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**KEY=BLOOMSBURY - CONNER RUSH**

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**ERNST BLOCH AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES**

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**LOCATING UTOPIAN MESSIANISM**

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**Bloomsbury Publishing Concise but comprehensive overview of the early and later thought of Ernst Bloch - one of the greatest modern utopian thinkers.**

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**ERNST BLOCH AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES**

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**LOCATING UTOPIAN MESSIANISM**

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**THE UTOPIAN FUNCTION OF ART AND LITERATURE**

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**SELECTED ESSAYS**

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**MIT Press Essays in aesthetics by the philosopher Ernst Bloch that belong to the tradition of cultural criticism represented by Georg Lukács, Theodor**

Adorno, and Walter Benjamin. The aesthetic essays of the philosopher Ernst Bloch (1885-1977) belong to the rich tradition of cultural criticism represented by Georg Lukács, Theodor Adorno, and Walter Benjamin. Bloch was a significant creative source for these thinkers, and his impact is nowhere more evident than in writings on art. Bloch was fascinated with art as a reflection of both social realities and human dreams. Whether he is discussing architecture or detective novels, the theme that drives his work is always the same—the striving for "something better," for a "homeland" that is more socially aware, more humane, more just. The book opens with an illuminating discussion between Bloch and Adorno on the meaning of utopia; then follow twelve essays written between 1930 and 1973 on topics such as aesthetic theory, genres such as music, painting, theater, film, opera, poetry, and the novel, and perhaps most important, popular culture in the form of fairy tales, detective stories, and dime novels. The MIT Press has previously published Ernst Bloch's *Natural Law and Human Dignity* and his magnum opus, *The Principle of Hope. The Utopian Function of Art and Literature* is included in the series *Studies in Contemporary German Social Thought*, edited by Thomas McCarthy.

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## **THE MARRANO PHENOMENON**

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### **JEWISH 'HIDDEN TRADITION' AND MODERNITY**

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MDPI What we call here the 'Marrano phenomenon' is still a relatively unexplored fact of modern Western culture: the presence of the borderline Jewish identity which avoids clear-cut cultural and religious attribution, but nevertheless exerts significant influence on modern humanities. Our aim, however, is not a historical study of the Marranos (or conversos), i.e., the mostly Spanish and Portuguese Jews of the 15th and 16th centuries, who were forced to convert to Christianity, but were suspected of retaining their Judaism 'undercover': such an approach already exists and has been developed within the field of historical research. We rather want to apply the 'Marrano metaphor' to explore the fruitful area of mixture and crossover which allowed modern thinkers, writers, and artists of the Jewish origin to enter the realm of universal communication—without, at the same time, making them relinquish their Jewishness, which they subsequently developed as a 'hidden tradition'. What is of special interest to us is the modern development of the non-normative forms of religious thinking located on the borderline between Christianity and Judaism, from Spinoza to Derrida.

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## **THEORIES OF HOPE**

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### **EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE AFFECTIVE DIMENSIONS OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE**

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Rowman & Littlefield *Theories of Hope: Exploring Affective Dimensions of Human Experience* explores the nature of hope from varied and diverse

perspectives. This volume includes chapters examining hope within contexts of social and political philosophy, policy, and struggle from both deeply theoretical and practical approaches.

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## **ERNST BLOCH**

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### **THE PUGNACIOUS PHILOSOPHER OF HOPE**

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Springer This book provides a comprehensive introduction to and overview of the life and philosophy of Ernst Bloch. Bloch has had a strange fate in the English-speaking world. He wrote his famous three-volume opus, *The Principle of Hope*, while living in exile in the United States from 1938 to 1940. It was first published, however, in East Germany in the 1950s after he had returned to Europe and became a professor of philosophy at the University of Leipzig. Gradually, his other numerous works became better known and widespread in Europe and scholars in the US and UK started to take note of his works. Yet, he has still remained a somewhat neglected figure in the humanities. While this book does not set out to entirely rectify this neglect, it does offer readers an introduction to Bloch's works and the opportunity to understand more about the importance of utopian thought. Through an exploration of some of Bloch's more controversial communist leanings and relationship to the Soviet Union, a study of Bloch's utopian quest, and even a comparison with J. R. R. Tolkien, this comprehensive study demonstrates just how interesting a figure Ernst Bloch really was, and how his philosophy of hope has laid the basis for secular humanism.

