
Contents

Introduction by Thomas McCarthy	vii
Preface	xix
I Modernity's Consciousness of Time and Its Need for Self-Reassurance	1
II Hegel's Concept of Modernity	23
<i>Excursus on Schiller's "Letters on the Aesthetic Education of Man"</i>	45
III Three Perspectives: Left Hegelians, Right Hegelians, and Nietzsche	51
<i>Excursus on the Obsolescence of the Production Paradigm</i>	75
IV The Entry into Postmodernity: Nietzsche as a Turning Point	83
V The Entwinement of Myth and Enlightenment: Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno	106
VI The Undermining of Western Rationalism through the Critique of Metaphysics: Martin Heidegger	131

VII Beyond a Temporalized Philosophy of Origins: Jacques Derrida's Critique of Phonocentrism	161
<i>Excursus on Leveling the Genre Distinction between Philosophy and Literature</i>	185
VIII Between Eroticism and General Economics: Georges Bataille	211
IX The Critique of Reason as an Unmasking of the Human Sciences: Michel Foucault	238
X Some Questions Concerning the Theory of Power: Foucault Again	266
XI An Alternative Way out of the Philosophy of the Subject: Communicative versus Subject-Centered Reason	294
<i>Excursus on Cornelius Castoriadis: The Imaginary Institution</i>	327
XII The Normative Content of Modernity	336
<i>Excursus on Luhmann's Appropriation of the Philosophy of the Subject through Systems Theory</i>	368
Notes	386
Name Index	423
Subject and Title Index	427