

English abstracts 32 (2015): 3

Markku Nivalainen, The possibility of critique of the contemporary. Ethics and aesthetics in Theodor Adorno's philosophy of culture

The persistence of modernism as an object of critical scrutiny hints at the easily forgotten affinity between the postmodern present and the modern past. Modernism brings together questions regarding history, society, and art in a way that allows us to approach ethics, aesthetics, and politics as intrinsically interconnected phenomena. In the prevailing cultural situation, which is defined by fragmentation, a critical cultural philosophy inspired by both aesthetic modernism and the related discussions is able to provide us with a way to analyse the whole of our cultural condition. In this article, the field of problems is approached from the point of view of Theodor W. Adorno's aesthetic criticism, which allows us to analyse the ideological construction of postmodern cultural, societal and political formations from a strong ethical position.

Kai Åberg, Finnish Roma and music. Stereotypes of gypsies and self-irony

In this article focusing on the music presented by the Finnish Roma the writer reflects on the question of how the main population creates "Gypsy stereotypes", connected with music, based on a particular interest at a particular point in time, that seem independent of the type or genre of the music. In line with what Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann have emphasised in their book *The Social Construction of Reality* (1966), the construction of musical stereotypes of Roma shows how every community or society arranges their reality. This is not just a historical result, but the constructions are also linked with the power relations between societies and communities. The observations made in this study are not limited to just the interactions taking place between the Finnish Roma and the main population, but the way that the stereotypes appear in the music is also discussed as part of a larger context.