

The Laugh of the Medusa

By: Helene Cixous



Review by Edward C. (Bernicovic) Burns
and
Erica Leigh Penoyer Lange

The Laugh Of The Medusa By Hlne Cixous

Heather Fraser



The Laugh Of The Medusa By Helene Cixous:

The Routledge Language and Cultural Theory Reader Lucy Burke, Tony Crowley, Alan Girvin, 2000 This is a core introduction to the most innovative and influential writings to have shaped and defined the relations between language culture and cultural identity

Literary Theory: A Guide for the Perplexed Mary Klages, 2006-01-01 This Guide introduces theory in a clear accessible way focusing on the major approaches and theorists

The Politics of the Essay Ruth-Ellen B. Joeres, Elizabeth Mittman, 1993-08-22 The Politics of the Essay is that rare scholarly work that provides both a history of this relatively new field and of its formal characteristics and inspires its readers to want to participate in the making of this history

Signs The first in depth study of the relationship between women and essays Employing gender race class and national identity as axes of analysis this volume introduces new perspectives into what has been a largely apolitical discussion of the essay Includes an original essay by Susan Griffin

The concept of Ecriture Feminine in Helene Cixous's "The Laugh of the Medusa" Simon Wortmann, 2013-04-15 Essay from the year 2012 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies Literature grade 1 7 Christian Albrechts University of Kiel language English abstract In the year 1975 the French feminist author Helene Cixous published an essay called The Laugh of the Medusa In it she develops an entirely new theoretical concept with the aim of giving rise to feminist voice The central ideas of Ecriture Feminine literally women s writing are going to be presented in this paper In the first part a brief description of Cixous s intellectual milieu is given in order to show the actual reason that led her to come up with a new notion of liberating women from patriarchy In this context an elaboration on poststructuralism the philosophical current Cixous belonged to follows Closely related to that is the authors skepticism towards Sigmund Freud s language philosophy Specifically speaking Freud s statements on the penis envy theory Primary attention is paid to the theory of phallocentrism which can be seen as one of the main reasons for Cixous s writings For a better understanding of this term the concept of logocentrism is also explained as well Logocentrism can be seen as a pillar of the theory of phallocentrism and therefore it deserves to be mentioned at this point In the second part we deal with the question of what is actually meant by women s writing Furthermore we will analyze which role the female body and sexuality plays in this context This excursion is highly interesting as it is crucial for the understanding of her concept Since the female body is considered a key for women to resist masculinist thinking and hence the systematic repression of women Apart from that we try to show whether features of Ecriture Feminine are evident in the The Laugh of the Medusa Moreover a different viewpoint on Cixous s theory is shown in the chapter Criticism in which arguments for and against her theory are shown In point five Conclusion the main aspects of this paper are summed up When writing this paper the main source of information were essays on women s writing and French feminist writing dating from 1987 to 1986 Besides secondary literature on literary and cultural theory as well as feminist practice and poststructuralist theory were used Recent research on Cixous s work however could not be found The only source dealing particularly with her writings

dates from 1991 Hélène Cixous Lee A. Jacobus, Regina Barreca, 1999 Adapted from a special issue of Literature Interpretation Theory this book explores one of the most significant voices in contemporary literature approaching Cixous from the perspectives of feminist theory materialist criticism biographical criticism and reader response methodologies

The Columbia History of Twentieth-century French Thought Lawrence D. Kritzman, Brian J. Reilly, M. B. DeBevoise, 2006 This valuable reference is an authoritative guide to 20th century French thought It considers the intellectual figures movements and publications that helped define fields as diverse as history psychoanalysis film philosophy and economics

The Concept of Ecriture Feminine in Helene Cixous's "The Laugh of the Medusa" Simon Wortmann, 2013-04-16 Essay from the year 2012 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies Literature grade 17 Christian Albrechts University of Kiel language English abstract In the year 1975 the French feminist author Helene Cixous published an essay called The Laugh of the Medusa In it she develops an entirely new theoretical concept with the aim of giving rise to feminist voice The central ideas of Ecriture Feminine literally women's writing are going to be presented in this paper In the first part a brief description of Cixous's intellectual milieu is given in order to show the actual reason that led her to come up with a new notion of liberating women from patriarchy In this context an elaboration on poststructuralism the philosophical current Cixous belonged to follows Closely related to that is the author's skepticism towards Sigmund Freud's language philosophy Specifically speaking Freud's statements on the penis envy theory Primary attention is paid to the theory of phallogentrism which can be seen as one of the main reasons for Cixous's writings For a better understanding of this term the concept of logocentrism is also explained as well Logocentrism can be seen as a pillar of the theory of phallogentrism and therefore it deserves to be mentioned at this point In the second part we deal with the question of what is actually meant by women's writing Furthermore we will analyze which role the female body and sexuality plays in this context This excursion is highly interesting as it is crucial for the understanding of her concept Since the female body is considered a key for women to resist masculinist thinking and hence the systematic repression of women Apart from that we try to show whether features of Ecriture Feminine are evident in the The Laugh of the Medusa Moreover a different viewpoint on Cixous's theory is shown in the chapter Criticism in which arguments for and against her theory are shown In point five **Hélène Cixous: Live**