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## **RELIGION AND EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY**

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### **KEY THINKERS FROM KANT TO ŽIŽEK**

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Taylor & Francis *Religion and European Philosophy: Key Thinkers from Kant to Žižek* draws together a diverse group of scholars in theology, religious studies, and philosophy to discuss the role that religion plays among key figures in the European philosophical tradition. Designed for accessibility, each of the thirty-four chapters includes background information on the key thinker, an overview of the main themes, concepts, and concerns that occupy his or her attention, and a discussion of the religious and theological elements present in his or her thought, in light of contemporary issues. Given the scope of the volume, *Religion and European Philosophy* will be the go-to guide for understanding the religious and theological dimensions of European philosophy, for both students and established researchers alike.

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## **NEGATIVITY AND DEMOCRACY**

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### **MARXISM AND THE CRITICAL THEORY TRADITION**

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Taylor & Francis The current political climate of uncompromising neoliberalism means that the need to study the logic of our culture—that

is, the logic of the capitalist system—is compelling. Providing a rich philosophical analysis of democracy from a negative, non-identity, dialectical perspective, Vasilis Grollios encourages the reader not to think of democracy as a call for a more effective domination of the people or as a demand for the replacement of the elite that currently holds power. In doing so, he aspires to fill in a gap in the literature by offering an out-of-the-mainstream overview of the key concepts of totality, negativity, fetishization, contradiction, identity thinking, dialectics and corporeal materialism as they have been employed by the major thinkers of the critical theory tradition: Marx, Engels, Horkheimer, Lukacs, Adorno, Marcuse, Bloch and Holloway. Their thinking had the following common keywords: contradiction, fetishism as a process and the notion of spell and all its implications. The author makes an innovative attempt to bring these concepts to light in terms of their practical relevance for contemporary democratic theory.

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### **LISTENING FOR UTOPIA IN ERNST BLOCH'S MUSICAL PHILOSOPHY**

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Cambridge University Press Korstvedt explains key concepts from Bloch's musical philosophy, making his complex ideas accessible for modern musical scholars.

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### **ERNST BLOCH'S SPECULATIVE MATERIALISM**

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#### **ONTOLOGY, EPISTEMOLOGY, POLITICS**

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BRILL In Ernst Bloch's Speculative Materialism: Ontology, Epistemology, Politics, Cat Moir offers a new interpretation of the philosophy of Ernst Bloch. Moir challenges perceptions of Bloch as a naïve utopian thinker via a close contextualised reading of his speculative materialism.

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### **THE PRIVATIZATION OF HOPE**

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#### **ERNST BLOCH AND THE FUTURE OF UTOPIA, SIC 8**

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Duke University Press The concept of hope is central to the work of the German philosopher Ernst Bloch (1885-1977), especially in his magnum opus, *The Principle of Hope* (1959). The "speculative materialism" that he first developed in the 1930s asserts a commitment to humanity's potential that continued through his later work. In *The Privatization of Hope*, leading thinkers in utopian studies explore the insights that Bloch's ideas provide in understanding the present. Mired in the excesses and disaffections of contemporary capitalist society, hope in the Blochian sense has become atomized, desocialized, and privatized. From myriad perspectives, the contributors clearly delineate the renewed value of Bloch's theories in this age of hopelessness. Bringing Bloch's "ontology of Not Yet Being" into conversation with twenty-first-century concerns, this collection is intended to help revive and revitalize philosophy's commitment to the generative force of hope. Contributors. Roland Boer, Frances Daly, Henk de Berg,

Vincent Geoghegan, Wayne Hudson, Ruth Levitas, David Miller, Catherine Moir, Caitríona Ní Dhúill, Welf Schröter, Johan Siebers, Peter Thompson, Francesca Vidal, Rainer Ernst Zimmermann, Slavoj Žižek

