

Apotheosis Of Captain Cook Cook

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Sensual Relations - David Howes 2010-02-22

With audacious dexterity, David Howes weaves together topics ranging from love and beauty magic in Papua New Guinea to nasal repression in Freudian psychology and from the erasure and recovery of the senses in contemporary ethnography to the specter of the body in Marx. Through this eclectic and penetrating exploration of the relationship between sensory experience and cultural expression, *Sensual Relations* contests the conventional exclusion of sensuality from intellectual inquiry and reclaims sensation as a fundamental domain of social theory. David Howes is Professor of Anthropology, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec.

Pacific Answers to Western Hegemony - Jürg Wassmann 2020-09-03

The destruction of local identity through the relentless encroachment of a 'McDonald-ized' cultural imperialism is a global phenomenon. Yet the reactions of Pacific peoples to this Western hegemony are diverse and encourage the creation of independent cultural identities through sports and games, political mediations, tourism, media and filmmaking, and the struggles for land rights and titles, particularly in Australia. This book, based on extensive fieldwork, addresses a subject of great immediacy to peoples of the Pacific Island nations. It fills an important gap in existing ethnographic literature on the region and confidently navigates what had previously been considered uncharted, even unchartable, waters

-- that wide sea between the classic ethnography of Oceania and contemporary anthropology's theoretical concerns with global relations and transnational cultures. Its breadth, rigour, and timely contribution to post-colonial politics in Oceania are certain to ensure that this book will provide an enduring contribution to the field.

The Jivaro - Michael J. Harner 1984-09-13

"This ethnography is one of the classics in the field of South America. The Jivaro (Shuar) represent one of the most important and politically well-organized groups of South American Indians, and Harner's work, reissued here, will become the major introduction in English to these people for future students."-- Brent Berlin, UC Berkeley "Harner, who bases his account upon extensive anthropological field work among the Jivaro, has written one of those rare books which appeal to both scholars and laymen. His book provides a solid overview of these freedom-loving people in a concise, readable form. Highly recommended. . . ."--G. Edward Evans, Library Journal "This thoroughly interesting book is based on fourteen months of field work among the Jivaro Indians of Eastern Ecuador. . . . Although the Jivaro have long been regarded as unique and even bizarre, being the most warlike people in the Americas, the author has succeeded in communicating an understanding of them as human beings with basic needs and responses like our own."-- Gertrude E. Dole, Natural History

Translation as Citation - Haun Saussy 2017-11-17

This volume examines translation from many different angles: it explores how translations change the languages in which they occur, how works introduced from other languages become part of the consciousness of native speakers, and what strategies translators must use to secure acceptance for foreign works. Haun Saussy argues that translation doesn't amount to the composition, in one language, of statements equivalent to statements previously made in another language. Rather, translation works with elements of the language and culture in which it arrives, often reconfiguring them irreversibly: it creates, with a fine disregard for precedent, loan-words, calques, forced metaphors, forged pasts, imaginary relationships, and dialogues of the dead. Creativity, in this form of writing, usually considered merely reproductive, is the subject of this book. The volume takes the history of translation in China, from around 150 CE to the modern period, as its source of case studies. When the first proponents of Buddhism arrived in China, creativity was forced upon them: a vocabulary adequate to their purpose had yet to be invented. A Chinese Buddhist textual corpus took shape over centuries despite the near-absence of bilingual speakers. One basis of this translating activity was the rewriting of existing Chinese philosophical texts, and especially the most exorbitant of all these, the collection of dialogues, fables, and paradoxes known as the Zhuangzi. The Zhuangzi also furnished a linguistic basis for Chinese Christianity when the Jesuit missionary Matteo Ricci arrived in the later part of the Ming dynasty and allowed his friends and associates to frame his teachings in the language of early Daoism. It would function as well when Xu Zhimo translated from *The Flowers of Evil* in the 1920s. The chance but overdetermined encounter of Zhuangzi and Baudelaire yielded a 'strange music' that retroactively echoes through two millennia of Chinese translation, outlining a new understanding of the translator's craft that cuts across the dividing lines of current theories and critiques of translation.

