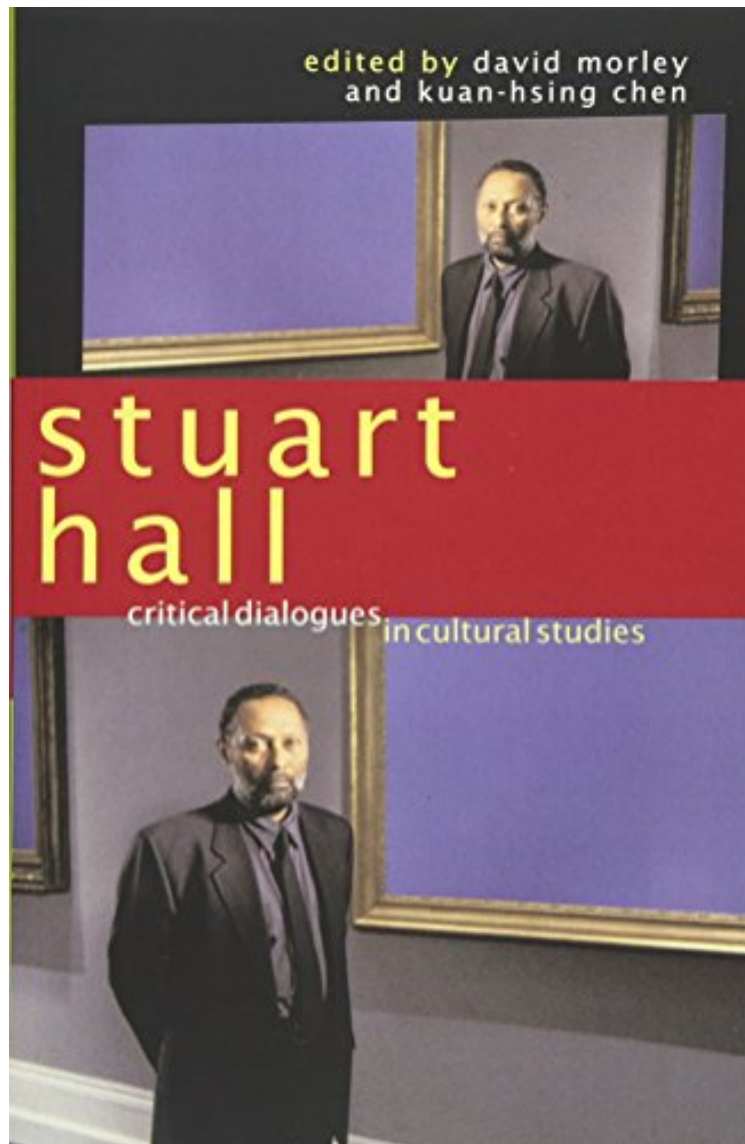


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Stuart Hall: Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies (Comedia)

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#586104 in Books Dave Morley 1996-03-02 1996-02-08 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.21 x 1.21 x 6.14l, 1.56 #File Name: 0415088046544 pages Stuart Hall Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies | File size: 15.Mb

From Dave Morley : Stuart Hall: Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies (Comedia) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stuart Hall: Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies (Comedia):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. In Shouting Distance from Marxism By Ulrich Gdhler This huge 1996 anthology contains seven papers by Stuart Hall, three interview and sixteen papers by the most famous former