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## THE CREATURE

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### IN POWER AND PAIN

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Bloomsbury Publishing *The Creature* is an invitation to follow the mechanics between power and pain, which begets the creature. Creatures confront power in, and through, conjunctures of radical contingency. The casual use of power is an exercise in distraction. It is an abiding conundrum that those who endure affliction also exert it as a force over other living bodies in equal measure—not as acts of vengeance or bad faith, but through deeds of forgetful randomness. To ensure social indemnity and security, creatures exercise force over kindred embodiments through a process of collective mimicry. In the bargain, creatures begin to disfigure and distort each other. The line between mutual slaughter and mutual embrace begins to blur. Each transgresses its own soul. At other times, power is an opaque, magisterial and disdainful style of conveyance. It reveals itself out of nowhere. But the steadfast creature is as resilient as it is vulnerable. The more it endures, the greater its perdurance. Perduring creatures may sometimes gain a second sight, forged out of a sense of lyricity, love and abdication. But is abdication, or taking refuge in the wondrous, sufficient to release all creatures from the fatal loop of power and pain? Or will they have to slowly shed creaturely affliction by a rigorous process of decreation? Sifting through the writings of Giambattista Vico, Niccolò Machiavelli, Gabriel Tarde, Miguel de Unamuno, Jibanananda Das, Lev Shestov, Raymond Geuss, Jean Starobinski, Ernst Bloch, Simone Weil, Simon Critchley, Sarah Kane and others, this volume explores the creaturely predicament and its possibilities of freedom. The five chapters in Book I lay down fundamental questions for the creaturely condition: the question of mimicry, the relationship between taking initiative and being hounded, the bridge between senses and destitution, and the vehemence of radical contingency. Book II posits the question of skepticism, fideism and their connection to resilience and generosity in creatures. Book III is entirely devoted to various ways of conceiving the aesthetic: through the tragic, the epiphanic, the catastrophic and through militant material eruptions. Book II and III essentially delve into the sites of freedom that lurk within the condition of the creaturely. Book IV is constituted of a single chapter on the subject of decreation; it grapples with questions of attention, anonymity and abdication.

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## UTOPIA

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### THE AVANT-GARDE, MODERNISM AND (IM)POSSIBLE LIFE

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Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co KG Utopian hope and dystopian despair are

characteristic features of modernism and the avant-garde. Readings of the avant-garde have frequently sought to identify utopian moments coded in its works and activities as optimistic signs of a possible future social life, or as the attempt to preserve hope against the closure of an emergent dystopian present. The fourth volume of the EAM series, *European Avant-Garde and Modernism Studies*, casts light on the history, theory and actuality of the utopian and dystopian strands which run through European modernism and the avant-garde from the late 19th to the 21st century. The book's varied and carefully selected contributions, written by experts from around 20 countries, seek to answer such questions as: · how have modernism and the avant-garde responded to historical circumstance in mapping the form of possible futures for humanity? · how have avant-garde and modernist works presented ideals of living as alternatives to the present? · how have avant-gardists acted with or against the state to remodel human life or to resist the instrumental reduction of life by administration and industrialisation?

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## **HOTHOUSE UTOPIA**

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## **DIALECTICS FACING UNSAVABLE FUTURES**

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**John Hunt Publishing** What is to be done when the future's already ablaze? With the international spread of right-wing "populism," widening inequalities, precarious forms of labor becoming normative, surveillance capitalism, and a worsening ecological crisis, the future is bleak. One issue in particular, the likelihood of catastrophic climate change, coupled with the lack of a global movement with the organization and vision to effectively challenge our suicidal social order, yields the crushing awareness that future generations will be trapped in prehistory, one in which humanity continues to be dominated by its own creations instead of shaping the historical process in line with reason. Expanding upon the ideas of Theodor W. Adorno, Ernst Bloch, Lucien Goldmann, and others, Ryan Gunderson examines the modes of action and thought through which we react to the likelihood of a catastrophic future in ways that reproduce instead of challenge the status quo, and how we can, instead, productively sustain the search for a better world against all odds.

