

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

TERRORISM IS POLITICS WITHOUT METAPHYSICS; AND METAPHYSICS,
THE TEXTUAL FORM TAKEN BY [POLITICAL] REACTION.

II. BIOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS

A. A Biological Critique of Epistemology

WITH ALL THE VALUE THAT MAY ADHERE TO THE TRUE, THE GENUINE, THE SELFLESS, IT COULD BE POSSIBLE THAT A HIGHER AND MORE FUNDAMENTAL VALUE FOR ALL LIFE MIGHT HAVE TO BE ASCRIBED TO APPEARANCE, TO THE WILL TO DECEPTION, TO SELFISHNESS AND TO APPETITE. IT MIGHT EVEN BE POSSIBLE THAT *WHAT* CONSTITUTES THE VALUE OF THOSE GOOD AND HONOURED THINGS RESIDES PRECISELY IN THEIR BEING ARTFULLY RELATED, KNOTTED AND CROCHETED TO THESE WICKED, APPARENTLY ANTITHETICAL THINGS, PERHAPS EVEN IN THEIR BEING ESSENTIALLY IDENTICAL TO THEM. PERHAPS! — BUT WHO IS WILLING TO CONCERN HIMSELF WITH SUCH DANGEROUS PERHAPS!
[NIETZSCHE, 1973, P.34]

B. Active and Reactive Forces in Natural Ecology

'EXPLOITATION' DOES NOT PERTAIN TO A CORRUPT OR IMPERFECT OR PRIMITIVE SOCIETY: IT PERTAINS TO THE *ESSENCE* OF THE LIVING THING AS A FUNDAMENTAL ORGANIC FUNCTION, IT IS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE INTRINSIC WILL TO POWER WHICH IS PRECISELY THE WILL OF LIFE. [NIETZSCHE, 1973, P. 194]

C. Biology and Her Sisters

CONSIDER THE ONE GOD UNIVERSE: OGU. THE SPIRIT RECOILS IN HORROR FROM SUCH A DEADLY IMPASSE. HE IS ALL-POWERFUL AND ALL-KNOWING. BECAUSE HE CAN DO EVERYTHING, HE CAN DO NOTHING, SINCE THE ACT OF DOING DEMANDS OPPOSITION. HE KNOWS EVERYTHING, SO THERE IS NOTHING FOR HIM TO LEARN. HE CAN'T GO ANYWHERE, SINCE HE IS ALREADY FUCKING EVERYWHERE, LIKE COWSHIT IN CALCUTTA.

THE OGU IS A PRE-RECORDED UNIVERSE OF WHICH HE IS THE RECORDER. IT'S A FLAT, THERMODYNAMIC UNIVERSE, SINCE IT HAS NO FRICTION BY DEFINITION. SO HE INVENTS FRICTION AND CONFLICT, PAIN, FEAR, SICKNESS, FAMINE, WAR, OLD AGE AND DEATH. [BURROUGHS, 1987, P. 113]

III. LACANIAN SUBJECTS

A. An Old Fashioned Story about Lacan

HEGEL: "THE SPIRIT IS A BONE."

LACAN: "THE SPIRIT IS A BONER."

[ALEX PIENKENAGURA, 1994, UNPUBLISHED REMARK]

B. Two Lacans and the Immanent Negativity of Gender

RAISE BOYS AND GIRLS SKIRTS THE SAME WAY.

RAISE BOYS AND GIRLS THE SAME WAY.
RAISE BOYS AND GIRLS THE SAME WAY (GHENGIS KHAN
AUTOBIOGRAPHY).
RAISE BOYS AND GIRLS THE SAME WAY AND YOU LOSE LIFE.
RAISE BOYS AND GIRLS THE SAME WAY BUT REAR SHEEP
DIFFERENTLY.
RAISE BOYS AND GIRLS THE SAME WAY, DAMNIT!
RAISE BOYS AND GIRLS THE SAME, THEN REJECT THE NULL
HYPOTHESIS.
RAISE BOYS AS GIRLS AND GIRLS AS BOYS.
RAISE BOYS TO KILL GIRLS AND EAT THEM.
RAISE BOYSENBERRIES THE SAME WAY YOU RAISE BLACKBERRIES.
ROAST BOYS AND GIRLS THE SAME WAY.
[JENNY HOLZER,
HTTP://WWW.ADAWEB.COM/PROJECT/HOLZER/CGI/PCB.CGI]

