

CONTENTS

List of Abbreviations xiii

INTRODUCTION: ON THE NECESSITY OF THE DEED 1

1. EXCESSIVE SUBJECTIVITY AND THE PARADOX OF AUTONOMY AS ITS PREREQUISITE 17

2. KANT: THE SPLIT SUBJECT OF ETHICAL AGENCY 29

Kant and Kantianism	29
Of Disposition and Revolution	39
Disposition as “Subjective Ground” for a “Propensity Toward Evil”	42
Disposition and Its Spontaneity	44
The Revolution of Disposition in Ethical Borderline Situations	46
Form <i>Forming Itself</i> : The Categorical Imperative	49
Talent as the “Excess” of the Power of Judgment	56
Kant and “Inferential” Kantianism: McDowell and Brandom	60
The Forced Choice of Moral Obligation	64
Kant’s Critique of Inferentialism	69

The Irresponsible Immaturity for Which Responsibility Needs to Be Taken	82
<i>Habitus Libertatis</i> : Change of Disposition and Gesture	83
Kant's Doctrine of Virtue	88
Ends-Driven Duties of Virtue	90
3. HEGEL: THE SPLIT ETHICAL LIFE AND THE SUBJECT	94
Hegel vs. Kant?	100
The Deed as a Breaking Out of Undefined Interiority	103
The Revolution of Disposition and Social Space	108
Hegel's Antigone: The Tragic vs. Tragedy	110
Antigone's Act	113
The Tragic and Tragedy in the Context of Knowledge and Truth	118
The Rationale That Will Have Actualized Itself	122
Hegel and Conscience	127
Socrates's Conscience	129
The Universal and the Particular	136
Madness and Disasociability of the Human Soul	140
4. LACAN: SUBJECTIVITY AND THE AUTONOMINAL FORCE OF LAWGIVING	148
Metapsychology and Its Political Dimensions	148
Kant and Hegel in Lacan's Theory of the Law	155
Origins: Freud's Pleasure Coordinates of Appellation	159
The Subject, His Subjectivization, and the Sublime Signifier	164
Signifiers and the "Force of Law"	181
Antigone, Rosa Parks, and the "Discourse of the Hysteric"	184
The Subject's Self-Designation out of Her Void (Lacan on Russell and Frege)	193
There Is No Metalanguage	200
Language as Event of the Unconscious	204
Imperatives	207
Phantasmatically Fending Off Appellation	212
"Traversing the Fantasy"	214

CONTENTS XI

Unrepresented Signifiers	219
“The Unleashing of the Signifiers”	223
Validity Without Meaning	228
On the Paradox of Excessive Authority	232
“Je Dis Toujours la Vérité!”	241

<i>Notes</i>	247
<i>Bibliography</i>	313
<i>Index</i>	337

