

Andreas Malm

On Combined Development: Against Hybridism

Source: Andreas Malm: *The Progress of this Storm: On Society and Nature in a Warming World*. Verso, London – New York, 2018, 37–60.

Kata Dóra Kiss

How Femininity Associates with Nature in the Social Imaginary On the Contribution of Ecofeminism to Facing the Climate Crisis

The interest of feminism in ecological issues can be traced back over decades. In the history of the movement, social issues have had priority for a long time. However, the emerging ecological crisis of the recent years has shown that environmental issues cannot be separated from socio-cultural processes. This has made ecofeminist thinking increasingly popular. Yet there are questions about what the connection between femininity and the environment is exactly. The different branches of ecofeminism agree that there is a kinship between the two, which is most evident in the exploitation of their resources. Even though, the underlying roots of this supposed analogy are not self-evident. Is there an essential connection, such as the capacity to give life, or does it lie on historical conventions? What are we supposed to do with this analogy: should we make it visible, or should we deconstruct it? Finally, what benefit do we gain by discussing the ecological crisis within the framework of feminism? The study explores the answers to the above questions in the context of the social imaginary by applying psychoanalytic thinking. It also discusses how ecofeminism reveals the interconnectedness between reproductive, care, ecological, and climate crises through the critique of capitalist production.

Keywords: ecofeminism; ecocriticism; climate crisis; Capitalocene; psychoanalysis; queer ecology.

Attila Antal

The Possibilities of Ecological Biopolitics in the Era of Climate Emergency

The global ecological and climate emergency and its latest accompanying tendency, the health, economic and social crisis caused by the coronavirus, raises the dilemma of the possibility of a democratic biopolitics more than ever before. Different political regimes have responded in a variety of ways to the challenge posed by COVID-19, but the common point is that, as we have seen in the crises of global capitalism, the role of the state has become incredibly valorised and the many crisis management mechanisms have all involved biopolitical interventions in the life of societies. Due to extraordinary measures, exceptional laws and states of emergency that have been introduced we have entered to the new era of biopolitics. This, adapted to the potential durability of the epidemic situation, is fundamentally reshaping the way we think about democratic politics, democracy, democratic empowerment and institutions. We are thus entering a new era of the rise of the executive, where the quest for security may override many democratic requirements that were previously taken for granted. This paper explores the question of how to imagine a democratically based “ecological biopolitics” in our era of crises.

Keywords: biopolitics; ecological and climate emergency; state of exception.

Márk Horváth

The Beginnings of the Anthropocene Attempts at a Definition and Critiques of the Concept

Various interpretations of the Anthropocene hinge around the temporal determination of its commencement. Various views can be categorized along two lines. The Early Anthropocene and Late Anthropocene positions diverge insofar as the former determines a very early beginning for this process of planetary transformation, while the latter argues for a later periodization. In our essay, we seek to delineate the concept of

the Anthropocene. From the members of the Anthropocene Working Group alone, over a dozen ideas were proposed regarding the meaning of this concept. Dilemmas regarding categorization and periodization are of the upmost importance, because they tell us much about the broader social context as well as the state of science in a given era. Getting to the bottom of when the Anthropocene began is of importance because of the complexity of climate science. Horn and Bergthaller agree that the Anthropocene introduces a discontinuity in the present everyday modes of temporality. As distinct from the postmodern though, this has led not to a temporal fragmentation, but to a reintegrative elaboration along the lines of deep time and a reconceptualization of the past. The Anthropocene in our view presents a challenge to our relationship with temporality, which is of key importance for philosophy and cultural studies. The goal of our essay is to connect natural scientific and humanities perspectives when thinking about the Anthropocene. In particular, the idea of deep time can be of help in grasping this new era in a multidisciplinary manner.

Keywords: Anthropocene; early Anthropocene; new Anthropocene; philosophy of time; temporality.

Gábor Balázs – Ákos Kurucz

The Reaction of the Jewish Religious Tradition to the Ecological Crisis and the Problem of Animal Rights

This study uses biblical and post-biblical sources to examine how the Jewish religious tradition can respond to the ecological crisis. As a case study, it focuses on the issue of ideologically based vegetarianism and veganism, which seems to be easily supported by the biblical creation story and a number of other biblical sources dealing with animal welfare. The source analysis section demonstrates that interpretation often departs from the plain meaning of the original text, and that in the changed reality of rabbinic Judaism, justifying ideologically based vegetarianism is far from straightforward. Starting from the assumption that the ecological crisis will eventually have an impact on all, the article shows the possibilities for the emergence of an old-new, environmentally conscious, meat-free diet, supported by traditional sources, and also in accordance with Jewish religious law. The article presents theories for integrating lab-grown meat, which promises to mitigate the effects of the ecological crisis, into the traditional Jewish dietary system. It is hoped that the paper

will provide guidance to other religious communities on how to respond to contemporary crises by interpreting traditional sources.

Keywords: ecological crisis; ideologically based vegetarianism and veganism; Judaism; Jewish law; lab-grown meat.

Gábor Kovács

Ecoregion versus Power Civilisation: Locality, Technology and the Green Republic in the Thought of Lewis Mumford

The paper examines the evolution of the thought of Lewis Mumford (1895–1990) from the beginning of his intellectual socialisation to the thirties. His oeuvre was rooted in the atmosphere of the post-war years determined by the shock of the WWI. The Grand War, as it is remained in the historical recollection, was a historical watershed between the optimistic world of the long 19th century and that of the interwar decades. Mumford in his childhood lived in the techno-enthusiastic atmosphere of New York. At the same time the main imprints determining his eco-sensitive cultural criticism came from his reading and life experiences acquired during the war years and the following period. Mumford amalgamated anti-capitalist radicalism with an ecological perspective. Civilisation, technology and regionalism were the three pillars of his historical philosophy. In his seminal book *The Technics and Civilisation* (1934) he hoped in the coming of a new green republic, which would succeed the old power civilisation by the virtue of a new soft environmental-friendly technics.

Keywords: civilisation; technology; nature; regionalism; green republic; power civilisation; Lewis Mumford.

András Lányi

“Painting is the denied truth of the Earth”: The Philosophy of Sight

„The world is, after all, as it is seen by us, corporeal beings” – that is the common conviction of painters and phenomenologists. The intention of this essay is to reconstruct the philosophical views of Gábor Karátson,

excellent as a painter and writer as well as a translator of classical Chinese texts, based on his essays, novels and extensive commentary on the interpretation of Tao Te Ching. It is not well known that his spiritual orientation was as deeply influenced by the classical works of phenomenological philosophy as by his investigations in the sacred scriptures of the East. His ideas about the ontological state of images, on the theory of colours or the meaning of central perspective show surprising parallelisms with the theory of Maurice Merleau-Ponty on visuality, which Karátson could have not been acquainted with at the time he wrote his reflections on the issue. Taking our attention on the religious or cultural history context of oeuvres like that of Csontváry and Lajos Vajda, as well as meditating on differences and kinships between western and eastern cosmology, or when he reveals interconnectedness between the crisis of our civilization and our crippled visual creativity, he proves to be one of the most brilliant and most original thinkers of the turn of the second millennium in Hungary, in spite of the fact that he did not leave stout and systematic works in philosophy behind.

Keywords: picture theory; perspective; phenomenology; Gábor Karátson; Tao Te Ching; Maurice Merleau-Ponty.