

Deleuze and Philosophy

The Difference Engineer

Edited by Keith Ansell Pearson

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Deleuze Outside/Outside Deleuze

On the Difference Engineer

Keith Ansell Pearson

The most enlightened get only as far as liberating themselves from metaphysics and looking back on it from above; whereas here too, as in the hippodrome, at the end of the track, it is necessary to turn the corner.

(Nietzsche, *Human, All Too Human*)

To open us up to the inhuman and overhuman... to go beyond the human condition is the meaning of philosophy, in so far as our condition condemns us to live among badly analyzed composites, and to be badly analyzed composites.

(Deleuze, *Bergsonism*)

The 'and' conjoins but never innocently or romantically. So much at stake. An allusion, a play, is made to *Nietzsche et la philosophie*, in which the potentialities of an active and radical philosophy were marshalled against the hegemony of reactive forces and values. In addition, there is the question of Deleuze's readings of the history of philosophy, in which philosophy loses its established historical identity and is subjected to a different kind of becoming. And then, last but not least, indeed least of all, there is the question of philosophy's imperial claims and its relation to the pre-philosophical and the extra-philosophical.¹ Philosophy moving always outside, thought opening out onto the cosmos and becoming-chaosmos. There is also the question of 'Deleuze and philosophy and...', in which the lines of connection and communication are not foreclosed, but in which Deleuze will impact massively on film, on literature, on politics, on the visual arts, on historiography, on science, on technics, etc., transmuting them in the process so that they become lines of production: 'Nothing is true once and for all, everything is rendered mobile.'

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Edited by Andrew Benjamin

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This series presents the best and most original work being done within the European philosophical tradition. The books included in the series seek not merely to reflect what is taking place within European philosophy, rather they will contribute to the growth and development of that plural tradition. Work written in the English language as well as translations into English are to be included, engaging the tradition at all levels—whether by introductions that show the contemporary philosophical force of certain works, or in collections that explore an important thinker or topic, as well as in significant contributions that call for their own critical evaluation.

Deleuze and Philosophy

'Deleuze was always a friend of wisdom, although he cultivated a strange and dangerous wisdom, forever the outsider, the lodger, the uncanny guest at the courthouse of reason who dared disturb the peace and derange the proceedings.... He was chameleon, Corinthian and caricature all rolled into a multiplicity, an irrational number, an abstract machine.'

Keith Ansell Pearson

Over a period of thirty years, Gilles Deleuze (1925–1995) has had a profound influence on the direction of philosophical and social thought. His presence is felt in contemporary debates in feminism, political theory and continental philosophy where he has challenged and overturned many theoretical dogmas. His work marked a significant turn toward the poststructuralist movement as a whole and its influence increases as it unfolds.

The essays presented in **Deleuze and Philosophy** explore both the classical and radical aspects of Deleuze's work. Essays on Kant and Spinoza reflect on Deleuze's earlier work on the history of philosophy; there is exploration of his highly influential notion of 'minor' literature; the implications of his writing for philosophy's relation to biology and machine thinking is explored with a view to the future of philosophy. The final two essays consider Deleuzian notions of art and 'wildstyle'.

The contributors assembled here approach Deleuze from a wide range of perspectives and in so doing complement Deleuze's own work, which defies assimilation into tidy categories. Working both inside Deleuze's thought and looking at it critically from without, **Deleuze and Philosophy** is an invaluable addition to contemporary philosophical and social thought.

Contributors: Keith Ansell Pearson, Diane Beddoes, Aurelia Armstrong, Tim Clark, Daniel W. Conway, Iain Hamilton Grant, Judy Purdom, Deepak Narang Sawhney, Howard Caygill, Robert O'Toole, Alistair Welchman, James Williams, Robin Mackay.

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