

# Inner Experience Georges Bataille

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*Inner Experience  
Georges Bataille*

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## ROSS JAQUAN

Key Concepts SAGE Publications Limited  
An elegant introduction to Bataille's major concepts and concerns, *Bataille: A Critical Reader* underlines the powerful impact his work has had, in different ways, on an entire generation of thinkers.

**Georges Bataille and Virulent Nihilism**  
Penguin UK

A librarian, pornographer and fervent Catholic who came to regard the brothels of Paris as his true 'churches', George Bataille ranks among the boldest and most disturbing of twentieth-century thinkers. Although published at the start of the 'sexual revolution', *Eroticism* (1857) totally rejects the gospel of 'liberation'. Everywhere, it argues, sex is surrounded by taboos, and everywhere we transgress against them in our desperation to overcome an agonizing sense of separation from other people. In developing this central theme, Bataille offers a dazzling array of insights into incest, prostitution, marriage, murder, sadism, sacrifice and the violence at the heart of religious ritual. The result is one of the strangest and most compelling books ever written about sex.

Marion Boyars

An important literary and philosophical figure, Georges Bataille has had a significant influence on other French writers, such as Foucault, Derrida and Baudrillard. *The Thirst for Annihilation* is the first book in English to respond to Bataille's writings. In no way, though, is Nick Land's book an attempt to appropriate Bataille's writings to a secular intelligibility or to compromise with the aridity of academic discourse - rather, it is written as a communion. Theoretical issues in philosophy, sociology, psychodynamics, politics and poetry are discussed, but only as stepping stones into the deep water of textual sacrifice where words pass over into the broken voice of death. Cultural modernity is diagnosed

down to its Kantian bedrock with its transcendental philosophy of the object, but Bataille's writings cut violently across this tightly disciplined reading to reveal the strong underlying currents that bear us towards chaos and dissolution - the violent impulse to escape, the thirst for annihilation.

*Georges Bataille* Reaktion Books  
Presents a new window into the literary, philosophical, and theological concerns of this enigmatic thinker and writer.

**Guilty** Routledge

Mysticism, Connor argues, lies at the heart of Bataille's double identity as an intellectual and as a kind of anarchic prophet.

Core Cultural Theorist SUNY Press

Author of the obscene narrative *Story of the Eye* and of works of heretical philosophy such as *Inner Experience*, Georges Bataille (1897-1962) is one of the most powerful and secretly influential French thinkers of the last century. His work is driven by a compulsion to communicate an experience which exceeds the limits of communicative exchange, and also constitutes a sustained focus on the nature of this compulsion. After Bataille takes this sense of compulsion as its motive and traces it across different figures in Bataille's thought, from an obsession with the thematics and the event of sacrifice, through the exposure of being and of the subject, to the necessary relation to others in friendship and in community. In each of these instances After Bataille is distinctive in staging a series of encounters between Bataille, his contemporaries, and critics and theorists who extend or engage with his legacy. It thus offers a vital account of the place of Bataille in contemporary thought.

**The Writings of Georges Bataille** SUNY Press

Since the publication in France of his *Oeuvres Complètes* in the mid-1970s, the breadth of Bataille's writing and influence has become increasingly apparent across the disciplines in, for example, the fields of

literature, art, art history, philosophy, critical theory, sociology, economics, and anthropology.

The Subject of Philosophy Duke University Press

Outlines a mystical theology and experience of the sacred founded on the absence of god. Originally published in 1943, *Inner Experience* is the single most significant work by one of the twentieth century's most influential writers. It outlines a mystical theology and experience of the sacred founded on the absence of god. Bataille calls *Inner Experience* a "narrative of despair," but also describes it as a book wherein "profundity and passion go tenderly hand in hand." Herein, he says, "The mind moves in a strange world where anguish and ecstasy take shape." Bataille's search for experience begins where religion, philosophy, science, and literature leave off, where doctrines, dogmas, methods, and the arts collapse. His method of meditation, outlined and documented here, commingles horror and delight. Laughter, intoxication, eroticism, poetry, and sacrifice are pursued not as ends in and of themselves but as means of access to a sovereign realm of inner experience. This new translation is the first to include *Method of Meditation and Post-Scriptum* 1953, the supplementary texts Bataille added to create the first volume of his *Summa Atheologica*. This edition also offers the full notes and annotations from the French edition of Bataille's *Oeuvres Complètes*, along with an incisive introductory essay by Stuart Kendall that situates the work historically, biographically, and philosophically.

**Blue of Noon** Wiley-Blackwell

Georges Bataille (1897-1962) was an essayist, poet, novelist and philosopher of excess. His philosophy emerges from the aesthetic avant-garde of the 1920s and 30s, when he was associated with the surrealist movement, and has since been explored by the major figures of poststructuralism and postmodernism. His classic works include *The Story of the Eye*

and *The Accursed Share*. On Nietzsche takes up Nietzschean thought where Nietzsche left off - with the Death of God. Written against the backdrop of Germany under the Third Reich, the book explores the possibility of a spiritual life outside religion. In so doing it weaves an astonishing tapestry of confession, theology, philosophy, myth and eroticism - all shot through with the images of war. Translated by Bruce Boone Introduced by Sylvère Lotringer

[The Poetry of Georges Bataille](#) MIT Press  
A radically interdisciplinary inquiry into the origins of human

consciousness, community, and potential. [Georges Bataille](#) Penguin Modern Classics  
Drawings by one of the twentieth century's most intellectually challenging artists.