Eating and Ethics in Shakespeare's England

- David B. Goldstein 2013-11-07

David B. Goldstein argues for a new understanding of Renaissance England from the

perspective of communal eating. Rather than focus on traditional models of interiority, choice and consumption, Goldstein demonstrates that eating offered a central paradigm for the ethics of community formation. The book examines how sharing food helps build, demarcate and destroy relationships – between eater and eaten, between self and other, and among different groups. Tracing these eating relations from 1547 to 1680 – through Shakespeare, Milton, religious writers and recipe book authors – Goldstein shows that to think about eating was to engage in complex reflections about the body's role in society. In the process, he radically rethinks the communal importance of the Protestant Eucharist. Combining historicist literary analysis with insights from social science and philosophy, the book's arguments reverberate well beyond the Renaissance. Ultimately, *Eating and Ethics in Shakespeare's England* forces us to rethink our own relationship to food.

Bread, Wine and Angels - Anna Paletta Zurzolo 1997-01

This is the story of an outrageous child who, through innocent eyes, redefines the recipes of bread, wine and life as she waits for the angels to speak to her. It is the story of her challenge of every institution, of her struggle to remain who she is lest she bend too far and snap and break and die. It is the story of her visions, her dreams of America - the home of the brave and the land of the free.

Ledyard - Bill Gifford 2007-02-05

"For decades after his death in 1789, John Ledyard was celebrated as the greatest explorer America had ever produced. A veteran of Captain Cook's final voyage, he walked across nearly all of Russia and suggested to his friend Thomas Jefferson that travers

The Apotheosis of Captain Cook - Gananath Obeyesekere 1997-12-14

Here Gananath Obeyesekere debunks one of the most enduring myths of imperialism, civilization, and conquest: the notion that the Western civilizer is a god to savages. Using shipboard journals and logs kept by Captain James Cook and his officers, Obeyesekere reveals the captain as both the self-conscious civilizer and as the person who, his mission gone awry, becomes a "savage" himself. In this new edition of *The Apotheosis of Captain Cook*, the author

addresses, in a lengthy afterword, Marshall Sahlins's 1994 book, *How "Natives" Think*, which was a direct response to this work.

The Work of Culture - Gananath Obeyesekere
1990-10-15

This volume is the product of two decades of field research by one of Sri Lanka's distinguished anthropological interpreters.

Cook - Nicholas Thomas 2003-01-01

An in-depth chronicle of Captain James Cook's three historic voyages recounts his expeditions charting the eastern Australian coast, exploring the northwest coast of North America, circumnavigating New Zealand, and discovering many Pacific islands, setting his accomplishments against the backdrop of the colonialism of his era.

Islands of History - Marshall Sahlins
2013-03-06

Marshall Sahlins centers these essays on islands—Hawaii, Fiji, New Zealand—whose histories have intersected with European history. But he is also concerned with the insular thinking in Western scholarship that creates false dichotomies between past and present, between structure and event, between the individual and society. Sahlins's provocative reflections form a powerful critique of Western history and anthropology.

The Pacific Islands - Brij V. Lal 2000-01-01

An encyclopaedia of information on major aspects of Pacific life, including the physical environment, peoples, history, politics, economy, society and culture. The CD-ROM contains hyperlinks between section titles and sections, a library of all the maps in the encyclopaedia, and a photo library.

