Feminism And Psychoanalysis A Critical Dictionary


This title is part of UC Press's Voices Revived program, which commemorates University of California Press's mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, Voices Revived makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology. This title was originally published in 1990. This timely and provocative collection of sixteen essays combines feminist and psychoanalytic approaches to literary theory and to the reading of literary texts. It demonstrates not only the ways in which psychoanalytic theory can illuminate traditional literary texts, but also the ways in which feminist theory can modify, enlarge, and in some instances transform the body of psychoanalytic literature. Treating psychoanalysis as a form of narrative as well as a method of interpretation, the editors have divided their collection into three sections: 1) interpretations of the relation between contemporary feminism and Freud; 2) rereadings of classic patriarchal texts in the light of psychoanalytic feminism; and 3) readings of texts by women writers that have subverted patriarchal structures and given authoritative new voice to the maternal figure. Many of the essays make original contributions to the current debate about the conjunction of Freud and feminism; others offer innovative readings of specific texts that illustrate the significance of that relation. The Introduction provides an up-to-date survey of feminist psychoanalytic theory and enumerates the central issues. Because of the diversity of critical perspectives it offers and the range of texts it considers, this rich and important book will attract a broad spectrum of readers. In almost all critical writings on the horror film, woman is conceptualized only as victim. In The Monstrous-Feminine, Barbara Creed challenges this patriarchal view by arguing that the prototype of all definitions of the monstrous is the female reproductive body. With close reference to a number of classic horror films including the Alien trilogy, TSprengnether (English, U. of Minnesota) explores the strategies by which Freud avoided issues involving the mother, and undertakes a radical reinterpretation of the preoedipal mother from the perspective of feminist psychoanalytic theory. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR. What is object-relations theory and what does it have to do with literary studies? How can Freud's phallocentric theories be applied by feminist critics? This book offers students clear answers to these questions without losing them in jargon. How did women Surrealists such as Leonora Carrington and Claude Cahun take up the question of female identity in terms of their own aesthetic and intellectual practice? What was the response of women analysts such as Joan Riviere to Freud's psychoanalytic construction of femininity? These are among the questions that Natalya Lusty brings to her sophisticated and theoretically informed investigation into the appropriation of 'the feminine' by the Surrealist movement. Combining biographical and textual methods of analysis with historically specific discussions of related cultural sites such as women's magazines, fashion, deboutante culture, sexology, modernist lesbian subculture, pornography, and female criminality, the book examines the ambiguities and blind spots that haunt the work of more central figures such as André Breton, Georges Bataille, Jacques Lacan, Walter Benjamin, and the Surrealist photographer Hans Bellmer. Lusty's examination of a series of psychoanalytic Surrealist themes, including narcissism, fantasy, masquerade, perversion, and 'the double', illuminates a modernist preoccupation with the crisis of subjectivity and representation and its ongoing relevance to more recent work by Cindy Sherman and Judith Butler. Her book is an important contribution to modernist studies that will appeal to scholars and students working across a diverse range of fields, including literary studies, gender studies, visual culture, cultural studies, and cultural history. Psychoanalytic feminism is stuck in the 'feminist dilemma': it seems to constantly reiterate the constitutive binarism of the gender war. This book suggests we turn to a Deleuzean feminism and methodology in order to be able to describe the sexes beyond the binary. Deleuze's becoming-woman is based on an ontology of desire which refutes the Lacanian 'tyranny of the past' that dictates a constitutive lack at the base of the subject which has its origin in the (m)other. Through Deleuzean readings of cultural texts its potential to describe new gender identities, or non-identities, will be shown. This volume fills the gap in books dedicated to the ideas of ground-breaking theorist Juliet Mitchell. Essays from internationally renowned scholars address themes that cross-cut her oeuvre: equality, violence, collective movements, subjectivity, sexuality and power. Mitchell herself contributes a chapter and an afterward. The notion of identification, especially in the discourse of feminist theory, has come sharply and dramatically into focus with the recent interest in such topics as queer performance, cross-dressing, and racial passing. Identification Papers is the first book to track the evolution of identification's emergence in psychoanalytic theory. Diana Fuss seeks to understand where this notion of identification has come from, and why it has emerged as one of the most difficult problems in contemporary theory and politics. Identification Papers situates the recent critical interest in identification in the intellectual tradition that first gave the idea its theoretical relevance: psychoanalysis. Fuss begins from the assumption that identification has a history, and that the term carries with it a host of theoretical problems, conceptual difficulties, and ideological complications. By tracking the evolution of identification in Freud's work over a forty year period, Fuss demonstrates how the concept of
identification is neither a theoretically neutral notion nor a politically innocent one. Identification Papers closely examines the three principal figures -- gravity, ingestion, and infection -- that psychoanalysis invokes to theorize identification. Fuss then deconstructs the psychoanalytic theory of identification in order to open up the possibility of more innovative rethinkings of the political. Drawing on literature, film, and Freud's own case histories, and engaging with a wide range of disciplines -- including critical theory, philosophy, film theory, cultural studies, psychoanalysis, and feminism -- Identification Papers will be a necessary starting point in any future theoretical project that seeks to mobilize the concept of identification for a feminist politics.

In this book Katherine Kearns explores the relationship of history to narrative. She combines psychoanalysis with recent feminist theory to reveal the hidden assumptions behind the construction of any historical narrative. Her alternative approach, one she labels psychohistoriography, rejects the notion that certain historical categories are inalienably given. By introducing insights derived from psychoanalysis and critical theory, Kearns expands our conception of what can legitimately count as historical evidence. Elisabeth Young-Bruehl illuminates the psychological and intellectual dimensions writing biography makes on the biographer and explores the complex and frequently conflicted relationship between feminism and psychoanalysis. She considers what remains valuable in Sigmund Freud's work, and what areas - must be rethought current psychoanalytic work, for feminist studies, and for social theory. Psychoanalytic theory used for biography, she argues, can yield insights for psychoanalysis itself, particularly in the understanding of creativity. These new essays by leading scholars examine some famous and less well-known instances of polemical encounters. The essays are enhanced by an interview with Gayatri Spivak, specially conducted by Jane Gallo for this volume. Historically rigorous, theoretically astute, and sometimes wickedly funny, Polemic makes a critical issue a critical issue.

Each bibliography includes a comprehensive list of the theorist's works and critical studies of these works in English. Each bibliography contains approximately 600 to 900 entries. Books, journal articles, essays within edited books (in the manner of Essay and General Literature) and dissertations are included. References are provided from a wide variety of disciplines and bibliographic sources. The primary purpose of each bibliography is to provide access to the widely reprinted primary works in English and the critical literature in a great variety of books and journals. The topical bibliographies include the authoritative works on the subject and are arranged in useful categories. The lively part of the modern/post-modern debate is generally taking place in alternative and left journals -- journals always included in the literature section of the bibliographies. This book provides a critical reappraisal of Barbara Creed's ground-breaking work of feminist psychoanalytic film scholarship, The Monstrous-Feminine, which was first published in 1993. The Monstrous-Feminine married psychoanalytic thinking with film analysis in radically new ways to provide an invaluable corrective to conventional approaches to the study of women in horror films, with their narrow emphasis on woman's victimhood. This volume, which will mark 25 years since the publication of The Monstrous-Feminine, brings together essays by international scholars working across a variety of disciplines who take up Creed's ideas in new ways and fresh contexts or, more broadly, explore possible futures for feminist and/or psychoanalytically informed art history and film theory. Leading international scholars present novel dialogues between different psychoanalytic orientations as well as between the particularities of diverse socio-cultural and historical contexts in order to offer critical insights which are highly relevant to the current intellectual climate and social climate. It brings to bear, as a psychoanalytic critique of its own making? In this new and thoroughly revised edition of her classic textbook, Elizabeth Wright provides a cogent answer to this question and a wide-ranging introduction to psychoanalytic criticism from Freud to the present day. Since each school of psychoanalysis has its own theory of the aesthetic process, the field is complex. Adopting a critical perspective, Elizabeth Wright focuses on major figures and texts in psychoanalysis and in literary and art criticism: classical psychoanalysis; Jungian analytic psychology; objects-relations theory; French psychoanalysis; French anti-psychoanalysis; feminist psychoanalytic criticism. Across these divisions certain problems recur, problems which conceal themselves in a wide range of surprising places, from Shakespearean tragedy to performance theatre from magic realism to detective fiction, from the German Lied to Wagner. These areas are investigated with reference to rival psychoanalytic theories, while connections are traced between the aesthetic process and the psychoanalytic approach. Already established as the leading introduction to the field, this new edition of Psychoanalytic Criticism will be essential reading for students of literature and literary theory, psychoanalysis, feminism and feminist theory, cultural studies and the humanities generally. Written by distinguished and varied contributors, they explore the complex relationship between feminism and psychoanalysis and address broader questions of gender. Kristeva, Julia; Andreas-Salomé, Lou. One of feminism's most dynamic critics brings together psychoanalysis, critical theory and cultural studies to look at how texts construct possibilities and limits for thinking about a woman's, and where women might be going."
of different artistic and critical practices, illustrating different aspects of the feminist uncanny. Through a ‘partisan’ yet comprehensive critical review of the fascinating concept of the uncanny, The Feminist Uncanny in Theory and Art Practice proposes a new concept, the feminist uncanny, which it upholds as one of the most enduring legacies of the Women’s Liberation Movement in contemporary art theory and practice. The European Avant-Garde: Text and Image is an interdisciplinary collection of thirteen essays relating to the study of European Avant-Garde movements between 1900 and 1940. The essays cover both literary and artistic subjects, across geographical, linguistic and disciplinary boundaries. Various aspects of the English, Irish, German, French, Italian, Spanish, and Polish avant-gardes are explored, examining both diverse literary genres such as prose, poetry and drama, and specific avant-garde movements such as Futurism and Surrealism. The volume includes a lengthy introductory essay by Prof. John J. White, Emeritus Professor of German and Comparative Literature at King’s College London. Avant-garde studies can be enhanced and developed through dialogue with other disciplines, such as translation, gender, exile and comparative studies. Thus, the volume is divided into four sections: Representations of the Body; Translating the Avant-Garde; Identity and Exile; and Comparative Perspectives and the Legacy of the Avant-Garde. Essay aus dem Jahr 2009 im Fachbereich Englisch - Landeskunde, Trinity College Dublin - The University of Dublin (Department of English), Veranstaltung: Critical and Cultural Theory, Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: In her article ‘Feminism: A Movement to End Sexist Oppression’, Bell Hooks claims that the major problem within feminist discourse is the inability to either arrive at a consensus of opinion about what feminism is or accept definition(s) that could serve as points of unification. Without agreed upon definitions, feminism lacks a sound foundation on which to construct a theory or engage in overall meaningful praxis. Moreover, it is also due to this contextual vagueness in definition that feminism turned to other, more or less related, schools of thought such as Marxism, science studies or psychoanalysis in order to stabilize itself in the academic world. From all liaisons with the above mentioned (and many other) analytic fields that feminism entered, I find psychoanalysis to be the most natural, as feminism, for all its difficulties in definition, explicitly aims to end sexist oppression4. In order to do so, it needs to closely analyse sex, sexes, and gender(s), for which it lacks a methodological apparatus of its own. Whereas in other disciplines that feminists have tried to reshape for their purposes (i.e. sciences more concerned with societal problems, such as politics) the argument for gender neutrality or irrelevance can be more easily sustained by traditionalists, the advantages of a feminist psychoanalytic approach are substantial, as Nancy Chodorow argues: ‘Psychoanalysis has had a profound influence on 20th-century thought in a wide variety of areas, from psychology and psychiatry to sociology, literature, feminism and politics. Most importantly, it offers insights into the relationship between individual subjectivity and social relations, making it a key discipline for understanding the links between social phenomena and personal experience. Employing surprising juxtapositions, THE FEMINIST DIFFERENCE looks at fiction by black writers from a feminist/psychoanalytic perspective, at poetry, and at feminism and law. The author presents an unfailingly close reading of moments at which feminism seems to founder in its own contradictions—and moments that reemerge as sources of a revitalized critical awareness. Copyright © Libri GmbH. All rights reserved. “Poststructuralism and Critical Theory’s Second Generation” analyses the major themes and developments in a period that brought continental critical theory to the forefront of scholarship in a variety of humanities and social science disciplines and that set the agenda for postmodern thought on the continent, as well as elsewhere from the 1960s to the end of the century. This book, focusing on the years 1960-1994, examines the relationship between poststructuralism and the second generation of critical theory, the two dominant movements that emerged in the 1960s: Althusser, Foucault, Deleuze, Derrida, Lyotard, Irigaray, and Habermas. Influential thinkers such as Serres, Bourdieu, and Rorty, who are not easily placed in “standard” histories of the period, are also covered. Beyond this, thematic essays engage with issues as diverse as the Nietzschean legacy, the linguistic turn in continental thinking, the phenomenological inheritance of Gadamer and Ricoeur, the influence of psychoanalysis, the emergence of feminist thought and the philosophy of social difference, the renewal of critical theory tradition, and the importation of continental philosophy into literary theory. Incorporating autobiography as well as reflections on relations between mothers and daughters, psychoanalysis, feminist theorizing, race, and modernist political theories and philosophies, renowned feminist theorist Jane Flax brings together eight of her most recent essays in Disputed Subjects. ‘Indubitably required reading Lively, sophisticated, and challenging discussions at the crucical intersection of feminist, psychoanalytic, and political ideas. Jane Flax allows her own multiple and conflicting identities into open dialogue, and the result is a promontory on the postmodern landscape.’ — Kenneth J. Gergen ‘Jane Flax is one of the most challenging and multi-faceted writers writing today It is the well-informed voice of sanity, balance and courage.’ — Phyllis Grosskurth ‘Jane Flax’s bold new book challenges orthodoxies in feminism, psychoanalysis, and postmodernism. By questioning the questions that have been taken to define these fields, she demonstrates once again the originality of her thinking.’ — Alison M. Jaggar With Sigmund Freud notoriously flummoxed about what women want, any encounter between psychoanalysis and feminism would seem to promise a standoff. But in this lively, often surprising history, Mari Jo Buhle reveals that the twentieth century’s two great theories of liberation actually had a great deal to tell each other. Starting with Freud’s 1909 speech to an audience that included the feminist and radical Emma Goldman, Buhle recounts all the twists and turns this exchange took in the United States up to the recent American vogue of Jacques Lacan. While chronicling the contributions of feminism to the development of psychoanalysis, she also makes an intriguing case for the benefits psychoanalysis brought to feminism. From the first, American psychoanalysis became the property of freewheeling intellectuals and popularizers as well as trained analysts. Thus the cultural terrain that Buhle investigates is populated by literary critics, artists and filmmakers, historians, anthropologists, and sociologists—and the resulting psychoanalysis is not so much a strictly therapeutic theory as an immensely popular form of public discourse. She charts the history of feminism from the first wave in the 1910s to the second in the 1960s and into a variety of recent expressions. Where these paths meet, she see how the ideas of Freud and his followers helped further the real-life goals of a feminism that was a widespread social movement and not just an academic phenomenon. The marriage between psychoanalysis and feminism was not pure bliss, however, and Buhle documents the trying moments; most notably the “Momism” of the 1940s and 1950s, a remarkable instance of men blaming their failures of virility on women. An ambitious and highly engaging history of ideas, Feminism and Its Discontents brings together far-flung intellectual tendencies rarely seen in intimate relation to each other—and shows us a new way of seeing both. Table of Contents: Introduction Feminism, Freudianism, and Female Subjectivity Dissent in Freud's Ranks Culture and Feminine Personality Momism and the Flight from Manhood Ladies in the Dark Feminists versus Freud Feminine Self-in-Relation
A remarkable restatement of current positions within psychoanalysis and feminism, The Crisis in Patriarchal Authority In the Age of the Vanishing Subject Notes Acknowledgments Index Reviews of this book: Where some feminists have been hostile to psychoanalysis, and
some psychoanalysts have been hostile to feminism, Buhle, a MacArthur Fellow and professor at Brown University, finds them linked in their quest to understand selfhood, gender identity, family structures and sexual expressionFeminism and Its Discontents is an excellent guide to the history of these ideasThe struggles of feminism and psychoanalysis may be cyclical, but they are far from over, and far from dull. --Elaine Showalter, Washington Post Book World Reviews of this book: Buhle's project is to uncover the 'continual conversation' that feminism and
psychoanalysis have had with one another, to show how they are mutually constitutive. By charting the exchanges between psychoanalysis and feminism, Feminism and Its Discontents corrects the common impression that feminist criticisms fell on deaf, if not disinterested, ears. Buhle takes pains to detail how feminists and their opponents inside and outside psychoanalysis have set the terms for key debatesBuhle is an animated and engaged storyteller. The story she tells--covering nearly a century of the vicissitudes of psychoanalysis and feminism--is full of twists and turns, well-chosen anecdotes and occasional double-crosses. The cast of characters is inspiring, exasperating, remarkable, mercurial, colorful and sometimes slightly loony. Buhle draws them with sympathy and a keen eye for the evocative detailsBuhle writes with zest, touches of humor and energy. Her style is witty and readable, it is no mean feat to avoid ponderous
