

Sublime Historical Experience

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why are we interested in history at all why do we feel the need to distinguish between past and present this book investigates how the notion of sublime historical experience complicates and challenges existing conceptions of language truth and knowledge

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why are we interested in history at all why do we feel the need to distinguish between past and present in this book the author argues that the past originates from an experience of rupture separating past and present think of the radical rupture with europe s past that was effected by the french and the industrial revolutions sublime historical experience investigates how the notion of sublime historical experience complicates and challenges existing conceptions of language truth and knowledge these experiences of rupture are paradoxical since they involve both the separation of past and present and at the same time the effort to overcome this separation in terms of historical knowledge the experience unites feelings of loss pain with those of love satisfaction and thus is in agreement with how sublime experience is ordinarily defined the experience is also precognitive since it precedes the possibility of historical knowledge as such it is a challenge to traditional conceptions of the relationship between experience and truth or language it compels us to disconnect the notions of experience and truth

the contemporary dutch historical theorist and philosopher frank ankersmit an erstwhile advocate and promulgator of what has become known as the linguistic turn in historical theory is very well known within the discipline his early position with regard to the historical text is frequently discussed and evaluated today and his writings on the subject are often cited however this former narrativist position so robustly defended by ankersmit in the past has been progressively marginalized by ankersmit himself as his current and radically different theoretical position most fully expressed in his recent publication sublime historical experience now takes precedence frank ankersmit s lost historical cause is a polemical account of and a suggested explanation for this ankersmitean trajectory of thought which transported ankersmit from the sustainable logic of his early work on the narrative form to the arguably unsustainable concept of sublime historical experience

written by some of the world s leading historians and theorists of history manifestos for history draws together a series of manifestos that address the question of what kinds of histories we ought to be considering and making in and for the twenty first

century with a foreword by joanna bourke and an afterword by hayden white these manifestos critical innovative reflexive inspirational are absolutely essential reading not just for those embarking on the study of history but for all those who would think seriously about the nature of history in its present and possible future forms this collection establishes a benchmark for all future considerations upon the discourse of history

this book analyses the social dimension of historical time and explores how we emotionally and intellectually bind ourselves to the past and project these ties onto our present and future gustafsson chorell argues that historical time is inherently social and that the nexus of past present and future is constructed through social mechanisms beginning with the concept of the historical imaginary this book examines the theoretical shift from future oriented to present oriented models of time and integrates insights from intellectual history philosophy and social theory this book demonstrates how a variety of social bonds such as emotion generation and authority can affect how historical time is demarcated analysing key concepts such as desire for the past the impact of grief and nostalgia and the role of history in shaping expectations for the future the volume highlights the enduring significance of sociality even under new regimes of historicity such as the anthropocene ultimately gustafsson chorell offers a comprehensive view of how past present and future are interconnected and highlights the continued importance of thinking carefully about the relationship between time and history

this volume is based on the proceedings of a conference organised in september 1994 under the title the past of history it was organised by members of the commission of historiography affiliated to the comite international des sciences historiques and was sponsored by kungl vitterhets historie och antikvitets akademien the royal academy of letters history and antiquities through the natur and kultur foundation at its disposal there eleven papers were presented the published papers want to illuminate the characteristics of the discipline of history from two main angles the philosophical analysis of the intellectual basis for the study of history and the social analysis of the establishment of the discipline of history

first published in 2006 routledge is an imprint of taylor francis an informa company

this is a collection of essays on the configuration of history as text including the visual with a particular focus on the performance of historical plots contributors include distinguished scholars from all around the world in all walks of academic life

in the age of the war on terror and what one critic has called disaster capitalism the topic of trauma has assumed renewed cultural relevance trauma historicity philosophy is a collection of essays by australian philosophers psychoanalysts and cultural theorists on the genealogy semantics and relevance of the concept of trauma in the contemporary world the collection features two essays by agnes heller and gyorgy markus addressing trauma and what psychoanalysis elevation of trauma to cultural centrality means and has meant for modern philosophy and social theory other essays address 911 cyber terrorism the shoah political tyranny the end of history and engage with the thought of kierkegaard schmitt hobbes derrida agamben badiou zizek lacan and freud

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