scholars of the Birmingham cultural studies centre. It documents Stuart Hall's continuing reflection of changes in the political and cultural environment in the 1980s and 1990s, such as Thatcherism, Feminism, Post-Modernism and Post-Structuralism, Post-Colonialism and Post-Marxism. Stuart Hall preferred collective projects to academic fame. He preferred short papers to voluminous books. Most of his papers are very pedagogical and lack any gobbledegook. Hall was an integrating character and he often prefers fair balance of arguments instead of theoretical originality. He was strongly influenced by Louis Althusser's theory of interpellation but searched for middle ways between Structuralist determinism and individual agency. Hall uses the works of Gramsci to find such a middle way. The anthology contains an introduction into the theoretical work of Antonio Gramsci which is worth reading. I was looking for insight concerning the relationship between Stuart Hall and Marxism. In Marx the proletariat appears in two different meanings. In the *Kapital* the proletariat consists of those who are forced to sell their workforce. In this sense the proletariat has been growing. In the second meaning the *Arbeiterklasse* was identified with the social and cultural phenomenon of the workers in factory work and industrialism. In this sense the working class has been weakened in Europe and the US due to global division of labour and cybernetic automation. Stuart Hall is very explicit (page 498) that Richard Hoggart, Raymond Williams and he were interested in class in the second sense. There is no discussion of the *Kapital* and the contradictions of capitalism in the entire anthology. Hall starts to question the centrality of class and says that class, gender and race are equivalent. There are no answers to the question of how the new proletariat looks like under the conditions of 21st century capitalism. The word dialectic doesn't appear in the index. Actually Marxist analyses typically differ from mainstream cultural studies by the focus on systemic contradictions and dialectics. Cultural Studies were first ingrained in British literary studies, acquired structuralism and then an Althusserian Structuralist Marxism before the post-structuralist turn. Hall explicitly says that cultural studies work in shouting distance from Marxism. I find a certain Anglo-centric view in this anthology. I was surprised by the lack of theoretical dispute with Adorno and Lukacs. There is no discussion of commodity fetishism and commodification, two key concepts in a Marxist approach to culture. Hall and his fellow Cultural Studies scholars in this anthology ritually caution against a mechanistic and reductionist Marxism. Unfortunately Hall doesn't mention the culprit. Only once he mentions Nikolai Bukharin's 1920 book on historic materialism. But even Lenin criticized this introduction because of the lack of dialectics. So who is the culprit? I adore the tradition of Marxist historiography in Britain and I would defend Christopher Hill, Rodney Hilton and Edward P. Thompson against the accusation of reductionism and mechanistic thinking. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A classic reference. By ceebee Hall's recent death brings back to light all of his fabulous work, both in his words and those of others. He will be a pivotal force in numerous disciplines for years to come, not the least of which because he had the courage to investigate everyday life as it is lived by the most of us. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good, but dense. By Danielle Cockburn Covers a lot of important and interesting topics. Format was as expected. The content was a bit heavy on the "scholastic babble", and a lot of my classmates found it somewhat unapproachable as a result.

Stuart Hall's work has been central to the formation and development of cultural studies as an international discipline. *Stuart Hall: Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies* is an invaluable collection of writings by and about Stuart Hall. The book provides a representative selection of Hall's enormously influential writings on cultural studies and its concerns: the relationship with Marxism; postmodernism and 'New Times' in cultural and political thought; the development of cultural studies as an international and postcolonial phenomenon, and Hall's engagement with urgent and abiding questions of 'race', ethnicity and identity. In addition to presenting classic writings by Hall and new interviews with Hall in dialogue with Kuan-Hsing Chen, the collection, which includes work by Angela McRobbie, Kobena Mercer, John Fiske, Charlotte Brunsdon, Ien Ang and Isaac Julien, provides a detailed analysis of Hall's work and his contribution to the development of cultural studies by leading cultural critics and cultural practitioners. The book also includes a comprehensive bibliography of Stuart Hall's writings.

From the Back Cover This book provides a representative selection of Hall's enormously influential writings on Cultural Studies and its concerns: the relationship with Marxism; Postmodernism and 'New Times' in cultural and political thought; the development of Cultural Studies as an international and postcolonial phenomenon and Hall's engagement with urgent and abiding questions of 'race', ethnicity and identity. About the Author David Morley is Reader in Media Studies at Goldsmiths' College, London. Kuan-Hsing Chen is Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Literature, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan.