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Communization And Its Discontents: Contestation, Critique, And Contemporary Struggles (Minor Compositions)



Synopsis

Can we find alternatives to the failed radical projects of the twentieth-century? What are the possible forms of struggle today? How do we fight back against the misery of our crisis-ridden present?

"Communization" is the spectre of the immediate struggle to abolish capitalism and the state, which haunts Europe, Southern California, and wherever the real abstractions of value that shape our lives are contested. Evolving on the terrain of capitalism new practices of the "human strike," autonomous communes, occupation, and insurrection have attacked the alienations of our times. These signs of resistance are scattered and have yet to coalesce, and their future is deliberately precarious and insecure. Bringing together voices from inside and outside of these currents Communization and Its Discontents treats Communization as a problem to be explored rather than a solution. Taking in the new theorisations of Communization proposed by Tiqqun and The Invisible Committee, ThÃfÆ'Ã Â©orie Communiste, post-autonomists, and others, it offers critical reflections on the possibilities and the limits of these contemporary forms, strategies, and tactics of struggle. Contributors include: Alberto Toscano, Nicole Pepperell, Anthony Iles, Marina Vishmidt, Evan Calder Williams, Jason E Smith, ThÃfÆ'Ã Â©orie Communiste, Endnotes, Jasper Bernes, John Cunningham, George Ciccariello-Maher, and Alexander Galloway.

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Customer Reviews

This is an excellent compilation of communization theory by Benjamin Noys. It gives a fresh overview of the theory, potential, and shortcomings of this new field of theory from the radical Left. The primary purpose of communization is to overcome the shortcomings of the transitional-state model of achieving communism that was on the center stage during the 20th century, and to conceive of communism as the very process of revolution itself, rather than the end goal or as a program to be implemented after the seizure of the state. The book itself has essays and articles from a variety of people from around the West. The writing can be excessively dense and esoteric, especially in works by Theorie Communiste (TC), which is compounded by the fact that their work is being translated from French. Nonetheless, it is worth the extra effort to muddle through their indirect form of presentation, and is useful for stimulating tangential lines of thought. Overall, the book does a very good job at persuasively putting forth a critique of traditional socialism and revolutionary communism, as well as providing an actual alternative and vision to a better future.

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