

VIENT DE PARAITRE

JACQUES, FRANCIS. *Difference and Subjectivity*. Translated by Andrew Rothwell. New Haven, Ct.: Yale University Press, 1991. ISBN 04830-0. 384 pp. \$32,00.

"First published in France in 1982 and now available in an English translation, this prize-winning book investigates the question of human subjectivity. In lucid prose, Francis Jacques shows that this question, far from becoming outmoded or irrelevant, remains of central significance for philosophy and the social sciences.

Jacques takes issues with two commonly held philosophical views about the self: that the subject really doesn't exist at all, and that the relationship between the subject and others is not important. Jacques develops a new relational model of the subject; personal identity, he says, is largely defined in the course of communicating with others. And the self, or subject, must not only identify both parties to the conversation ('you' and 'me'), but also the absent third party ('him' or 'her').

Difference and Subjectivity is the first book by this important French philosopher to be translated into English."

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LYOTARD, JEAN-FRANÇOIS. *Heidegger and "the jews."* Translated by Andreas Michel and Mark S. Roberts. Introduced by David Carroll. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1990, ISBN 0-8166-1857-7. 144 pp. \$12.95.

"Jean-François Lyotard's contribution to the debate surrounding Heidegger's ties to Nazism, Heidegger and 'the jews,' is a marked departure from the standard fare. In the first of the two interrelated essays, "the jews," Lyotard establishes the theme of the text, placing "the jews" in lower case, plural, and in quotation marks to represent the outsiders, the non-conformists, blacks, homeless, Arabs, etc. -- and the Jews; as an alien and dangerous disruption, they represent an "other" to be excised from the West's dream of unbound fulfillment and development. In "Heidegger," the second essay, Lyotard sets a number

of rules for "explaining" the "Heidegger affair," most of which prescribe a close textual reading and the careful maintenance of the specific form in which the affair is represented: *an unheimliche*. Once these rules are adopted, Lyotard suggests, the affair can be accounted for within the widest possible context, without eliminating important aspects or reducing it to any one particular critical method."

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EVANS, J. CLAUDE. *Strategies of Deconstruction: Derrida and the Myth of the Voice*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1991. isbn 0-8166-1926-3. 296 PP. \$14.95.

"In the past two decades, the 'movement' of deconstruction has had tremendous impact on a number of academic disciplines in the United States. However, its force has been rather limited in the field of philosophy, despite the fact that in Europe the practice of deconstruction emerged in the work of the philosophers. Within the context, *Strategies of Deconstruction* focuses on the early work of Jacques Derrida, the French philosopher who launched the notion of deconstruction in *Speech and Phenomenon*, his study of Edmund Husserl, and in *Of Grammatology*, and whose philosophical reputation stems in no small part from his work on Husserl. In examining the philosophical import of Derrida's theories of reading text, and language, specifically as they relate to *Speech and Phenomenon*, J. Claude Evans makes careful reference to Husserl's own texts. His analysis indicates that there are many systematic irregularities in Derrida's study and that without those irregularities Derrida's conclusions cannot be substantiated."

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WYSS, ANDRE. *La Langue de Rousseau: Formes et emplois*. Paris-Genève: Champion-Slatkine, 1990. 344 pp.

"Ni Voltaire, ni Diderot, ni Rousseau n'ont fait l'objet d'enquêtes systématiques relatives à leurs habitudes grammaticales. Des tableaux comme celui que Deloffre a donné de la langue marivaudienne seraient pourtant fort utiles comme préalables à un commentaire stylistique ou même critique des œuvres de ces auteurs. *La Langue de Rousseau* voudrait contribuer à combler cette lacune pour le citoyen de Genève.