and technical language when writing about psychoanalysis, but she manages itAll told, psychoanalysis and feminism, sometimes in tandem and sometimes at arm's length, have made vital contributions to the question of female selfhood. The 'odd couple' of our century, they share a large part of the responsibility for our particular form of self-consciousness and for the meaning of individuality in modern society. Mari Jo Buhle deftly illuminates how together they advanced the ambiguous and radical project of modern selfhood. --Jeanne Marecek, Women's Review of Books Reviews of this book: Feminism and Its Discontents sets out to unravel the wondrously complex love-hate relationships between--and within--feminism and psychoanalysis, which it sees as the two most important movements of modernityThe twists and turns in this relationship highlight the continuous arguments around historical sexual difference and their entanglement in the messy conflicts in women's lives between motherhood and careers, self-realization and gender justiceBuhle leads her readers through the repeated battles over feminism, Freudianism and female subjectivity with exceptional clarity and care. Her book will serve as a reliable introduction for those who have scant knowledge of the historical ties binding feminism to psychoanalysis [and] is also useful for those who wish to remind themselves of what they thought they already knew, but may well have forgotten. --Lynn Segal, Radical Philosophy Reviews of this book: Feminism and Its Discontents adds a novel and welcome twist to [the Freud] conversation, the proposition that feminism was so central to Freud's Americanization that the quest for gender equality can be credited with turning psychoanalysis into what we imagine it always was: an enterprise centered on femininity and female sexuality[Buhle's] assertions are as enticing as they are controversialThe book [is] as relevant for students of feminist politics as for scholars interested in the history of psychoanalysis itself. --Ellen Herman, Journal of American History Reviews of this book: An exhaustively researched and accessibly written account of the intersections and collisions between [psychoanalysis and feminism]Buhle chronicles the gyrations of history and assesses how social theory influences culture and vice versa. The result is far-reaching, and she is at her best when reflecting on how the mainstream accommodates itself into this dialogueBuhle bases her intriguing and expansive historical study on the premise that feminism and psychoanalytic theory, each in its own way concerned with understanding the 'self,' developed in continuous dialogue with each other. The author's captivating, energetic writing style reflects the often spirited, surprisingly tenacious relationship of these two theories--from their emergence as 'unlikely bedpartners of Modernism'; through the shifting intellectual patterns of this century and the insidious mother-blaming of the '50s; to the contemporary twists and turns of subjectivity and selfhood. Combining thorough research and incisive analysis, Buhle examines the ongoing discourse among Freudian, new-Freudian, and feminist theorists throughout the century as well as the endless fascination of popular culture with the questions of biology versus culture, difference versus equality. A vital addition to both women's studies and psychology collections. --Grace Fill, Booklist Reviews of this book: Feminism and Its Discontents covers a dazzling spectrum of thinkers and polemists, ranging from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Barbara Ehrenreich, with admirable clarity and succinctness. [Buhle's] reach in terms of American [and French] classical, neo-, and post-Freudian writing by men and women on psychosexual development is equally impressiveFew scholars would attempt a comprehensive intellectual history on such a charged topic. Buhle has done so in this informative scholarly feat. --Kirkus Reviews Reviews of this book: Buhle has bridged the void between feminism and psychoanalysis with a historian's thorough and penetrating interpretation of theories and thoughts implicit in 20th-century liberation movements. The introduction is developed carefully and thoroughly documentedEach [chapter] is skillfully organized with extensive references and notes to motivate the astute scholarThere is no question that Buhle has adeptly used a multidisciplinary approach to present ideas and thoughts that give contemporary feminists and post-Freudians another opportunity for dialogue on the terms 'difference' and 'equality.' --G.M. Greenberg, Choice Feminism and psychoanalysis have each been defining moments of this now fading century, and in their tangled relations lie some of its main