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## **SOCIAL SCIENCES FOR AN OTHER POLITICS**

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## **WOMEN THEORIZING WITHOUT PARACHUTES**

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**Springer** This book opens up a unique intellectual space where eleven female scholar-activists explore alternative forms of theorising social reality. These 'Women on the Verge' demonstrate that a new radical subject- one that is plural, prefigurative, decolonial, ethical, ecological, communal and democratic- is in the making, but is unrecognisable with old analytical tools. Of central concern to the book is the resistance of some social scientists, many of them critical theorists, to learning about this

radical subject and to interrogating the concepts, methodologies and epistemologies used to grasp it. Echoing the experiential critique of capitalist-colonial society that is taking place at the grassroots, the authors examine how to create hope, decolonise critique and denaturalise society. They also address the various dimensions of the social (re)production of life, including women in development, the commons, and nature. Finally, they discuss the dynamics of prefiguration by social movements, critiquing social movement theory in the process. This thought-provoking edited collection will appeal to students and scholars of gender studies, social, Marxist and Feminist theory, postcolonial studies and politics.

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## **THE SPIRIT OF UTOPIA**

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Stanford University Press

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## **CRUISING UTOPIA**

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## **THE THEN AND THERE OF QUEER FUTURITY**

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NYU Press Printbegrænsninger: Der kan printes 10 sider ad gangen og max. 40 sider pr. session

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## **THE PRINCIPLE OF HOPE**

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### **VOL. 2**

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### **NOT YET**

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## **RECONSIDERING ERNST BLOCH**

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Verso The essays gathered here recommend the work of Ernest Bloch as a challenge to older models of historical materialism and utopian emancipation and give specific examples of how Bloch's work can contribute to current debates about utopia, nationalism, collective memory, and the complex relationship between ideology and everyday life.

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## **HERITAGE OF OUR TIMES**

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Wiley-Blackwell This is an examination of modern culture and its legacy which argues that the key elements of a genuine cultural tradition are not just to be found in the conveniently closed and neatly labelled ages of the past, but also in the open and experimental cultural process of our time. One of the most compelling aspects of this work is a contemporary analysis of the rise of Nazism. It probes its bogus roots in German history and mythology at the very moment when the ideologies of Blood and Soil and the Blond Beast were actually taking hold of the German people. An associate of Lukacs, Benjamin, Adorno and Brecht, the author wrote The Principle of Hope.

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## **ASSEMBLING (POST)MODERNISM**

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### **THE UTOPIAN PHILOSOPHY OF ERNST BLOCH**

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**Peter Lang Pub Incorporated** *Assembling* traces of hope and human striving, the philosophy of Ernst Bloch (1885-1977) offers an interpretation of the meaning of utopia. This examination relates Bloch's work to the post-modern theory of Lyotard, Derrida, and Foucault and explores its roots in the paradigm of modernism as developed by Kant, Hegel, Marx, Freud, and Heidegger. Providing a comprehensive view of Bloch's life and work, this study also treats a wide variety of themes in the traditions of European philosophy and culture and should be of interest to scholars in all of the humanistic disciplines.

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### **THE PRINCIPLE OF HOPE, VOLUME 3**

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**MIT Press** *The Principle of Hope* is one of the great works of the human spirit. It is a critical history of the utopian vision and a profound exploration of the possible reality of utopia. Even as the world has rejected the doctrine on which Bloch sought to base his utopia, his work still challenges us to think more insightfully about our own visions of a better world. *The Principle of Hope* is published in three volumes: **Volume 1** lays the foundations of the philosophy of process and introduces the idea of the Not-Yet-Conscious—the anticipatory element that Bloch sees as central to human thought. It also contains a remarkable account of the aesthetic interpretations of utopian "wishful images" in fairy tales, popular fiction, travel, theater, dance, and the cinema. **Volume 2** presents "the outlines of a better world." It examines the utopian systems that progressive thinkers have developed in the fields of medicine, painting, opera, poetry, and ultimately, philosophy. It is nothing less than an encyclopedic account of utopian thought from the Greeks to the present. **Volume 3** offers a prescription for ways in which humans can reach their proper "homeland," where social justice is coupled with an openness to change and to the future.

