Multiplicity And Ontology In Deleuze And Badiou

In the realm of continental philosophy, Gilles Deleuze and Alain Badiou are highly influential thinkers who have made significant contributions to the field. Both philosophers explore the concepts of multiplicity and ontology, albeit from different perspectives. In this article, we will delve into their respective views on these subjects and examine the similarities and differences in their approaches.

Gilles Deleuze: The Concept of Multiplicity

Gilles Deleuze's philosophy is characterized by his rejection of traditional binary oppositions and emphasis on multiplicity. According to Deleuze, reality is composed of multiplicities rather than fixed entities. Multiplicity refers to a complex web of forces, relations, and intensities that are constantly changing and interacting with each other.

For Deleuze, the world is composed of infinite multiplicities, and each multiplicity has its own unique composition and potentialities. These multiplicities do not adhere to rigid identities or essences but are fluid and constantly in flux. This view challenges traditional notions of identity and emphasizes the dynamic nature of reality.



Multiplicity and Ontology in Deleuze and Badiou

by Leonard S. Marcus (1st ed. 2018 Edition, Kindle Edition)

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Deleuze's concept of multiplicity also encompasses his ideas on difference and repetition. He argues that difference is not a negation or lack, but a positive and productive force. Through repetition, new possibilities and variations emerge, leading to the creation of novel forms and intensities.

Alain Badiou: Ontology and the Event

Alain Badiou, on the other hand, approaches ontology from a different angle. He proposes that ontology should be based on the concept of the event. According to Badiou, an event is a rupture or disruption that introduces something new into the existing order of things. It is an exceptional occurrence that surpasses the limits of what is already known or thought.

For Badiou, ontology should not be concerned with the study of being as such but with the study of the conditions and consequences of the event. He argues that an event creates a new situation and opens up possibilities for change and transformation. It disrupts the established order and challenges the dominant truths and structures of a given society.

Badiou rejects the view that reality is constituted by a fixed set of entities or multiplicity. Instead, he argues that ontology is the study of how an event disrupts and reshapes the existing world, opening up new potentials for thought and action.

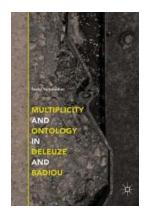
Similarities and Differences

While Deleuze and Badiou both engage with the concepts of multiplicity and ontology, they approach these subjects from distinct perspectives. Deleuze focuses on the dynamic and fluid nature of reality, emphasizing the creative potential of difference and repetition. His philosophy embraces the idea that multiplicities are constantly in a process of becoming, challenging traditional notions of identity and fixed essences.

On the other hand, Badiou centers his philosophy around the idea of the event and its transformative impact on reality. He argues that ontology should be concerned with the consequences and possibilities that arise from an event, rather than the study of fixed entities or multiplicity. Badiou's philosophy emphasizes the importance of ruptures and disruptions in reshaping our understanding of the world.

Despite these differences, both Deleuze and Badiou share a commitment to challenging and rethinking traditional metaphysical frameworks. They offer alternative ways of understanding reality and invite us to question established truths and structures. Their philosophies prompt us to consider the dynamic and contingent nature of existence, and the potential for change and transformation.

In , the concepts of multiplicity and ontology are central to the philosophies of Gilles Deleuze and Alain Badiou. While Deleuze emphasizes the fluid and dynamic nature of reality, Badiou focuses on the transformative power of the event. Both philosophers provide valuable insights into how we can rethink and reimagine our understanding of the world. By embracing multiplicity and engaging with the consequences of events, we open ourselves up to new possibilities and challenge the limitations of existing paradigms.



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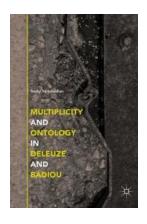


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This book approaches work by Gilles Deleuze and Alain Badiou through their shared commitment to multiplicity, a novel approach to addressing one of the oldest philosophical questions: is being one or many?

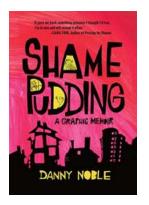
Becky Vartabedian examines major statements of multiplicity by Deleuze and Badiou to assess the structure of multiplicity as ontological ground or foundation, and the procedures these accounts prescribe for understanding one in relation to multiplicity.

Written in a clear, engaging style, Vartabedian introduces readers to Deleuze and Badiou's key ontological commitments to the mathematical resources underpinning their accounts of multiplicity and one, and situates these as a conversation unfolding amid political and intellectual transformations.



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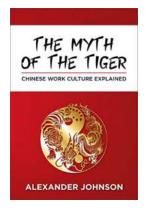
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