
General news.

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

GENERAL NEWS

New formula for the newsletter

To improve the process of distributing information, PACS decided to slightly change the newsletter formula. Since the 2012 edition the newsletter covers information from the last calendar year. This means that, exceptionally, in some parts of the current issue, the newsletter repeats the information published in the previous one. In those cases only basic information is provided.



Towards Critical Multiculturalism / Vers un multiculturalisme critique



The publication *Towards Critical Multiculturalism: Dialogues Between / Among Canadian Diasporas/ Vers un multiculturalisme critique : dialogues entre les diasporas* edited by Ewelina Bujnowska, Marcin Gabryś, Tomasz Sikora addresses the issue of multiculturalism from a variety of critical and transdiasporic perspectives. In Canada multiculturalism situates itself in the center of public debate and is one of Canadian government's priorities, but the issue is increasingly relevant across countries and continents. The book comprises 28 interdisciplinary articles divided into several sections.

Over the past two decades or so the idea of "multiculturalism" has become a central, if by now somewhat worn-out, term in Canada for self-definition. It has penetrated deep into many areas of Canadian life, including political and legal philosophy, governmental policies, institutional operations, cultural and literary representation, academic research, all the way down to the life arrangements of individual citizens and the way they relate to other individuals, groups and commu-



nities. [...] It is often the case, however, that a concept's moment of glory hosts the germs of that very concept's undoing (or at least, its fundamental redoing). [...] When by the late 1980s/early 1990s the idea of multiculturalism (based firmly on identity politics) seemed to finally triumph after a long and winding path to practical implementation, opposing visions were quickly gaining ground. The 1990s brought an exponentially growing number of critiques of "liberal multiculturalism" and by the end of the decade the term "critical multiculturalism" entered academic vocabulary. [...] Multiculturalism came under attack from radical left positions for abandoning its earlier agenda of social and economic equity and its subsequent complicity with the neo-liberal project. More on the conservative side of the debate, multicultural politics was accused of promoting identitarian separatism and the dictate of "political

correctness." [...] Undoubtedly, there are many problems and challenges that the politics of multiculturalism has not successfully dealt with, such as the failures to integrate "visible minorities." None the less, the editors of this volume believe that multiculturalism has helped Canada to avoid unrest and violent cultural conflict, experienced recently by many European countries. And the surveys still demonstrate, despite theorists' critiques, that a majority of Canadians are reluctant to give up the label of multiculturalism. If critical multiculturalism is taken to stand for the critical imperative to challenge hegemonies and acknowledge difference without fixing it or containing its transformative potential; if, furthermore, it remains dedicated to issues of social and economic justice, then the editors of this book consider it a still viable and even necessary project.

(From the Introduction)

