
Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	1
I Deconstruction and Critical Theory	
1 Philosophy and Social Practice: Richard Rorty's "New Pragmatism"	11
Postscript: Ironist Theory as a Vocation	35
2 The Critique of Impure Reason: Foucault and the Frankfurt School	43
Postscript: Politics and Ambiguity	76
3 Heidegger and Critical Theory: The First Encounter	83
4 The Politics of the Ineffable: Derrida's Deconstructionism	97
Postscript: The Politics of Friendship	120
II Reconstruction and Critical Theory	
5 Reason and Rationalization: Habermas's "Overcoming" of Hermeneutics	127
6 Complexity and Democracy: The Seductions of Systems Theory	152

7 Practical Discourse: On the Relation of Morality to Politics	181
8 Critical Theory and Political Theology: The Postulates of Communicative Reason	200
Notes	217
Index	247