C. Hegemony and Significance

A CERTIFICATE TELLS ME THAT I WAS BORN. I REPUDIATE THIS
CERTIFICATE: I AM NOT A POET, BUT A POEM. A POEM THAT IS
BEING WRITTEN, EVEN IF IT LOOKS LIKE A SUBJECT. SO FUCK YOU
BITCH, DON'T TRY TO PIN THAT RAP ON ME. [LACAN, 1978, P.VIII].

IV. IDEOLOGY, RACE, NATION

A. A Psychoanalysis of Race

Q: HATH NOT A JEW EYES? HATH NOT A JEW HANDS, ORGANS,
DIMENSIONS, SENSES, AFFECTIONS, PASSIONS? FED WITH THE SAME
FOOD, HURT WITH THE SAME WEAPONS, SUBJECT TO THE SAME
DISEASES, HEALED BY THE SAME MEANS, WARMED AND COOLED BY
THE SAME WINTER AND SUMMER, AS A CHRISTIAN IS? IF YOU PRICK
US, DO WE NOT BLEED? IF YOU TICKLE US, DO WE NOT LAUGH? IF
YOU POISON US, DO WE NOT DIE?
A: HELL IF I KNOW?

B. The American in Me

[W]HAT IS HIDDEN BEHIND THE PHENOMENAL APPEARANCES?
PRECISELY THE FACT THAT THERE IS NOTHING TO HIDE. WHAT IS
CONCEALED IS THAT THE VERY ACT OF CONCEALING CONCEALS
NOTHING. [ŽIŽEK, 1989, P.193]

V. HEGEMONY, AND OTHER PASSING FADS

BUT THERE MUST BE STILL OTHER COUNTLESS ERRORS OF THE
SAME SORT THAT NO LIVING MAN CAN YET DETECT, BECAUSE OF THE
FOG WITHIN WHICH OUR TYPE OF WESTERN CULTURE ENVELOPS
US. CULTURAL INFLUENCES HAVE SET UP THE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT
THE MIND, THE BODY, AND THE UNIVERSE WITH WHICH WE BEGIN;
POSE THE QUESTIONS WE ASK; INFLUENCE THE FACTS WE SEEK;
DETERMINE THE INTERPRETATIONS WE GIVE THESE FACTS; AND
DIRECT OUR REACTION TO THESE INTERPRETATIONS AND

CONCLUSIONS. [GOULD, 1987B, QUOTING GUNNAR MYRDAL, *AN AMERICAN DILEMMA* (1944)]

A. Forgotten AIDS Myths

TIME FLIES LIKE AN ARROW, FRUIT FLIES LIKE A BANANA.
[JENNY HOLZER,
[HTTP://WWW.ADAWEB.COM/PROJECT/HOLZER/CGI/PCB.CGI](http://www.adaweb.com/project/holzer/cgi/pcb.cgi)]

B. Glimpsed Terrorists

TORTURE IS A STIMULANT.
TORTURE IS BARBARIC.
TORTURE IS BARBARIC IS A TAUTOLOGY.
TORTURE IS BARBARIC, BUT ALSO SEXY AND FUN.
TORTURE IS BASIC.
TORTURE IS ENDEMIC.
TORTURE IS EROTIC.
TORTURE IS MY MOTHER IN LAW.
TORTURE IS NOT ALWAYS BARBARIC.
TORTURE IS NOT SIMPLY TO COERCE BUT TO BREAK UTTERLY THE
MIND AND SPIRIT.
TORTURE IS SELF LOATHING.
TORTURE IS SOMETIMES BARBARIC.
TORTURE IS THE BACKBONE OF A FREE SOCIETY.
[JENNY HOLZER,
[HTTP://WWW.ADAWEB.COM/PROJECT/HOLZER/CGI/PCB.CGI](http://www.adaweb.com/project/holzer/cgi/pcb.cgi)]

