



# THE PLANALTO RIOTS MAKING AND UNMAKING A FAILED COUP IN BRAZIL

EDITED BY LOU CAFFAGNI,  
ISABEL LÖFGREN,  
PAOLA SARTORETTO,  
AND GIZELE MARTINS

THEORY  
ON  
DEMAND

A SERIES OF READERS  
PUBLISHED BY THE  
INSTITUTE OF NETWORK CULTURES  
ISSUE NO.:

51



Theory on Demand #50

**The Planalto Riots, Making and Unmaking a Failed Coup in Brazil**

**Edited by Lou Caffagni, Isabel Löfgren, Paola Sartoretto, and Gizele Martins**

Historical events often carry an air of uncertainty, like a fog that veils their boundaries. Questions arise about when the historical process leading to a coup d'état, or in the case examined in this book, an attempted coup, truly begins. How is it orchestrated? What delineates its scope? Who are the involved actors, and what fields of study and knowledge are essential for comprehending it?

This book delves into the attempted coup that transpired on January 8, 2023, in Brasília, Brazil, following the defeat of Jair Bolsonaro and the inauguration of his successor, President Luis Inácio Lula da Silva. On that day, thousands of extremist Bolsonaro supporters invaded, sacked, and vandalized federal government buildings in Brasília with the aim of inciting a military coup against the Lula da Silva government and reinstating Jair Bolsonaro as the president of Brazil.

The essays and artistic interventions in this collection aim to unravel the various dimensions of this pivotal event. They discuss the origins, occurrence, and aftermath of anti-democratic Bolsonarist mobilizations, with a specific focus on the communicative and symbolic aspects of this historical occurrence.

From examining historical aspects to exploring aesthetic meanings, communication strategies, and the dynamics of a collective unconscious, "The Planalto Riots: Making and Unmaking a Failed Coup in Brazil" provides a critical perspective on the intricate process of how an attempted coup is both constructed and dismantled.

Contributors: Viviane Borelli, Lou Caffagni, Apoena Canuto Cosenza, Bartira S. Fortes, Camila Hartmann, Clementino Junior, Tatiana Letier Pinto, Isabel Löfgren, Ada C. Machado Silveira, Alecsandra Matias de Oliveira, Maria Eduarda Mathias, Gizele Martins, Ana Paula da Rosa, Aline Roes Dalmolin, Eduardo Ruedell, Gabriela Schneider, and Oscar Svanelid.

Artistic contributions by Tatiana Letier Pinto, Isabel Löfgren, Laercio Redondo, and Gustavo Speridião & Leandro Barboza/Faixa Protesta.

Printed on demand

ISBN: 9789083328270

**Institute of  
network cultures**