Adorno’s Positive Dialectic

This book offers a radically new interpretation of the work of Theodor Adorno. In contrast to the conventional view that Adorno’s is in essence a critical philosophy, Yvonne Sherratt traces systematically a utopian thesis that pervades all the major aspects of Adorno’s thought.

She places Adorno’s work in the context of German Idealist and later Marxist and Freudian traditions, and then analyses his key works to show how the aesthetic, epistemological, psychological, historical, and social thought interconnect to form a utopian image.

The book will be eagerly sought out by students and specialists in philosophy, social and political theory, intellectual history, literary theory, and cultural studies.

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Edinburgh University
To Robert and Samuel
Where there is danger, there salvation grows too.

Hölderlin
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Abbreviations

Standard English translations are cited along with the original. English translations are cited according to the Harvard system. Adorno’s original German texts are cited in square brackets preceding translation and are abbreviated as listed below.

All references are to Gesammelte Schriften, edited by Rolf Tiedemann (20 volumes in 23, 1973–1986). Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp Verlag.


Volume 4 \textit{Minima Moralia: Reflexionen aus dem beschädigten Leben} (1980) [MM]

Volume 6 \textit{Negative Dialektik} (1973) [ND]

Volume 7 \textit{Ästhetische Theorie} (1970) (edited by Gretel Adorno and Rolf Tiedemann) [AT]
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