Beyond the Steppe Frontier - Sören Urbansky
2021-12-14

"Over two thousand miles long, the boundary between Russia and China is the world's longest land border. Though sometimes considered a backwater, the border region was always of critical geopolitical importance and has a fascinating history. Not only did this border divide the two largest Eurasian empires, it was also the place where European and Asian civilizations met, where nomads and settled peoples mingled, where the imperial interests of Russia, China, and Japan clashed, and where both conflicts and gestures of friendship

between the world's largest Communist regimes were staged. This book is a history of this border from the late nineteenth century until the fall of the Soviet Union. The border has undergone a remarkable transformation since the late nineteenth century. As late as the 1920s, Russian, Chinese, and native worlds were intricately interwoven in the region, and the frontier was barely regulated. By the end of the twentieth century, however, the two countries had succeeded in cutting kin, cultural, economic, and religious connections between the two sides through deportation, forced assimilation, and nationalist propaganda campaigns. Only with the collapse of the Soviet Union would China and Russia reopen the border, but even today the line between countries demarcates two distinct regions with remarkably different worldviews and cultures. Drawing on sources in seven languages, including extensive archival research, interviews, and oral histories, Urbansky stresses the significant role of the local population in supporting, or more often undermining, the two states' border-making efforts"--

A Moment's Notice - Carol J. Greenhouse
2018-07-05

Focusing on the problem of time—the paradox of time's apparent universality and cultural relativity—Carol J. Greenhouse develops an original ethnographic account of our present moment, the much-heralded postmodern condition, which is at the same time a reflexive analysis of ethnography itself. She argues that time is about agency and accountability, and that representations of time are used by institutions of law, politics, and scholarship to selectively refashion popular ideas of agency into paradigms of institutional legitimacy. *A Moment's Notice* suggests that the problem of time in theory is the corollary of problems of power in practice. Greenhouse develops her theory in examinations of three moments of cultural and political crisis: the resistance of the Aztecs against Cortes, the consolidation of China's First Empire, and the recent partisan political contests over Supreme Court nominees in the United States. In each of these cases, temporal innovation is integral to political improvisation, as traditions of sovereignty confront new cultural challenges. These cases

return the discussion to current issues of inequality, postmodernity, cultural pluralism, and ethnography.

Hawaiian Historical Legends - William Drake Westervelt 1920

Captain Cook - Glyndwr Williams 2004

Essays reassess Cook's standing as a leading figure in eighteenth-century history, exploration and the advancement of science.

Joseph Banks - Patrick O'Brian 1997-12-08

One of our greatest writers about the sea has written an engrossing story of one of history's most legendary maritime explorers. Patrick O'Brian's biography of naturalist, explorer and co-founder of Australia, Joseph Banks, is narrative history at its finest. Published to rave reviews, it reveals Banks to be a man of enduring importance, and establishes itself as a classic of exploration. "It is in his description of that arduous three-year voyage [on the ship *Endeavor*] that Mr. O'Brian is at his most brilliant. . . . He makes us understand what life within this wooden world was like, with its 94 male souls, two dogs, a cat and a goat."—Linda Colley, *New York Times* "An absorbing, finely written overview, meant for the general reader, of a major figure in the history of natural science."—Frank Stewart, *Los Angeles Times* "[This book is] the definitive biography of an extraordinary subject."—Robert Taylor, *Boston Globe* "His skill at narrative and his extensive knowledge of the maritime history . . . give him a definite leg up in telling this . . . story."—Tom Clark, *San Francisco Chronicle*

Accidental Gods - Anna Della Subin 2021-12-07

NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY *ESQUIRE*, *THE IRISH TIMES* AND *THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT* A provocative history of men who were worshipped as gods that illuminates the connection between power and religion and the role of divinity in a secular age Ever since 1492, when Christopher Columbus made landfall in the New World and was hailed as a heavenly being, the accidental god has haunted the modern age. From Haile Selassie, acclaimed as the Living God in Jamaica, to Britain's Prince Philip, who became the unlikely center of a new religion on a South Pacific island, men made divine—always men—have appeared on every continent. And because these

deifications always emerge at moments of turbulence—civil wars, imperial conquest, revolutions—they have much to teach us. In a revelatory history spanning five centuries, a cast of surprising deities helps to shed light on the thorny questions of how our modern concept of "religion" was invented; why religion and politics are perpetually entangled in our supposedly secular age; and how the power to call someone divine has been used and abused by both oppressors and the oppressed. From nationalist uprisings in India to Nigerian spirit possession cults, Anna Della Subin explores how deification has been a means of defiance for colonized peoples. Conversely, we see how Columbus, Cortés, and other white explorers amplified stories of their godhood to justify their dominion over native peoples, setting into motion the currents of racism and exclusion that have plagued the New World ever since they touched its shores. At once deeply learned and delightfully antic, *Accidental Gods* offers an unusual keyhole through which to observe the creation of our modern world. It is that rare thing: a lyrical, entertaining work of ideas, one that marks the debut of a remarkable literary career.

