

# May '68 and Its Afterlives



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During May 1968, students and workers in France united in the biggest strike and the largest mass movement in French history. Protesting capitalism, American imperialism, and Gaullism, 9 million people from all walks of life, from shipbuilders to department store clerks, stopped working. The nation was paralyzed—no sector of the workplace was untouched. Yet, just thirty years later, the mainstream image of May '68 in France has become that of a mellow youth revolt, a cultural transformation stripped of its violence and profound sociopolitical implications.

Kristin Ross shows how the current official memory of May '68 came to serve a political agenda antithetical to the movement's aspirations. She examines the roles played by sociologists, repentant ex-student leaders, and the mainstream media in giving what

was a political event a predominantly cultural and ethical meaning. Recovering the political language of May '68 through the tracts, pamphlets, and documentary film footage of the era, Ross reveals how the original movement, concerned above all with the question of equality, gained a new and counterfeit history, one that erased police violence and the deaths of participants, removed workers from the picture, and eliminated all traces of anti-Americanism, anti-imperialism, and the influences of Algeria and Vietnam. "May '68 and Its Afterlives" is especially timely given the rise of a new mass political movement opposing global capitalism, from labor strikes and anti-McDonald's protests in France to the demonstrations against the World Trade Organization in Seattle.

作者介绍:

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标签

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## 评论

刚读完Wolin读Ross简直没法看，Kristin

Ross是朗西埃专家，把这本书也写成了如何从朗西埃的政治哲学来解读五月风暴。所以此书不注重史料而是注重政治解读。中间那个侦探小说的部分哎呀看着真的无线尴尬了，做理论的就是这个毛病，上次这种尴尬来自Kittler。

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太牛逼了。读它的时候像大雄读漫画一样气喘吁吁。

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Tracing the seed of May back to the Algerian war in the 50s; Emphasizing its ignored "equality" side; disclosing the distortion of the narratives in the 70s and 80s (journalism and media: personalizing leaders, sociologists: promoting the concept of youth, student, generation instead of mass); its resurrection in the winter strike of 1995

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你们这些美国人，不要总以为自己就比法国人高到哪里去

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补标

该书对五月风暴的解读是从记忆问题入手的，和常见的解读不太一样，较有启发性。

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## 书评

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