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NEW

## Postmodern Spiritual Practices

The Construction of the Subject and the Reception of Plato in Lacan, Derrida, and Foucault

Paul Allen Miller

This book argues that a key element of postmodern French intellectual life has been the reception of Plato, a fact which has gone underappreciated in the Anglophone world due to a fundamental division in culture. Until very recently, the concerns of academic philosophy and philology have had little in common. On the one hand, analytic philosophy has confined itself to questions of epistemology, speech act theory, and philosophy of science. On the other hand, few classicists have ventured beyond the model of nineteenth-century *Altertumswissenschaft* to make forays into philosophical, psychoanalytical, and other speculative modes of inquiry. The result has been that postmodern French thought has largely been the province of scholars of modern languages.

A situation thus emerges in which most classicists do not know theory, and so cannot appreciate the scope of Lacan's, Derrida's, and Foucault's contribution to our understanding of the genealogy of Western thought, while most theorists do not know the Platonic texts and the concerns that ground them. This book bridges this gap, offering detailed and theoretically informed readings of French postmodernism's chief thinkers' debts to Plato and the ancient world.

**Paul Allen Miller** is Carolina Distinguished Professor of Classics and Comparative Literature at the University of South Carolina.

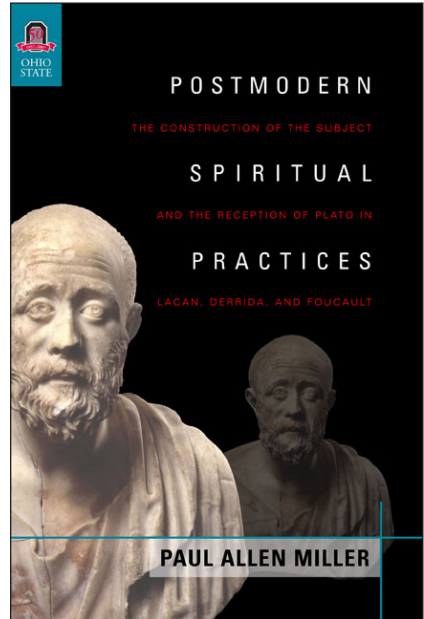
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Classical Memories/Modern Identities

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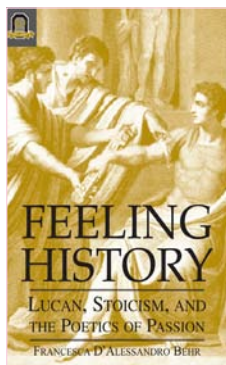
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Francesca D'Alessandro Behr

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"This book is a well-researched discussion of Lucan's extremely challenging poem on the Civil war between Caesar and Pompey. Working from a fine-grained analysis of one formal aspect of the poem, Lucan's use of the literary trope of apostrophe, the author goes on to investigate what the use of apostrophe might indicate about the philosophical outlook of Lucan's dark picture of the Civil War and the Empire that grew out of it."  
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**Francesca D'Alessandro Behr** is associate professor of classics and Italian studies at the University of Houston.

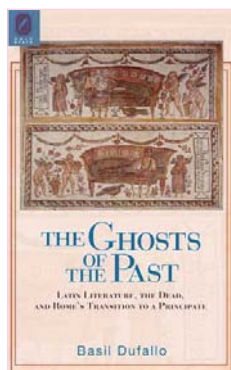
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**Basil Dufallo** is assistant professor of Greek and Latin and comparative literature at the University of Michigan.

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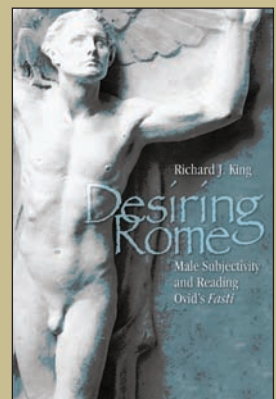
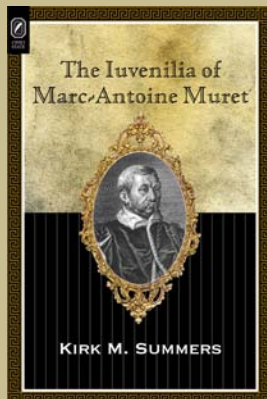
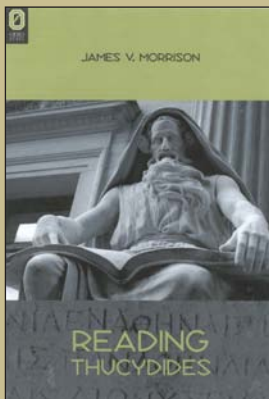
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