Books Recommended

Culture and Art.
Selected Writings, Volume 1

Zygmunt Bauman, Dariusz Brzeziński, Thomas C. Campbell, Mark E. Davis, Jack Palmer

Translated by Katarzyna Bartoszyńska


The sociological imagination and the artistic imagination have been historically intertwined, at once reciprocal and conflicting, complementary and tensional. This connection is nowhere more apparent than in the work of Zygmunt Bauman. His conception and practice of sociology were always infused with a literary and artistic sensibility. He wrote extensively on the relationship between sociology and the arts, and especially on sociology and literature; he frequently drew on literary writers in his exploration and elucidation of sociological problems; and he was an avid and passionate consumer and practitioner of art, especially film and photography.

This volume brings together hitherto unknown or rare pieces by Bauman on the themes of culture and art, including previously unpublished material from the Bauman Archive at the University of Leeds. A substantial introduction by the editors provides readers with a lucid guide through this material and develops connections to Bauman’s other works.

The first volume in a series of books that will make available the lesser-known writings of one of the most influential social thinkers of our time, Culture and Art will be of interest to students and scholars across the arts, humanities and social sciences, and to a wider readership.

Reviews:

‘Zygmunt Bauman’s work on culture and art is important in aiding our understanding of the origins of his best-known ideas, as well as in offering a plethora of new ones. They all have great implications for understanding the social world.’

George Ritzer, University of Maryland

‘A set of beguiling essays. Bauman’s ideas remain fresh and remarkably stimulating. He teases out the cultural contradictions of the late modern age with extraordinary delicacy.’

Anthony Elliott, University of South Australia
This monograph is the first book in medical sociology that comprehensively describes the research conceptions of the co-founder of the European medical sociology, Professor Magdalena Sokołowska (1922–1989). The study characterizes the stages of formation of the scientific foundations of medical sociology in Europe: the evolution of approach to the phenomena of health and illness from the medical to sociological perspective, the development of feminist studies in medical sociology, the emergence of scientific identity of the subdiscipline, models of interdisciplinary studies on health, and research into complementary and alternative medicine.