

making the volume ideal for introductory and advanced levels in philosophy, cultural studies, literary theory, and the history of modern thought.

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CRITCHLEY, SIMON and SCHROEDER, WILLIAM. *A Companion to Continental Philosophy*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 1997. Pp.600. 0-631-19013-9.

With 58 original essays by major experts, this Companion volume provides the first survey of all the major figures of 19th and 20th-century continental philosophy. Each essay explains and develops the key ideas of a central figure as they relate to such areas as art theory, cultural studies, social and political theory, psychology, and the sciences. Core topics section headings include the Kantian legacy (Kant to Hegel); Overturning the tradition (Marx to Bergson); The phenomenological breakthrough (new-Kantianism to Heidegger); Phenomenology, Hegelianism and anti-Hegelianism in France (Kojève to Blanchot); Religion without the limits of reason (Rosenzweig to Marcel); Three generations of critical theory (Benjamin onwards); Hermeneutics (Schleiermacher to Ricoeur); Continental political theory (Lukacs to Castoriada); Structuralism and the after (Levi-Strauss to Le Dœff).

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MANENT, PIERRE. *An Intellectual History of Liberalism*. Translated by Rebecca Balinski. With a foreword by Jerrold Seigel. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996. Pp 142. ISBN 0-691-02911-3.

Highlighting the social tensions that confront the liberal tradition, Pierre Manent draws a portrait of what we citizens of modern liberal democracies, have become. Through quick moving, highly synthetic essays, he explores the development of liberal thinking in terms of a single theme: the decline of theological politics.

"Pierre Manent has the lively and free step of a man who has chosen the society of great minds. After so many books that make the reader consider the great authors in the context of an inventory of their neuroses or an account of their property, it is good to encounter a work

where the content of the thoughts is more important than the conditions of their production." Mona Ozouf, *Le Nouvel observateur*.

Pierre Manent is director of studies at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris and coeditor of the journal *La Pensée Politique*.

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RENAUT, ALAIN. *The Era of the Individual: Contribution to a History of Subjectivity*. Translated by M. B. DeBevoise and Franklin Philip. Foreword by Alexander Nehamas. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1997. Pp 290. ISBN 0-691-00637-7.

With the publication of *French Philosophy of the Sixties*, Alain Renaut and Luc Ferry in 1985 launched their famous critique against canonical figures such as Foucault, Derrida, and Lacan, bringing under rigorous scrutiny the entire post-structuralist project that had dominated Western intellectual life for over two decades. Their goal was to defend the accomplishments of liberalism to an "antihumanism" inherited mainly from Heidegger. In *The Era of the Individual*, widely hailed as Renaut's *magnum opus*, the author explores the most salient features of post-structuralism: the elimination of the human subject. At the root of this thinking lies the belief that humans cannot know or control their basic natures, a premise that led to Heidegger's distrust of an individualistic, capitalist modern society and that allied him briefly with Hitler's National Socialist Party. While acknowledging some of Heidegger's misgivings toward modernity as legitimate, Renaut argues that it is nevertheless wrong to equate modernity with the triumph of individualism. Here he distinguishes between individualism and subjectivity and, by offering a history of the two, powerfully dangerous, reductionist views of humanity.

Alain Renaut, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Caen and cofounder of the Collège de Philosophie, is among the foremost representatives of liberal humanism in France today.

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VENUTI, LAWRENCE. *The Translator's Invisibility*. London and New York: Routledge, 1995. Pp. 353. ISBN 0-415-11538-8

*The Translator's Invisibility* traces the history of translation from the seventeenth century to the present day. It presents a fascinating and