



Speculum of the Other Woman

By Luce Irigaray

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Speculum of the Other Woman By Luce Irigaray

Speculum of the Other Woman by Luce Irigaray is incontestably one of the most important works in feminist theory to have been published in this generation. For the profession of psychoanalysis, Irigaray believes, female sexuality has remained a "dark continent," unfathomable and unapproachable; its nature can only be misunderstood by those who continue to regard women in masculine terms. In the first section of the book, "The Blind Spot of an Old Dream of Symmetry," Irigaray rereads Freud's essay "Femininity," and his other writings on women, bringing to the fore the masculine ideology implicit in psychoanalytic theory and in Western discourse in general: woman is defined as a disadvantaged man, a male construct with no status of her own.

In the last section, "Plato's Hystera," Irigaray reinterprets Plato's myth of the cave, of the womb, in an attempt to discover the origins of that ideology, to ascertain precisely the way in which metaphors were fathered that henceforth became vehicles of meaning, to trace how woman came to be excluded from the production of discourse. Between these two sections is "Speculum" ten meditative, widely ranging, and freely associational essays, each concerned with an aspect of the history of Western philosophy in its relation to woman, in which Irigaray explores woman's essential difference from man.

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Editorial Review

Review

"*Speculum of the Other Woman* is a major text in the post-1968 feminist inquiry in France. It will be of interest to feminists, psychoanalysts, philosophers, and literary critics. There is no other text that attempts to do readings of major texts within the Western philosophical tradition using Lacanian, Derridean, and feminist tools. Gillian C. Gill offers a remarkable performance in translating without betraying a very challenging text."?Elaine Marks

Language Notes

Text: English, French (translation)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kim Bartlett:

This *Speculum of the Other Woman* book is just not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This kind of *Speculum of the Other Woman* without we understand teach the one who reading it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't end up being worry *Speculum of the Other Woman* can bring whenever you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even telephone. This *Speculum of the Other Woman* having good arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Alla Haynes:

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