

REFLECTIONS ON COMMERCIAL LIFE

**AN ANTHOLOGY OF CLASSIC TEXTS
FROM PLATO TO THE PRESENT**

Edited by
PATRICK MURRAY

Reflections On Commercial Life

Janet Ward



Reflections On Commercial Life:

Reflections on Commercial Life Patrick Murray, 1997 First Published in 1997 Routledge is an imprint of Taylor Francis an informa company **Capital in the Mirror** Dan Krier, Mark P. Worrell, 2020-04-01 Aesthetic objects crafted as poetic reflections of the contradictory worlds that they inhabit are simultaneously theorized and theorizing In *Capital in the Mirror* eminent critical theorists explore the aesthetic dimension for reflective visions of capital that are difficult to obtain through even the most rigorous statistical analyses Chapters address inequality alienation ideology warfare and other problems of contemporary capitalism through the cultural prisms of Herman Melville Thomas Mann Charles Dickens J W Goethe Friedrich Hölderlin Walt Whitman Bertolt Brecht and science fiction cinema Famous narrative elements in their works such as Ahab's pursuit of the white whale in Melville's *Moby Dick* demonic production and perverse desire in Mann's *Doctor Faustus* socially electrified bodies of Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* and dystopian projections of current sci fi cinema are theorized as stylistically distorted reflections of social life within capital The authors reveal theoretical powers latent within these condensed images that prefigure the dark dynamics of capitalism Focusing on dark images of domination and also prophetic images of transformation the book points the way toward emancipation social regeneration and human flourishing

Theological Ethics and Global Dynamics William Schweiker, 2008-04-15 The nature of ethics has been the subject of much controversy and argument in recent decades *Theological Ethics and Global Dynamics* tackles these various debates offering a wide ranging comprehensive and provocative statement of the nature of theological ethics in global times Offers an accessible lively and provocative statement of the nature of moral philosophy and theological ethics in contemporary times Tackles various perspectives on debates about distinctly Christian ethics Argues that we need to reframe the arena in which moral questions are asked Engages a range of positions exploring distinctively modern issues such as moral and cultural relativism globalization problems of consumption and violence and religious pluralism Addresses the complexity of certain ethical decisions which are difficult and far from clear cut and yet presents an ethical understanding which is both humane and deeply religious

The Mismeasure of Wealth Patrick Murray, 2016-09-07 *The Mismeasure of Wealth* Essays on Marx and Social Form gathers Patrick Murray's essays reinterpreting Marx and Marxian theory published since his *Marx's Theory of Scientific Knowledge* 1988 along with a previously unpublished essay and an introduction Murray's essays concentrate on Marx the historical materialist the investigator of historically specific social forms of wealth and labour There is no production in general the production of wealth always involves specific social forms and purposes that matter in many ways Marx's attention to the dynamics and far reaching consequences of historically specific social forms in particular those that are constitutive of the capitalist mode of production sets him off from classical political economy and traditional Marxism In probing Marx's dialectical accounts of the commodity value money surplus value wage labour and capital *The Mismeasure of Wealth* establishes Marx's singular relevance for critical social theory today Philosophical and Political Consequences of

the Critique of Political Economy Patrick Murray, Jeanne Schuler, 2023-08-29 This book extends the approach that Murray and Schuler develop in their companion volume *False Moves in Philosophy and Social Theory* *Losing Public Purpose* The chapters form a connected inquiry into consequences of capital a far reaching social form through a critique of political economy and the mindset it shares with much modern philosophy and social theory The authors call this bifurcating mentality factoring philosophy Factoring philosophy mistakes the distinguishable for the separable It splits the subjective and objective form and content and it takes the object of social theory to be an impossible economy in general stripped of constitutive social forms The critique of factoring philosophy structures the collection which makes a wide ranging contribution to the research field of the critique of political economy as critical social theory Ultimately this book solidifies Murray and Schuler's impact on the study of political economy political philosophy modern philosophy Hegel Marx and critical theory **Weimar Surfaces**

Janet Ward, 2001-04-04 Germany of the 1920s offers a stunning moment in modernity a time when surface values first became determinants of taste activity and occupation modernity was still modern spectacle was still spectacular Janet Ward's luminous study revisits Weimar Germany via the lens of metropolitan visual culture analyzing the power that 1920s Germany holds for today's visual codes of consumerism **Karl Polanyi** Gareth Dale, 2013-04-24 Karl Polanyi's *The Great*

