



Periodizing Jameson : Dialectics, the University, and the Desire for Narrative

Phillip E. Wegner, Other Judith Butler, Other Catherine Gallagher, Other Edward Dimendberg, Other Ali Behdad, Other Jody Greene, Other Susan Gillman, Other Richard Terdiman



For a half century, the American intellectual Fredric Jameson has been a driving force in literary and cultural theory. In *Periodizing Jameson*, Phillip E. Wegner builds upon Jameson's unique dialectical method to demonstrate the value of Jameson's tools--periodization, the fourfold hermeneutic, and the Greimasian semiotic square, among others--and to develop virtuoso readings of Jameson's own work and the history of the contemporary American university in which it unfolds. Wegner shows how Jameson's work intervenes in particular social, cultural, and political situations, using his scholarship both to develop original explorations of nineteenth-century fiction, popular films, and other prominent theorists, and to examine the changing fortunes of theory itself. In this way, *Periodizing Jameson* casts new light on the potential of and challenges to humanist intellectual work in the present.

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