Matter that Bodies. Philosophy in the Age of a Complex Materialism

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Abstract:

If there is one formula that has characterized most of poststructuralism|cultural studies it has been the formula 'always already.' Its Freudian logic [Nachträglichkeit] has been a favourite of writers as diverse as Lacan, Derrida, Baudrillard, Butler or Bhabha. Often unspoken, but therefore all the more powerful, has been the qualification 'text|discourse|culture. Most branches of gender studies, especially those that operate at the interface between poststructuralism and cultural studies, have embraced this logic, which has caused many crucial insights into the logic of cultural productions and positionings. In the last years, however, a number of scholars, many coming from within gender studies themselves, have noted a certain blindness in and of this logic.

There are three ways to read this essay: The 'play' version [111 kb] provides the complete text of the essay, including digressions and detailed discussions.

http://www.genderforum.org/fileadmin/archiv/genderforum/mediating/btm/btm.html

The 'fastforward' version [60 kb] provides the text without these digressions and detailed discussions. The 'search' version [117 kb] provides the complete text with the option of jumping over the digressions and detailed discussions. All texts contain intratextual links and a set of randomised blinks.