**The Accursed Share** U of Minnesota Press

Long recognized in France as a central figure in French cultural thought, the range and significance of Bataille's ideas are now being grasped in the English speaking world. His influence on Derrida, Foucault, Kristeva and Baudrillard is now more clearly understood and Bataille has emerged as a front-rank cultural theorist who posed questions and paradoxes that were extraordinarily prescient. This book offers a comprehensive and detailed presentation and analysis of the full range of his writings - political, philosophical, aesthetic, literary, anthropological and cultural. And tackles his thoughts on waste, sacrifice, death, eroticism, surplus, ecstasy and drunkenness, offering the best available guide to this challenging *Philosophizing Madness from Nietzsche to Derrida* Oxford University Press

Having spent the early thirties in far-left groups opposing Fascism, in 1937 Georges Bataille abandoned this approach so as to transfer the struggle onto the mythological plane, founding two groups with this aim in mind. The College of Sociology gave lectures attended by major figures from the Parisian intelligentsia - intended to reveal the hidden undercurrents within a society that appeared to be bordering on collapse. The texts in this book comprise lectures given to the College; essays from the *Acephale* journal and a large cache of the internal papers of the secret society of *Acephale*.

[Georges Bataille](#) Rodopi

"Throughout history, humans have always been fascinated by drugs and altered states. Despite the risk of addiction, many have used drugs as technologies to induce moments of meaning-making transcendence. This book traces the quest

for transcendence and meaning through drugs in the modern West. Starting with the Romantic fascination with opium, it goes on to chronicle the discovery of anesthetics, psychiatric and religious interest in hashish, the bewitching power of mescaline and hallucinogenic fungi, as well as the more recent uses of LSD. It fills a major gap in our understanding of contemporary alternative and in the study of countercultures and popular culture. Today we are seeing increased social and scientific attention to both the positive and the negative effects of psychoactive drugs, particularly following the legalization of marijuana for medicinal and/or recreational use in some US states, as well as court cases involving the sacramental use of drugs. This fascinating and wide-ranging exploration of the controversial relationship between drugs and spirituality could not be more timely." [source : éditeur].

**After Bataille** Pluto Press

Keuze uit het werk van de Franse filosoof (1897-1962).

[Bataille, Baudrillard, and Lyotard](#) Fordham Univ Press

Translated by Krzysztof Filjalkowski and Michael Richardson Winner of the 1987 Prix Goncourt for Biography Georges Bataille (1897-1962), philosopher, writer and founder of the influential literary review *Critique*, had an enormous impact on the thinking of Foucault, Derrida and Baudrillard, and his ideas have been the subjects of recent debates in a wide range of disciplines. In this acclaimed intellectual biography Michel Surya enters into a complicity with Bataille's oeuvre to provide a detailed exposition of its themes as they developed against the backdrop of his life. The essence of Bataille's life and work were defined by transience and effacement, reflecting a will both to contest the impermanence of things and to confront death. His troubled childhood, his relationships with surrealism and his paradoxical position at the heart of twentieth-century French thought are enriched here with testimonies from Bataille's closest acquaintances, making this a vivid and detailed study. Revealing the contexts in which he worked, and the ways in which his work and ideas took shape, Surya sheds essential light on a figure Foucault described as "one of the most important writers of the century." *A Study of Eroticism and the Taboo* SAGE  
Over the past 30 years the writings of Georges Bataille have had a profound influence on French intellectual thought,

informing the work of Foucault, Derrida, and Barthes, among others. *Against Architecture* offers the first serious interpretation of this challenging thinker, spelling out the profoundly original and radical nature of Bataille's work.

**High Culture** Routledge

"... brilliantly original ... brings cultural and post-colonial theory to bear on a wide range of authors with great skill and sensitivity." Terry Eagleton

[After Bataille](#) Verso

This is the first book in English to offer an accessible introduction to the work of Georges Bataille, recognized as one of the most important thinkers of the 20th century. Bataille developed a complex philosophy based upon an examination of the interplay between death and eroticism. For him, eroticism was the foundation of human experience and provided sharp insight into the basis of human society and the individual's response to society. The theories of Bataille, although largely neglected during his lifetime, have grown in influence during the last 30 years--first in France and more recently in Britain and the US, where they have often been associated with the rise of post-structuralism and postmodernism.

**The Obsessions of Georges Bataille**

Inner Experience

In *Heterology and the Postmodern*, Julian Pefanis presents a new view of the history of poststructuralism (heterology) and the origins of postmodernism by analyzing three important French theorists, Georges Bataille, Jean Baudrillard, and Jean-François Lyotard. Beginning with the introduction of Hegel in French postmodernist thought—largely but not exclusively through the thought of Georges Bataille—Pefanis argues that the core problematics of postmodern aesthetics—history, exchange, representation, and writing—are related to Bataille's reconceptualization of the Hegelian framework. Pefanis explores how Bataille was influenced by Hegel, Marcel Mauss, Freud, and Nietzsche, and traces the effects of this influence on the analyses and critiques of later postmodernists, most notably Lyotard and Baudrillard. Finally, employing these postmodernists along with Freud and Jacques Lacan, Pefanis discusses discourse on postmodernism and its relation to Freud's concept of the death drive. This intellectual history makes valuable contributions to the debates over what the "postmodern" may mean for intellectual and political activity.