How "Natives" Think - Marshall Sahlins 1996-08-14

When Western scholars write about non-Western societies, do they inevitably perpetuate the myths of European imperialism? Can they ever articulate the meanings and logics of non-Western peoples? Who has the right to speak for whom? Questions such as these are among the most hotly debated in contemporary intellectual life. In *How "Natives" Think*, Marshall Sahlins addresses these issues head on, while building a powerful case for the ability of anthropologists working in the Western tradition to understand other cultures. In recent years, these questions have arisen in debates over the death and deification of Captain James Cook on Hawai'i Island in 1779. Did the Hawaiians truly receive Cook as a manifestation of their own god Lono? Or were they too pragmatic, too worldly-wise to accept the foreigner as a god? Moreover, can a "non-native" scholar give voice to a "native" point of view? In his 1992 book *The Apotheosis of Captain Cook*, Gananath Obeyesekere used this very issue to attack Sahlins's decades of

scholarship on Hawaii. Accusing Sahlins of elementary mistakes of fact and logic, even of intentional distortion, Obeyesekere portrayed Sahlins as accepting a naive, ethnocentric idea of superiority of the white man over "natives"—Hawaiian and otherwise. Claiming that his own Sri Lankan heritage gave him privileged access to the Polynesian native perspective, Obeyesekere contended that Hawaiians were actually pragmatists too rational and sensible to mistake Cook for a god. Curiously then, as Sahlins shows, Obeyesekere turns eighteenth-century Hawaiians into twentieth-century modern Europeans, living up to the highest Western standards of "practical rationality." By contrast, Western scholars are turned into classic custom-bound "natives", endlessly repeating their ancestral traditions of the White man's superiority by insisting Cook was taken for a god. But this inverted ethnocentrism can only be supported, as Sahlins demonstrates, through wholesale fabrications of Hawaiian ethnography and history—not to mention Obeyesekere's sustained misrepresentations of Sahlins's own work. And in the end, although he claims to be speaking on behalf of the "natives," Obeyesekere, by substituting a home-made "rationality" for Hawaiian culture, systematically eliminates the voices of Hawaiian people from their own history. How "Natives" Think goes far beyond specialized debates about the alleged superiority of Western traditions. The culmination of Sahlins's ethnohistorical research on Hawaii, it is a reaffirmation for understanding difference.

The Legends and Myths of Hawaii: The fables and folk-lore of a strange people -

King of Hawaii David Kalakaua 2020-04-09

The Legends and Myths of Hawaii is a collection of folk and ethnic tales written by Kalākaua, the last king of the Kingdom of Hawai'i. Although retelling myths and legends, the book is sort of an account of Hawaiian history until the times of Kalākaua. It reveals facts related to the waves of migration from Samoa and other places in Polynesia, and the interaction between them and the inhabitants of the Hawaii islands. It also recounts their wars and their political organization in addition to a brief look at the social organization.

The Trumpet Shall Sound - Peter Worsley

1970

"SB 156." Bibliography: p. 277-293.

Society of the Dead - Todd Ramón Ochoa 2010

Summary: In this first-person account, Todd Ramón Ochoa explores Palo, a poorly-understood Kongo-inspired 'society of affliction' at the margins of Cuban popular religion. Narrated as an encounter with two teachers of Palo, the book unfolds on the outskirts of Havana.