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## **GRIMM LEGACIES**

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### **THE MAGIC SPELL OF THE GRIMMS' FOLK AND FAIRY TALES**

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**Princeton University Press** In *Grimm Legacies*, esteemed literary scholar Jack Zipes explores the legacy of the Brothers Grimm in Europe and North America, from the nineteenth century to the present. Zipes reveals how the Grimms came to play a pivotal and unusual role in the evolution of Western folklore and in the history of the most significant cultural genre in the world—the fairy tale. Folklorists Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm sought to discover and preserve a rich abundance of stories emanating from an oral tradition, and encouraged friends, colleagues, and strangers to gather and share these tales. As a result, hundreds of thousands of wonderful folk and

fairy tales poured into books throughout Europe and have kept coming. Zipes looks at the transformation of the Grimms' tales into children's literature, the Americanization of the tales, the "Grimm" aspects of contemporary tales, and the tales' utopian impulses. He shows that the Grimms were not the first scholars to turn their attention to folk tales, but were vital in expanding readership and setting the high standards for folk-tale collecting that continue through the current era. Zipes concludes with a look at contemporary adaptations of the tales and raises questions about authenticity, target audience, and consumerism. With erudition and verve, *Grimm Legacies* examines the lasting universal influence of two brothers and their collected tales on today's storytelling world.

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## **UTOPIANISM: A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION**

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OUP Oxford There are many debates about utopia - What constitutes a utopia? Are utopias benign or dangerous? Is the idea of utopianism essential to Christianity or heretical? What is the relationship between utopia and ideology? This Very Short Introduction explores these issues and examines utopianism and its history. Lyman Sargent discusses the role of utopianism in literature, and in the development of colonies and in immigration. The idea of utopia has become commonplace in social and political thought, both negatively and positively. Some thinkers see a trajectory from utopia to totalitarianism with violence an inevitable part of the mix. Others see utopia directly connected to freedom and as a necessary element in the fight against totalitarianism. In Christianity utopia is labelled as both heretical and as a fundamental part of Christian belief, and such debates are also central to such fields as architecture, town and city planning, and sociology among many others Sargent introduces and summarizes the debates over the utopia in literature, communal studies, social and political theory, and theology. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

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## **THE UTOPIAN CRITIQUE OF ERNST BLOCH**

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### **TRACES**

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Stanford University Press Collects aphorisms, essays, stories, and anecdotes, and enacts the author's interest in showing how attention to "traces" can serve as a mode of philosophizing. In an example of how the literary can become a privileged medium for philosophy, his chief philosophical invention is to begin with what gives an observer pause.

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## **UTOPIA IN PERFORMANCE**

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### **FINDING HOPE AT THE THEATER**

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University of Michigan Press "Jill Dolan is the theatre's most astute critic, and this new book is perhaps her most important. *Utopia in Performance* argues with eloquence and insight how theatre makes a difference, and in the process demonstrates that scholarship matters, too. It is a book that readers will cherish and hold close as a personal favorite, and that scholars will cite for years to come." ---David Román, University of Southern California

What is it about performance that draws people to sit and listen attentively in a theater, hoping to be moved and provoked, challenged and comforted? In *Utopia in Performance*, Jill Dolan traces the sense of visceral, emotional, and social connection that we experience at such times, connections that allow us to feel for a moment not what a better world might look like, but what it might feel like, and how that hopeful utopic sentiment might become motivation for social change. She traces these "utopian performatives" in a range of performances, including the solo performances of feminist artists Holly Hughes, Deb Margolin, and Peggy Shaw; multicharacter solo performances by Lily Tomlin, Danny Hoch, and Anna Deavere Smith; the slam poetry event Def Poetry Jam; *The Laramie Project*; *Blanket*, a performance by postmodern choreographer Ann Carlson; *Metamorphoses* by Mary Zimmerman; and Deborah Warner's production of *Medea* starring Fiona Shaw. While the book richly captures moments of "feeling utopia" found within specific performances, it also celebrates the broad potential that performance has to provide a forum for being human together; for feeling love, hope, and commonality in particular and historical (rather than universal and transcendent) ways.

