

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 *Forming Itself*: 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

Notes 247

Bibliography 313

Index 337

