

The Dialectics of Late Capital and Power

James, Balzac and Critical Theory

Erik S. Roraback

This essay offers up a provocative new theoretical tack on the topic area of the dialectic of capital, the dialectic of cruelty, and the dialectic of power and of their intricate and self-differential inter-relationships and forms of being, under late capitalism, as delineated in selected narratives of two major Occidental novelists, Henry James and his key paper friend, Honoré de Balzac; it does so from a genuinely inter-disciplinary perspective that draws from heterogeneous waves of critical theory broadly conceived, having thus something to say to contemporary culture both of general and of academic interest alike.

“This book makes fascinating and long-overdue connections between Balzac’s and Henry James’s literary

treatment of money - money both as an economic fact and as a metaphor and symbol. Dr Roraback’s astute analysis is pioneering, and should be read by all experts on these two authors as well as by anyone who has an interest in the post-1800 novel”.

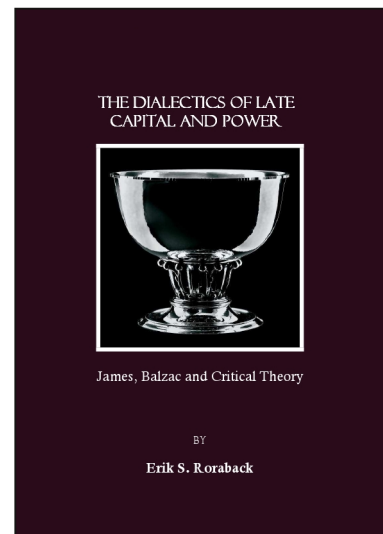
Alison Finch

Professor and Senior Research Fellow, Churchill College, University of Cambridge

Erik Sherman Roraback teaches critical theory, international cinema and U.S. literature in Charles University (est. 1348) and in F.A.M.U. (The Academy of Performing Arts, Film and TV School) at Prague. He holds degrees from the University of Oxford (D.Phil.) and from Pomona College (B.A.).

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