Rethinking Australia's Art History - Susan Lowish 2018-05-30

This book aims to redefine Australia's earliest art history by chronicling for the first time the birth of the category "Aboriginal art," tracing the term's use through published literature in the late eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Susan Lowish reveals how the idea of "Aboriginal art" developed in the European imagination, manifested in early literature, and became a distinct classification with its own criteria and form. Part of the larger story of Aboriginal/European engagement, this book provides a new vision for an Australian art history reconciled with its colonial origins and in recognition of what came before the contemporary phenomena of Aboriginal art.

The Apotheosis of Captain Cook - Gananath Obeyesekere 2021-07-13

Here Gananath Obeyesekere debunks one of the most enduring myths of imperialism, civilization, and conquest: the notion that the Western civilizer is a god to savages. Using shipboard journals and logs kept by Captain James Cook and his officers, Obeyesekere reveals the captain as both the self-conscious civilizer and as the person who, his mission gone awry, becomes a "savage" himself. In this new edition of *The Apotheosis of Captain Cook*, the author addresses, in a lengthy afterword, Marshall Sahlins's 1994 book, *How "Natives" Think*, which was a direct response to this work.

Remembrance of Pacific Pasts - Robert Borofsky 2000-01-01

A multivalent, dialogic history of the Pacific. Whether set in Samoa, Fiji, Hawaii, Papua New Guinea or elsewhere, each essay addresses questions that are asked by scholars everywhere.

The Death of Captain Cook - Glyndwr Williams 2008

Argues that the British Admiralty covered up details of explorer James Cook's death on a Hawaiian beach and facets of his personality in order to create a portrait of a hero.

Far-fetched Facts - Neil Rennie 1998

A fascinating essay in the history of travel literature, both real and imaginary, from classical times, via early accounts of the New World, to the accounts of the South Sea islands that lay beyond.

Imagining Karma - Gananath Obeyesekere
2002-11-11

With 'Imagining Karma', Gananath Obeyesekere embarks on the comparison of rebirth concepts across a wide range of cultures. The book makes a case for disciplined comparison, a humane view of human nature, and a theoretical understanding of 'family resemblances' and differences across great cultural divides.

Die wissenschaftliche Kontroverse um den Tod des Captain Cook - Sahlins vs. Obeyesekere - Dominique Buchmann 2007

Studienarbeit aus dem Jahr 2001 im Fachbereich Ethnologie / Volkskunde, Note: 2,0, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg (Institut für Ethnologie), Veranstaltung: PS: Kulturen in Ozeanien: Hawaii, 14 Quellen im Literaturverzeichnis, Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: Diese Arbeit beschäftigt sich mit den Ereignissen um Captain Cook auf Hawaii die letztendlich auch zu seinem Tod führten. Es geht dabei grundsätzlich um die Frage ob die Einwohner Hawaiis Cook als ihren Gott Lono ansahen, diese Auffassung vertritt der renommierte Anthropologe Marshall Sahlins, oder ob er lediglich als Abbild und Bote Lonos angesehen wurde, was Ganath Obeyesekere zu beweisen versucht. Entfacht wurde die Debatte mit dem Buch Sahlins "Der Tod des Kapitän Cook" woraufhin Obeyesekere aus Protest über die von Sahlins postulierten Thesen "The Apotheosis of Captain Cook" schrieb. Sahlins bezog erneut Stellung mit seinem Werk "How Natives Think". Die Kontroverse hat mittlerweile einen stark persönlichen Charakter angenommen. Der Rahmen dieser Arbeit ist beschränkt, so dass nur ein grober Überblick über die Themen und Argumente vermittelt werden kann. Die Arbeit ist so aufgebaut, dass nach einem Überblick über die Biographie Cooks, sowie einer knappen Vorstellung, Sahlins

und Obeyesekeres, die verschiedenen Argumentationsstränge sowie deren unterschiedlich Interpretation verfolgt werden.

Buddhism Transformed - Richard Gombrich
2021-03-09

In this study a social and cultural anthropologist and a specialist in the study of religion pool their talents to examine recent changes in popular religion in Sri Lanka. As the Sinhala themselves perceive it, Buddhism proper has always shared the religious arena with a spirit religion. While Buddhism concerns salvation, the spirit religion focuses on worldly welfare. Buddhism Transformed describes and analyzes the changes that have profoundly altered the character of Sinhala religion in both areas.