Transformation is generally acclaimed as being among the most influential works of economic history in the twentieth century and remains as vital in the current historical conjuncture as it was in his own In its critique of nineteenth century market fundamentalism it reads as a warning to our own neoliberal age and is widely touted as a prophetic guidebook for those who aspire to understand the causes and dynamics of global economic turbulence at the end of the 2000s Karl Polanyi's *The Limits of the Market* is the first comprehensive introduction to Polanyi's ideas and legacy It assesses not only the texts for which he is famous prepared during his spells in American academia but also his journalistic articles written in his first exile in Vienna and lectures and pamphlets from his second exile in Britain It provides a detailed critical analysis of *The Great Transformation* but also surveys Polanyi's seminal writings in economic anthropology the economic history of ancient and archaic societies and political and economic theory Its primary source base includes interviews with Polanyi's daughter Kari Polanyi Levitt as well as the entire compass of his own published and unpublished writings in English and German This engaging and accessible introduction to Polanyi's thinking will appeal to students and scholars across the social sciences providing a refreshing perspective on the roots of our current economic crisis **Who Count as Persons?** John F.

Kavanaugh, 2001-05-23 Just what is a human being Who counts The answers to these questions are crucial when one is faced with the ethical issue of taking human life In this affirmation of the intrinsic personal dignity and inviolability of every human individual John Kavanaugh S J denies that it can ever be moral to intentionally kill another Today in every corner of the world men and women are willing to kill others in the name of realism and under the guise of race class quality of life sex property nationalism security or religion We justify these killings by either excluding certain humans from our definition of

personhood or by invoking a greater good or more pressing value Kavanaugh contends that neither alternative is acceptable He formulates an ethics that opposes the intentional killing not only of medically marginal humans but also of depersonalized or criminalized enemies Offering a philosophy of the person that embraces the undeveloped the wounded and the dying he proposes ways to recover a personal ethical stance in a global society that increasingly devalues the individual Kavanaugh discusses the work of a range of philosophers artists and activists from Richard Rorty and Søren Kierkegaard to Albert Camus and Woody Allen from Mother Teresa to Jack Keavorkian His approach is in stark contrast to that of writer Peter Singer and others who believe that not all human life has intrinsic moral worth It will challenge philosophers students of ethics and anyone concerned about the depersonalization of contemporary life

The Spirit of Montesquieu's Persian Letters

Constantine Christos Vassiliou, Jeffrey Church, Alin Fumurescu, 2023-05-08 This book's primary purpose is to commemorate the 300th anniversary of Montesquieu's Persian Letters a seminal book in classical liberal thought Persian Letters is a delightfully rich sympathetic satire of commercial society's promise and discontents covering a wide range of issues and themes that shaped the direction of liberal modernity It consists of a series of letters largely written by two Persian travelers to Paris who allow modern readers to view Parisian life from the perspective of an outsider The volume includes contributions from prominent scholars of Montesquieu's and early career scholars who have recently unearthed new and exciting avenues for understanding this important hinge figure in modern political thought

Canonical Authors in Consumption Theory Søren Askegaard, Benoit Heilbrunn, 2017-12-14 Canonical Authors in Consumption Theory is the first work to compile the contributions of the greatest social thinkers in the global conversation about consumption and consumer culture A prestigious reference work it offers original chapters by the world's most prominent thought leaders and surveys how the work of historical theorists has influenced and shaped consumption theory both through history and at the cutting edge of research Consumption is at the core of contemporary lifestyles of political successes and failures and of discussions around sustainability and environmental change Contemporary consumer culture shapes modern identities and is the engine of the globalizing capitalist economy Still most social theorizations over the last century and a half have addressed production processes rather than consumption processes This is about to change Studies of consumption play an increasing role as a topic and a domain of study in marketing anthropology sociology and cultural studies Currently there is no single compilation that systematically links scholarly work published by the greatest social thinkers of the last 150 years to the understanding of contemporary consumer society This book provides a solid framework for understanding the relevance of these canonical authors in social theory to facilitate analysis of consumer culture and to act as a comprehensive reference point for consumer researchers doctoral students and practitioners

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