C. Day-Care Devil Worshipers

IT IS WHEN SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENS THAT ONE REALIZES
HOW MUCH PEOPLE ARE ASLEEP.
TERRIBLE PEOPLE WAKE UP WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS.
WHEN PEOPLE WAKE UP SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENS.
WHEN SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENS PEOPLE EAT LUNCH.
WHEN SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENS PEOPLE TRY TO SLEEP.
WHEN SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENS PEOPLE WAKE UP.
WHEN SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENS PLAINTIVE WAILS OCCUR.
WHEN SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENS SOME PEOPLE WAKE UP.
[JENNY HOLZER,
[HTTP://WWW.ADAWEB.COM/PROJECT/HOLZER/CGI/PCB.CGI](http://www.adaweb.com/project/holzer/cgi/pcb.cgi)]

D. Tsars and Jihads

[A]LONGSIDE THE 'WAR MACHINE', THERE HAS ALWAYS EXISTED AN
OCULAR (AND LATER OPTICAL AND ELECTRO-OPTICAL) 'WATCHING
MACHINE' CAPABLE OF PROVIDING SOLDIERS, AND PARTICULARLY
COMMANDERS, WITH A VISUAL PERSPECTIVE ON THE MILITARY
ACTION UNDER WAY. [VIRILIO, 1989, P.3]

VI. THE MEANING OF IDEOLOGY

A. Refutation and Forgetful Affirmation

DOMINANT IDEAS ARE NOT OVERCOME... THEY ARE MERELY
OCCASSIONALLY FORGOTTEN.

B. Why Ideology is Not Ideational

LANGUAGE IS MADE NOT TO BE BELIEVED BUT TO BE OBEYED, AND
TO COMPEL OBEDIENCE... WORDS ARE NOT TOOLS, BUT WE GIVE
CHILDREN LANGUAGE, PENS, AND NOTEBOOKS AS WE GIVE
WORKERS SHOVELS AND PICKAXES. A RULE OF GRAMMAR IS A
POWER MARKER BEFORE IT IS A SYNTACTIC MARKER. [DELEUZE AND
GUATTARI, 1987]

C. The Irrelevance of Critique

IN THE HUGE CATHEDRAL OF ELECTRICITY, [...] IN A SPECIALLY
BUILT CHAMBER SHRINE, TESLA ACHIEVED HIS APOTHEOSIS.
TRANSFORMED BY FIRE THAT DID NOT BURN, HE WAS FILLED WITH
ELECTRICITY'S NEAR SUPERNATURAL POWER. NOT ONLY WERE THE
SHEETS OF "COLD FIRE" THAT COURSED OVER HIS BODY
HARMLESS, BUT, HE BELIEVED, ACTUALLY THERAPEUTIC. [...] ENGULFED
IN ELECTRIC FIRE, HE ROSE—IN HIS VIEW—TO THE NEXT
STEP IN HUMAN EVOLUTION.
IN SING SING, DANNEMORA, AUBURN, PRISONERS WAITED IN CAGES
TO BE STRAPPED INTO A CHAIR, KILLED, AND QUICKLY FORGOTTEN.
BUT TESLA STOOD BEFORE AWED CROWDS, A TALL GAUNT MAN WHO
PLAYED WITH THE BASIC CONSTITUENTS OF NATURE, LIKE A SHAMAN
OR PRIEST. CELEBRATED AS THE GREATEST ELECTRICAL GENIUS OF
HIS CENTURY, HE WAS TRANSFORMED BY THE SAME "GODLIKE
POWER," WHICH, IN SECRET BASEMENT CHAMBERS COOKED
PRISONERS TO DEATH, NAMELESS SACRIFICIAL ANIMALS. [METZGER,
1996, P. 182]