preoccupations. It takes a historian's eye to unravel this story, and one with the breadth, sympathy, insight, and wit of Mari Jo Buhle to do it justice. Feminism And Its Discontents will undoubtedly stand as the definitive study of the encounter between these two great movements. --Joel Kovel, Bard College, author of Red HuntIn this landmark collection of original essays, outstanding feminist critics in Britain, France, and the United States present new perspectives on feminism and psychoanalysis, opening out deadlocked debates. The discussion ranges widely, with contributions from feminists identified with different, often opposed views on psychoanalytic criticism. The contributors reassess the history of Lacanian psychoanalysis within psychoanalysis and feminism, and explore the significance of its institutional context. They write against the received views on 'French feminism' and essentialism. A remarkable restatement of current positions within psychoanalysis and feminism, the volume as a whole will change the terms of existing debates, and make its arguments and concerns more generally accessible.Incorporating autobiography as well as reflections on relations between mothers and daughters, psychoanalysis, feminist theorizing, race, and modernist political theories and philosophies, renowned feminist theorist Jane Flax brings together eight of her most recent essays in Disputed Subjects. Undisputedly required reading Lively, sophisticated, and challenging discussions at the crucial intersection of feminism, psychoanalytic, and political ideas. Jane Flax allows her own
multiple and conflicting identities into open dialogue, and the result is a profoundly rich and complex exploration of femininity, power, and desire in contemporary culture.

Women's Aggressive Fantasies offers a critical examination of the ways in which aggressive impulses are both repressed and redefined in the context of feminism and psychoanalysis. Through a detailed analysis of the relationship between these two fields, the book explores the ways in which women's aggression is both a byproduct of patriarchal society and a force for change. The book uses feminist and psychoanalytic theory to provide a comprehensive understanding of the complex dynamics at play in contemporary society.

A unique and groundbreaking text, Women's Aggressive Fantasies is essential reading for anyone interested in the intersection of feminism and psychoanalysis, and for those who wish to rethink the ways in which we understand women's aggression.
for scholars and students in the fields of feminist criticism, psychoanalytic and literary theory, and Renaissance studies, and for anyone interested in Western cultural history. In Fair Sex, Savage Dreams Jean Walton examines the work of early feminist psychoanalytic writing to decipher in it the unacknowledged yet foundational role of race. Focusing on the 1920s and 1930s, a time when white women were actively refashioning Freud's problematic accounts of sexual subjectivity, Walton rereads in particular the writing of British analysts Joan Riviere and Melanie Klein, modernist poet H.D., the eccentric French analyst Marie Bonaparte, and anthropologist Margaret Mead. Charting the fantasies of racial difference in these women's writings, Walton establishes that race—particularly during this period—was inseparable from accounts of gender and sexuality. While arguing that these women remained notably oblivious to the racial meanings embedded in their own attempts to rearticulate feminine sexuality, Walton uses these very blindspots to understand how race and sex are deeply imbricated in the constitution of subjectivity. Challenging the notion that subjects acquire gender identities in isolation from racial ones, she thus demonstrates how white-centered psychoanalytic theories have formed the basis for more contemporary feminist and queer explorations of fantasy, desire, power, and subjectivity. Fair Sex, Savage Dreams will appeal to scholars of psychoanalysis, literary and cinematic modernism, race studies, queer theory, feminist theory, and anthropology."

"This brilliant and timely collection takes us far in documenting the complex intrapsychic worlds and intersubjective relations of race, gender, and culture. Questions concerning how race and ethnicity create and refract unconscious fantasy and self-construction must be at the forefront of contemporary psychoanalytic thinking."—Nancy J. Chodorow, author of The Reproduction of Mothering...

"Bold. Daring. Provocative. This collection of essays emphatically demonstrates that rhetorical meaning, constituted in the text and the world, evolves from mediations of the psychical and the material, the personal and the social. The critical models displayed so forcefully here will not only influence psychoanalytic and feminist discourses but literary and cultural studies as well."—Claudia Tate, George Washington University