The Perils of Interpreting - Henrietta Harrison
2021-11-09

An impressive new history of China's relations with the West—told through the lives of two language interpreters who participated in the famed Macartney embassy in 1793 The 1793 British embassy to China, which led to Lord George Macartney's fraught encounter with the Qianlong emperor, has often been viewed as a clash of cultures fueled by the East's disinterest in the West. In *The Perils of Interpreting*, Henrietta Harrison presents a more nuanced picture, ingeniously shifting the historical lens to focus on Macartney's two interpreters at that meeting—Li Zibiao and George Thomas Staunton. Who were these two men? How did they intervene in the exchanges that they mediated? And what did these exchanges mean for them? From Galway to Chengde, and from political intrigues to personal encounters, Harrison reassesses a pivotal moment in relations between China and Britain. She shows that there were Chinese who were familiar with the West, but growing tensions endangered those who embraced both cultures and would eventually culminate in the Opium Wars. Harrison demonstrates that the Qing court's ignorance about the British did not simply happen, but was manufactured through the repression of cultural go-betweens like Li and Staunton. She traces Li's influence as Macartney's interpreter, the pressures Li faced in China as a result, and his later years in hiding. Staunton interpreted successfully for the British East India Company in Canton, but as Chinese

anger grew against British imperial expansion in South Asia, he was compelled to flee to England. Harrison contends that in silencing expert voices, the Qing court missed an opportunity to gain insights that might have prevented a losing conflict with Britain. Uncovering the lives of two overlooked figures, *The Perils of Interpreting* offers an empathic argument for cross-cultural understanding in a connected world.

The Awakened Ones - Gananath Obeyesekere
2012-02-07

While a rational consciousness grasps many truths, Gananath Obeyesekere believes an even richer knowledge is possible through a bold confrontation with the stuff of visions and dreams. Spanning both Buddhist and European forms of visionary experience, he fearlessly pursues the symbolic, nonrational depths of such phenomena, reawakening the intuitive, creative impulses that power greater understanding. Throughout his career, Obeyesekere has combined psychoanalysis and anthropology to illuminate the relationship between personal symbolism and religious experience. In this book, he begins with Buddha's visionary trances wherein, over the course of four hours, he witnesses hundreds of thousands of his past births and eons of world evolution, renewal, and disappearance. He then connects this fracturing of empirical and visionary time to the realm of space, considering the experience of a female Christian penitent, who stares devotedly at a tiny crucifix only to see the space around it expand to mirror Christ's suffering. Obeyesekere follows the unconscious motivations underlying rapture, the fantastical consumption of Christ's body and blood, and body mutilation and levitation, bridging medieval Catholicism and the movements of early modern thought as reflected in William Blake's artistic visions and poetic dreams. He develops the term "dream-ego" through a discussion of visionary journeys, Carl Jung's and Sigmund Freud's scientific dreaming, and the cosmic and erotic dream-visions of New Age virtuosos, and he defines the parameters of a visionary mode of knowledge that provides a more elastic understanding of truth. A career-culminating work, this volume translates the epistemology of Hindu and Buddhist thinkers for western audiences while revitalizing western philosophical and scientific

inquiry.

Representing the South Pacific - Rod Edmond
1997-11-20

This book examines how the South Pacific was represented by explorers, missionaries, travellers, writers, and artists between 1767 and 1914 by drawing on history, literature, art history, and anthropology. Edmond engages with colonial texts and postcolonial theory, criticising both for their failure to acknowledge the historical specificity of colonial discourses and cultural encounters, and for continuing to see indigenous cultures in essentially passive or reactive terms. The book offers a detailed and grounded 'reading back' of these colonial discourses into the metropolitan centres which gave rise to them, while resisting the idea that all representations of other cultures are merely self-representations. Among its themes are the persistent myth-making around the figure of Cook, the western obsession with Polynesian sexuality, tattooing, cannibalism, and leprosy, and the Pacific as a theatre for adventure and as a setting for Europe's displaced fears of its own cultural extinction.

