



Jacques Lacan's Return to Freud: The Real, the Symbolic, and the Imaginary (Psychoanalytic Crosscurrents S)

By Philippe Julien

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Among the numerous introductions to Lacan published to date in English, Philippe Julien's work is certainly outstanding. Beyond its conceptual clarity the book constitutes an excellent guide to Lacanian psychoanalytic practice.

--Andr Patsalides, Psychoanalyst and President, Lacanian School of Psychoanalysis

From 1953 to 1980, Jacques Lacan sought to accomplish a return to Freud beyond post-Freudianism. He defined this return as a new covenant with the meaning to the Freudian discovery. Each year through his teaching, he brought about this return. What was at stake in this renewal?

Philippe Julien, who joined Lacan's Ecole Freudienne de Paris in 1968, attempts to answer this question. Situated in the period after-Lacan, Julien shows that Lacan's return to Freud was neither a closing of the Freudian text by responding to questions left unanswered nor a reopening of the text by giving endless new interpretations. Neither dogmatic nor hermeneutic, Lacan's return to Freud was the return of an inevitable discordance between our experience of the unconscious and any attempt to give an account of it. For the unconscious, by its very nature, disappears at the same moment as it is discovered. It is in this sense that the author can claim that Lacan's return to Freud will have been Freudian.

Constantly challenging the reader to submit to the rigors of Lacan's sinuous thinking, this penetrating work goes far beyond being a mere introduction. Rendered into elegant English by the American translator, who added numerous footnotes and scholarly references to the French original, this study brings Lacanian scholarship among English readers to a new level of sophistication.

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Editorial Review

Review

"An engaging, original, readable work. . . . Highly recommended."
- "CHOICE",

"Lima's Latino Body promises to productively disrupt the business-as-usual of critical and scholarly practice in the still-emerging field of U.S. Latino studies; it will contribute directly to the next stage in the long process of what it itself terms Latino identity's 'becoming historical' in North American cultural, political, and intellectual contexts. For this reason alone, The Latino Body could not be more welcome, or more timely."

-Ricardo L. Ortiz, Georgetown University

"Through a bricolage of carefully crafted textual readings, Lima has produced a text that traces the relationship between corporeality and citizenship by marking the process by which the Latino body has 'become historical.' Situated in moments of national and bodily crisis, his archive is decidedly precise and imaginatively expansive, metaphorically rich and politically dynamic. Drawing on texts central to third world feminism, queer studies, and Latin and Latino American literatures, this work is as central to rethinking the American literary canon as it is to an invigorating remapping of Latino Studies."

-Juana Maria Rodriguez, author of "Queer Latinidad"

"Reading a wide range of texts, he provides a sophisticated and important critique of the limits of US citizenship for Latinos."

- "Melus, vol.34",

Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: French

From the Back Cover

Philippe Julien's Jacques Lacan's Return to Freud is a terrific introduction not only to basic Lacanian thought, but also to the historical development of that thought from its earliest stirrings in 1932 to its efflorescence between 1953 and Lacan's death in 1981.

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