Towards a Political Anthropology in the Work of Gilles Deleuze

Psychoanalysis and Anglo-American Literature explores the significance of two recurring themes in Deleuze’s thought: his critique of psychoanalysis and praise for Anglo-American literature.

Tracing the overlooked influence of English writer D.H. Lawrence on Deleuze, Rockwell Clancy shows how these themes ultimately bear on two competing ‘political anthropologies’, conceptions of the political and the respective accounts of philosophical anthropology on which they are based. Contrary to the mainstream of both Deleuze studies and contemporary political thought, Clancy argues that the major contemporary importance of Deleuze’s thought consists in the way he grounds his analyses of the political on accounts of philosophical anthropology, helping to make sense of the contemporary backlash against inclusive liberal values evident in forms of political conservatism and religious fundamentalism.

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