The Man-Eating Myth - William Arens
1980-09-25

A fascinating and well-researched look into what we really know about cannibalism.

Historical Metaphors and Mythical Realities - Marshall D. Sahlins
2009-07-09

Hawaiian culture as it met foreign traders and settlers is the context for Sahlins's structuralist methodology of historical interpretation

Captain James Cook and His Times - Robin Fisher
1979-01-01

Collection of papers by various authors, evaluating Cook's career and accomplishments and the effect of his voyages on the European arts and sciences.

The Righteous Mind - Jonathan Haidt
2013-02-12

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The acclaimed social psychologist challenges conventional thinking about morality, politics, and religion in a way that speaks to conservatives and liberals alike—a "landmark contribution to humanity's understanding of itself" (The New York Times Book Review).

Drawing on his twenty-five years of groundbreaking research on moral psychology, Jonathan Haidt shows how moral judgments

arise not from reason but from gut feelings. He shows why liberals, conservatives, and libertarians have such different intuitions about right and wrong, and he shows why each side is actually right about many of its central concerns. In this subtle yet accessible book, Haidt gives you the key to understanding the miracle of human cooperation, as well as the curse of our eternal divisions and conflicts. If you're ready to trade in anger for understanding, read *The Righteous Mind*.

From the Ruins of Colonialism - Chris Healy
1997-03-27

From the Ruins of Colonialism throws new light on history, social memory and colonialism. The book charts how films, books and storytelling, public commemoration and instruction have, in a strange ensemble, created something we call Australian history. It considers key moments of historical imagination, including Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal histories of Captain Cook, school-histories and museum exhibitions, and the gendering of events such as the Eureka Stockade and the shipwreck of Eliza Fraser. Chris Healy argues that the way in which the past is constructed in the public imagination raises pressing questions. He describes the predicament of European Australians who imagined a continent 'without history' while themselves being obsessed with history. He asks: what can history mean in a postcolonial society? This book seeks a new sense of remembering. Rather than being content with a culture of amnesia or facile nostalgia, it makes the case for learning to belong in the ruins of colonial histories. Chris Healy's investigation of historical cultures and narratives is innovative and stimulating; it is a powerful statement for historical imagination in our times.

The Social Construction of What? - Ian Hacking 2000-11-15

Lost in the raging debate over the validity of

social construction is the question of what, precisely, is being constructed. Facts, gender, quarks, reality? Is it a person? An object? An idea? A theory? Each entails a different notion of social construction, Ian Hacking reminds us. His book explores an array of examples to reveal the deep issues underlying contentious accounts of reality. Especially troublesome in this dispute is the status of the natural sciences, and this is where Hacking finds some of his most telling cases, from the conflict between biological and social approaches to mental illness to vying accounts of current research in sedimentary geology. He looks at the issue of child abuse—very much a reality, though the idea of child abuse is a social product. He also cautiously examines the ways in which advanced research on new weapons influences not the content but the form of science. In conclusion, Hacking comments on the “culture wars” in anthropology, in particular a spat between leading ethnographers over Hawaii and Captain Cook. Written with generosity and gentle wit by one of our most distinguished philosophers of science, this wise book brings a much needed measure of clarity to current arguments about the nature of knowledge.

Cannibal Talk - Gananath Obeyesekere
2005-06-06

"A tour de force: meticulously argued, nuanced, and wideranging in its interpretations. In the hands of a master, the prodigious scholarship and large intellectual appetite make for a very convincing, comprehensive work."—George Marcus, coeditor of *Writing Culture* "The sheer scope of *Cannibal Talk* is remarkable, and its contribution to the anthropology of colonialism outstanding. Obeyesekere's research, original thinking, and applied reading are unrivalled on the discourses of cannibalism and their implications."—Paul Lyons, University of Hawai'i