### **RADICAL UTOPIANISM AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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#### **ON REFUSING TO BE REALISTIC**

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Routledge In *Radical Utopianism and Cultural Studies*, John Storey looks at the concept of utopianism from a cultural studies perspective and argues that radical utopianism can awaken the political promise of cultural studies. Between the Preface and the Postscript, there are seven chapters that explore different aspects of radical utopianism. The book begins with a definition of what radical utopianism means, with its productive combination of defamiliarization and desire. From there, it considers Thomas More's invention of the concept of utopia with its double articulation of what is and what could be, Herbert Marcuse's utopian rereading of Sigmund Freud's concept of repression, Gerrard Winstanley and the Diggers, the Paris Commune, and the Haight-Ashbury counterculture. In the final chapter, Storey examines two versions of utopian capitalism: retro and post. Although the main focus here is on Donald Trump's presidential election campaign and Paul Mason's recent

bestseller *Postcapitalism*, the chapter begins with a brief discussion of Karl Marx on capitalism. Each chapter, in a different way, argues that radical utopianism defamiliarizes the manufactured naturalness of the here and now, making it conceivable to believe that another world is possible. This book provides an ideal introduction to utopianism for students of cultural studies as well as students within a number of related disciplines such as sociology, literature, history, politics, and media studies.

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## **THE MARXIST PHILOSOPHY OF ERNST BLOCH**

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Springer

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## **NATURAL LAW AND HUMAN DIGNITY**

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MIT Press Ernst Bloch was one of the most original and influential of contemporary European thinkers, leaving his mark in fields ranging from philosophy and social theory to aesthetics and theology. This book represents a unique attempt to reconcile the traditional oppositions of the natural law and social utopian traditions, providing basic insights into the meaning of human rights in a socialist society.

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## **AVICENNA AND THE ARISTOTELIAN LEFT**

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Columbia University Press Ernst Bloch was one of the most significant twentieth-century German thinkers, yet he remains overshadowed by his Frankfurt School contemporaries. Known for his engagement with utopianism and religious thought, Bloch also wrote incisively about ontological questions. In his short masterpiece *Avicenna and the Aristotelian Left*, Bloch gives a striking account of materialism that traces emancipatory elements of modern thought to medieval Islamic philosophers' encounter with Aristotle. Bloch argues that the great medieval Islamic philosopher Avicenna (Ibn Sina) planted the seeds of a radical materialism still relevant for critical theory today. He contrasts Avicenna's and Aquinas's interpretations of Aristotle on form and matter to argue that Avicenna's reading democratizes power and undermines clerical and political authority. Bloch explores Avicenna's world and metaphysics in detail, showing how even his most recondite theoretical concerns prove capable of pointing toward radical social transformation. He blazes an original path through the history of ideas, including Averroes (Ibn Rushd), Spinoza, and Marx as well as lesser-known figures. Here translated into English for the first time, *Avicenna and the Aristotelian Left* is at once a succinct summation of Bloch's own idiosyncratic materialism, a provocative reconstruction of the Western philosophical tradition in light of its exchanges with Islamic thought, and a vital resource for contemporary debates about materialism in critical theory.

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## **DEMAND THE IMPOSSIBLE**

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## **SCIENCE FICTION AND THE UTOPIAN IMAGINATION**

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Taylor & Francis

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## **UTOPIA AND THE CONTEMPORARY BRITISH NOVEL**

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Cambridge University Press Explores how the experience of time in contemporary British novels reveals the persistence of the utopian imagination today.

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## **MARX, HAYEK, AND UTOPIA**

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## **PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION AT THE CROSSROADS**

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SUNY Press Develops a critique of utopianism through a comparison of the works of Karl Marx and F. A. Hayek, challenging conventional views of both Marxian and Hayekian thought.

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## **AESTHETICS AND POLITICS**

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Schocken Presented here are the key texts of the major Marxist controversies over literature and art that involved Ernst Bloch, Georg Lukacs, Bertolt Brecht, Walter Benjamin and Theodor Adorno.

