

Critical Spaces: Crisis and Critique

Forthcoming Bloomsbury Philosophy, 2018

Edited by: Anthony Faramelli, David Hancock and Rob White

Abstract

In "Of Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopias" Foucault asserted that while the 19th Century was an era of crisis and an accumulated past, the present epoch will perhaps be one of space. In his essay Foucault coined the term "heterotopias" to signify other spaces that effectively enact utopic spaces in which, "the real sites, all the other real sites that can be found within the culture, are simultaneously represented, contested, and inverted." For Foucault, heterotopic spaces were first spaces of crisis, or transformative spaces, however in the modern epoch heterotopias of crisis have given way to heterotopias of deviation and spaces of discipline such as psychiatric hospitals or prisons. Rather than disappearing, as Foucault contends, this brief essay can be read as a call to think through how spaces of crisis and critique are in fact still functioning to open up disruptive, subversive or minoritarian fields within already existing discourses, be they philosophical, political, cultural or aesthetic.

This book draws on philosophic, aesthetic and political discourses to formulate an interdisciplinary approach to the spatial that aims to rupture not only the particularities of spatial discourses, but the very possibility of thought itself through challenging existing borders, boundaries, horizons, surfaces and planes. With essays on politics, philosophy, literature, post-colonial studies and aesthetics from established and emerging academics, this book answers Foucault's call to think through spaces of crisis and critique in order to give us a better understanding of our present epoch.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

Anthony Faramelli, David Hancock and Rob White

2. Sade and the Tales of Terror: Foucault, Literature, Space

Prof Fred Botting

3. The Living Space of the Image

Prof Julien Reid

4. Third Chapter: Inside Comfort: The Interior and the Immune System

Dr Sheena Culley

5. The body's spacing: The Carceral body as heterotopia

Rob White

6. The Politics of the Hidden Space

Dr David Hancock

7. Mirror Mask: Zapatismo's Spaces of Resistance

Dr Anthony Faramelli

8. Scale and Refuge: Twilight of the Anthropocene

Prof Claire Colebrook