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Politics of the Self: Feminism and the Postmodern in West German Literature and Film

By Richard W McCormick

Princeton University Press, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 156 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Richard McCormick examines the concepts of postmodernity and postmodernism as they apply to West Germany, discussing them against the background of cultural and political upheaval in that country since the 1960s, rather than exclusively in the more familiar setting of intellectual history. Considering six literary and cinematic texts that are marked by a preoccupation with the self and subjectivity, he underscores the crucial influence of feminism on writers and filmmakers--and on the postmodern. In a broad international context he describes the conflicting forces that affected the West German student movementthe rationalistic tradition of the Weimar Left and more irrational influences such as French existentialism and surrealism (as well as the American Beat movement and rock roll)--and shows how these forces played themselves out so that dogmatic Marxist Leninism was repudiated in favor of a New Subjectivity. . At the center of the discussion are the novels Lenz by Peter Schneider, Class Love (Klassenliebe) by Karin Struck, and Devotion by Botho Strauss, and the films Wrong Move written by Peter Handke and directed by Wim Wenders, Germany, Pale Mother by Helma...



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