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## **HOPE WITHOUT OPTIMISM**

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Yale University Press In a virtuoso display of erudition, thoughtfulness and humour, Terry Eagleton teases apart the concept of hope as it has been (often mistakenly) conceptualised over six millennia, from ancient Greece to today. He distinguishes hope from simple optimism, cheeriness, desire, idealism or adherence to the doctrine of Progress, bringing into focus a standpoint that requires reflection and commitment, arises from clear-sighted rationality, can be cultivated by practice and self-discipline, and which acknowledges but refuses to capitulate to the realities of failure and defeat. Authentic hope is indubitably tragic, yet Eagleton also argues for its radical implications as 'a species of permanent revolution, whose enemy is as much political complacency as metaphysical despair'. It is a means of facing the future without devaluing the moment or obviating the past. Traversing centuries of thought about the many modes of hoping - from Ernst Bloch's monumental work through the Stoics, Aquinas, Marx and Kierkegaard, among others - this penetrating book throws new light on religious faith and political ideology as well as issues such as the problem of evil, the role of language and the meaning of the past. Hope Without Optimism is a brilliantly engaged, impassioned chronicle of human belief and desire in an increasingly uncertain world.

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## **UTOPIA AS METHOD**

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## **THE IMAGINARY RECONSTITUTION OF SOCIETY**

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Springer Utopia should be understood as a method rather than a goal. This book rehabilitates utopia as a repressed dimension of the sociological and in the process produces the Imaginary Reconstitution of Society, a provisional, reflexive and dialogic method for exploring alternative possible futures.

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## **IMAGINARY COMMUNITIES**

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### **UTOPIA, THE NATION, AND THE SPATIAL HISTORIES OF MODERNITY**

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Univ of California Press Drawing from literary history, social theory, and political critique, this far-reaching study explores the utopian narrative as a medium for understanding the social space of the modern nation-state. Considering the narrative utopia from its earliest manifestation in Thomas More's sixteenth-century work *Utopia* to some of the most influential utopias of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, this book is an astute study of a literary genre as well as a nuanced dialectical meditation on the history of utopian thinking as a quintessential history of modernity. As he unravels the dialectics at work in the utopian narrative, Wegner gives an ambitious synthetic discussion of theories of modernity, considering and evaluating the ideas of writers such as Ernst Bloch, Louis Marin, Gilles Deleuze, Walter Benjamin, Martin Heidegger, Henri Lefebvre, Paul de Man, Karl Mannheim, Mikhail Bakhtin, Jürgen Habermas, Slavoj Žižek, and Homi Bhabha.

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## **POLITICAL USES OF UTOPIA**

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### **NEW MARXIST, ANARCHIST, AND RADICAL DEMOCRATIC PERSPECTIVES**

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Columbia University Press Utopia has long been banished from political theory, framed as an impossible—and possibly dangerous—political ideal, a flawed social blueprint, or a thought experiment without any practical import. Even the "realistic utopias" of liberal theory strike many as wishful thinking. Can politics think utopia otherwise? Can utopian thinking contribute to the renewal of politics? In *Political Uses of Utopia*, an international cast of leading and emerging theorists agree that the uses of utopia for politics are multiple and nuanced and lie somewhere between—or, better yet, beyond—the mainstream caution against it and the conviction that another, better world ought to be possible. Representing a range of perspectives on the grand tradition of Western utopianism, which extends back half a millennium and perhaps as far as Plato, these essays are united in their interest in the relevance of utopianism to specific historical and contemporary political contexts. Featuring contributions from Miguel Abensour, Étienne Balibar, Raymond Geuss, and Jacques Rancière, among others, *Political Uses of Utopia*

reopens the question of whether and how utopianism can inform political thinking and action today.

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## **ON KARL MARX**

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**Verso Books “In 1968 we celebrated the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Karl Marx. We still have reason to hope for a concrete celebration in 2018” With a demonstrably thorough grasp of Marxist thought, and seemingly effortless literary flair, Ernst Bloch provides both the well-versed reader and the novice a truly enjoyable introduction to one of the most influential thinkers in history.**