D. Ideology and ideologies

EVERY NORMAL PERSON IN THE WORLD, PAST INFANCY IN YEARS,
CAN AND DOES TALK. BY VIRTUE OF THAT FACT, EVERY
PERSON—CIVILIZED OR UNCIVILIZED—CARRIES THROUGH LIFE
CERTAIN NAÏVE BUT DEEPLY ROOTED IDEAS ABOUT TALKING AND ITS
RELATION TO THINKING. BECAUSE OF THEIR FIRM CONNECTION WITH
SPEECH HABITS THAT HAVE BECOME UNCONSCIOUS AND AUTOMATIC,
THESE NOTIONS TEND TO BE RATHER INTOLERANT OF OPPOSITION.
[WHORF, 1956, P.207]

E. Spectacular Ideology

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN TOKYO IS McDONALD'S.
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN STOCKHOLM IS McDONALD'S.
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN FLORENCE IS McDONALD'S.
PEKING AND MOSCOW DON'T HAVE ANYTHING BEAUTIFUL YET.
AMERICA IS REALLY THE BEAUTIFUL. BUT IT WOULD BE MORE
BEAUTIFUL IF EVERYBODY HAD ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE.
BEAUTIFUL JAILS FOR BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE. [WARHOL, 1975,

VII. THE POVERTY OF CAUSALITY

A. The Ideology of Causation

TIME, AS HEGEL SHOWED, IS THE *NECESSARY* ALIENATION, THE ENVIRONMENT WHERE THE SUBJECT REALIZES HIMSELF BY LOSING HIMSELF, WHERE HE BECOMES OTHER IN ORDER TO BECOME TRULY HIMSELF. PRECISELY THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE IN THE DOMINANT ALIENATION, WHICH IS UNDERGONE BY THE PRODUCER OF AN *ALIEN PRESENT*. IN THIS *SPATIAL ALIENATION*, THE SOCIETY THAT RADICALLY SEPARATES THE SUBJECT FROM THE ACTIVITY IT TAKES FROM HIM, SEPARATES HIM FIRST OF ALL FROM HIS OWN TIME. IT IS THIS SURMOUNTABLE SOCIAL ALIENATION THAT HAS PROHIBITED AND PETRIFIED THE POSSIBILITY AND RISKS OF THE *LIVING* ALIENATION OF TIME. [DEBORD, 1983, §161]

B. Hysterical Movies

B: IS THAT A FEMALE IMPERSONATOR?
A: OF WHAT? [WARHOL, 1975, P.41]

C. Whither Romantic Love?

EVERY REVOLUTION APPEARS IMPOSSIBLE BEFORE IT OCCURS;
AND INEVITABLE AFTERWARDS. [UNKNOWN ATTRIBUTION]

D. The Immediate Imam

IN AN AIRPLANE HIJACKING, THE THREAT OF A HIJACKER
BRANDISHING A REVOLVER IS OBVIOUSLY AN ACTION; SO IS THE
EXECUTION OF THE HOSTAGES, IF IT OCCURS. BUT THE
TRANSFORMATION OF THE PASSENGERS INTO HOSTAGES, AND OF
THE PLANE-BODY INTO A PRISON-BODY, IS AN INSTANTANEOUS
INCORPoreal TRANSFORMATION, A "MASS MEDIA ACT" IN THE
SENSE IN WHICH THE ENGLISH SPEAK OF "SPEECH ACTS."
[DELEUZE AND GUATTARI, 1987, P.81]

VIII. WORDS TO THE END

FROM CONUNDRUM TO PENUMBRA... AND BACK AGAIN.
[WITH THANKS TO W.V.O.QUINE]

IX. BIBLIOGRAPHY

[A]s BURROUGHS REMARKS ABOUT LANGUAGE: "IT IS A COMPONENT
OF THE BODY LIKE ANY OTHER... WORDS ARE MICRO-ORGANISMS,
LIVING DUST THAT THE ELECTRONIC REVOLUTION ONLY ASSEMBLES
AND ORDERS, RIGHT UP TO THE DIFFERENTIATED LEVELS OF
MEANING." [VIRILIO, 1991A, P.67]