Theory Ian Blyth, Susan Sellers, 2004-06-08 Hlne Cixous live theory provides a clear and informative introduction to one of the most important and influential European writers working today The book opens with an overview of the key features of Cixous theory of criture fminine feminine writing The various manifestations of criture fminine are then explored in chapters on Cixous fictional and theatrical writing her philosophical essays and her intensely personal approach to literary criticism The book concludes with a new lively and wide ranging interview with Hlne Cixous in which she discusses her influences and inspirations and her thoughts on the nature of writing and the need for an ethical relationship with the world Also offering a survey of the many English translations of Cixous work this book is an indispensable introduction to Cixous work for students

of literature philosophy cultural and gender studies *Women & Laughter in Medieval Comic Literature* Lisa Renée Perfetti, 2003 Portrays a range of medieval heroines to ascertain how humor might have been used and enjoyed by medieval women Maternal Body and Voice in Toni Morrison, Bobbie Ann Mason, and Lee Smith Paula Gallant Eckard, 2002 A Feminist Discourse: Historical Perspectives to Cyborgian Feminism Dr. Navdeep Kaur, 2023-06-15 This book primarily deals with an odyssey of feminism from past to Cyborgian age with reference to the works of Margaret Atwood It depicts the transformation of a womanhood from stereotypical and passive woman exploited by a male dominated society to a self reliant woman Donna Haraway's concept of the Cyborg has served to explore the possibilities of the position of woman in contemporary society Thus in today's Cyborg era an attempt is made to find out about the ambition and attitude of woman

Stand-up Comedy in Theory, Or, Abjection in America John Limon, 2000-06-23 A cultural theory of stand up comedy

White Ink Hélène Cixous, 2008-11-06 These interviews with Hélène Cixous offer invaluable insight into her philosophy and criticism Culled from newspapers journals and books *White Ink* collects the best of these conversations which address the major concerns of Cixous's critical work and features two dialogues with twentieth century intellectuals Michel Foucault and Jacques Derrida The interviews in *White Ink* span more than three decades and include a new conversation with Susan Sellers the book's editor and a leading Cixous scholar and translator Cixous discusses her work and writing process She shares her views on literature feminism theater autobiography philosophy politics aesthetics religion ethics and human relations and she reflects on her roles as poet playwright professor woman Jew and her most famous French feminist theorist Sellers organizes *White Ink* in such a way that readers can grasp the development of Cixous's commentary on a series of vital questions Taken together the revealing performances in *White Ink* provide an excellent introduction this thinker's brave and vital work each one an event in language and thought that epitomizes Cixous's intellectual and poetic force Nichols Bill Nichols, 1985 *Outside in the Teaching Machine* Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, 1993 Gayatri Spivak one of the most influential scholars in critical theory today addresses the issues of multi culturalism international feminism and post colonial criticism in an exciting new collection of her recent work *Signs of Change* International Association for Philosophy and Literature. Meeting, 1996-02-22 This is a collection of essays focusing on conventions of change in the arts philosophy and literature **In the Name of Love** Heather Fraser, 2008-10-07 Although love is the hallmark of humanity it is not widely discussed in social work and other related professions with respect to its potential connection to abuse In this groundbreaking book the author argues that while love and abuse should not co exist they often do Using a feminist narrative approach stories about love abuse and social work are told with the purpose of understanding domestic violence and other forms of abuse Based on interviews with 84 women of varying ages in Canada and Australia the author shows how the pain and shame of intimate abuse can leave its mark on the bodies minds and souls of victims survivors long after abusive episodes have ended Additionally Fraser also discusses the importance of hope enlightened witnesses income support and

educational opportunities for women who refuse to renounce love relationships altogether but are instead trying to foster relationships that are respectful as well as erotic

Maria de Zayas Tells Baroque Tales of Love and the Cruelty of Men Margaret Greer, 2011-11-30 Maria de Zayas y Sotomayor 1590-1650 published two collections of novellas *Novelas amorosas y exemplares* 1637 and *Desengaños amorosos* 1647 which were immensely popular in her day. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries Victorian and bourgeois sensibilities exiled her scandalous works to the outer fringes of serious literature. Over the last two decades, however, she has gained an enthusiastic and ever-expanding readership, drawing intense critical attention and achieving canonical status as a major figure of the Spanish Golden Age. In this first comprehensive study of Zayas's prose, Margaret R. Greer explores the relationship between narration and desire, analyzing both the desire for readers displayed by Zayas in her Prologue and the sexual desire that drives the telling within the novellas themselves. Greer examines Zayas's narrative strategies through the twin lenses of feminist and psychoanalytic theory. She devotes close attention to the weight of Renaissance literary traditions and the role of Zayas's own cultural context in shaping her work. She discusses Zayas's biography and the reception of her publications, her advocacy of women's rights, her conflictive loyalty to an aristocratic patriarchal order, her crafting of feminine tales of desire, and her erasure of the frontiers between the natural and supernatural, indeed between love and death itself. In so doing, Greer offers an expansive analysis of this recently rediscovered Golden Age writer.

Feminist Theory and the Body Janet Price, Margrit Shildrick, 1999. First Published in 1999. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

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The Laugh Of The Medusa By Hlne Cixous Introduction

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