructuralism and psychoanalytic criticism hold promise for the continued transformation of these studies in the future focusing on readings from both the hebrew bible and the new testament this volume illuminates the current multidisciplinary debates emerging from postmodernism by exposing the still highly contested epistemological political and ethical positions in the field of biblical studies

employing a postmodernist literary approach this book identifies c s lewis both as an antimodernist and as a christian postmodernist who tells the story of the gospel to twentieth and twenty first century readers lewis is popularly known as an able christian apologetic writer talented in explaining christian beliefs in simple logical terms but his fictional works feature expressions that erect ambiguous borders between nonfiction and fiction an approach equivalent to those typical in postmodernist literature whereas postmodernist literature is full of many small micronarratives that deconstruct the great story lewis s fictional world is the reverse of this in his world multiple and small stories are chosen but they also ultimately express the story that transcends human understanding lewis s approach reflects both his opposition to modernist philosophy which embraces solidified interpretation and his criticism of modernized christianity lewis s fictional works focus on the history of interpretation and deconstructing interpretations of

the previous age seek a new model for interpretation both c s lewis and postmodern writers force us to choose between alternative interpretations

for nearly three quarters of a century the modernist way of reading has been the only way of reading james joyce useful yes and powerful but like all frameworks limited this book takes a leap across those limits into postmodernism where the pleasures and possibilities of an unsuspected joyce are yet to be found kevin j h dettmar begins by articulating a stylistics of postmodernism drawn from the key texts of roland barthes mikhail bakhtin and jean françois lyotard read within this framework dubliners emerges from behind its modernist facade as the earliest product of joyce s proto postmodernist sensibility dettmar exposes these stories as tales of mystery not mastery despite the modernist earmarks of plentiful symbols allusions and epiphanies ulysses too has been inadequately served by modernist critics where they have emphasized the work s ingenious homeric structure dettmar focuses instead upon its seams those points at which the narrative willfully joyfully overflows its self imposed bounds finally he reads a portrait of the artist and finnegans wake as less playful less daring texts the first constrained by the precious would be poet at its center the last marking a surprising retreat from the constantly evolving vertiginous experience of ulysses in short the illicit joyce of postmodernism explores what happens when the extra literary pronouncements of eliot pound and joyce as well as joyce s early critics are set aside and a new unauthorized joyce is allowed to appear this postmodern joyce more willful and less easily compartmentalized stands as a counterpoint to the modernist joyce who has perhaps become too familiar

v 1 foundational essays v 2 critical texts v 3 disciplinary texts humanities and social sciences v 4 legal studies psychoanalytic studies visual arts and architecture

provides comprehensive and authoritative coverage of academic disciplines critical terms and central figures relating to the vast field of postmodern studies publisher's description

dramatic events shows you how to stimulate workshop participants through a series of exercises and examples to release their energy to free their bodies and their voices to listen to think to be creative to engage in focussed exchanges with

other people to take risks and to watch others and learn

literary research and british postmodernism is a guide for scholars that aims to connect the complex relationships between print and multimedia technological advancements and the influence of critical theory that converge in postwar british literature this era is unique in that strict boundaries between fiction nonfiction multimedia and print are not useful postmodern literature is defined by the breaking down of boundaries as a reaction to modernism and requires an innovative multifaceted approach to research in this guide the authors explore these complex relationships and offer strategies for researching this new period of literature this book takes a holistic approach to postmodern literature that recognizes the way in which digital media film critical theory popular music and more traditional print sources are inextricably linked through this approach the authors present a broad view of postmodernism that includes a wide variety of british authors writing in the last half of the twentieth century the book s definition of postmodern includes any british literature following world war ii that engages issues central to postmodern theory including the social construction of gender sexuality and power the subjectivity of truth technology as a social force intertextuality metafiction post colonial narrative and fantasy this guide aims to aid researchers of postwar british literature by defining best practices for scholars conducting research in a period so broadly varied in the way it defines literature

from michel houellebecq to zadie smith from javier marías to arnon grunberg this timely study takes its reader on a tour of european literature and the critical discussion around it despite recent declarations of postmodernism s demise contemporary literature turns out to be entangled in a discussion with postmodernism it is time to critically evaluate this legacy twelve specialists in the national literatures sketch the outlines of the debate turning to literature itself they find it to be searching for new values after the relativizing force of postmodernism

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