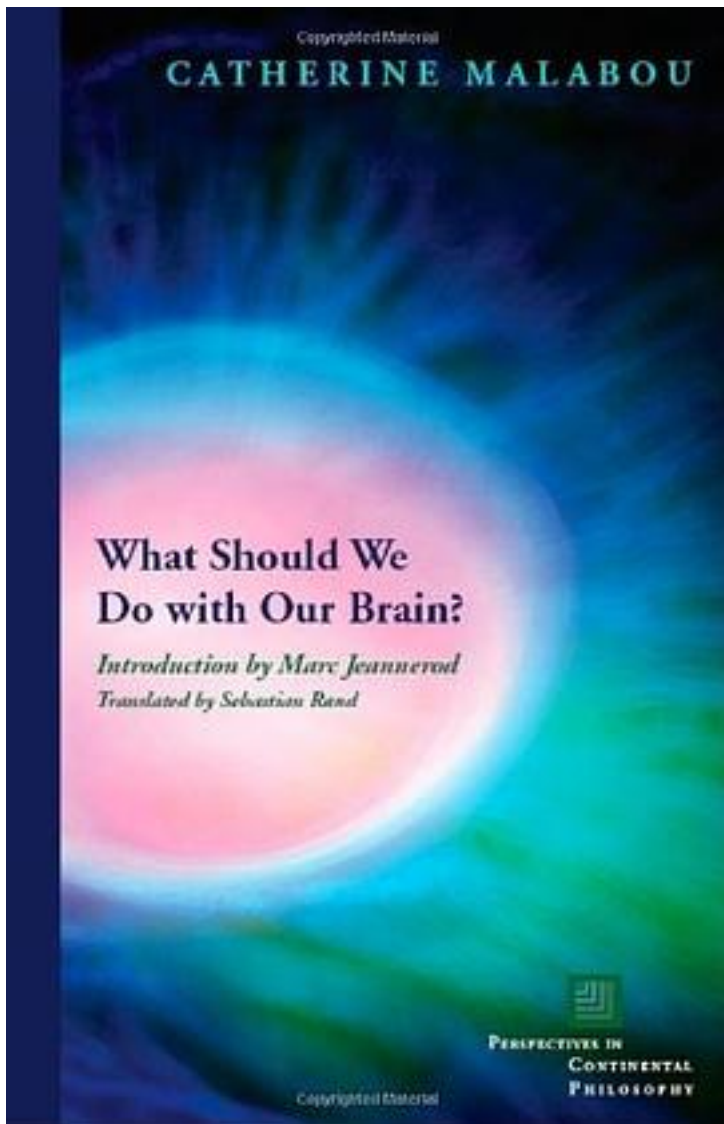


What Should We Do with Our Brain?



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著者:Catherine Malabou

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Recent neuroscience, in replacing the old model of the brain as a single centralized source of control, has emphasized plasticity, the quality by which our brains develop and change throughout the course of our lives. Our brains exist as historical products, developing in interaction with themselves and with their surroundings. Hence there is a thin line between the organization of the nervous system and the political and social organization that both conditions and is conditioned by human experience. Looking carefully at contemporary neuroscience, it is hard not to notice that the new way of talking about the brain mirrors the management discourse of the neo-liberal capitalist world in which we now live, with its talk of decentralization, networks, and flexibility. Consciously or unconsciously, science cannot but echo the world in which it takes place. In the neo-liberal world, plasticity can be equated with flexibility—a term that has become a buzzword in economics and management theory. The plastic brain would thus represent just another style of power, which, although less centralized, is still a means of control. In this book, Catherine Malabou develops a second, more radical meaning for plasticity. Not only does plasticity allow our brains to adapt to existing circumstances, it opens a margin of freedom to intervene, to change those very circumstances. Such an understanding opens up a newly transformative aspect of the neurosciences. In insisting on this proximity between the neurosciences and the social sciences, Malabou applies to the brain Marx's well-known phrase about history: people make their own brains, but they do not know it. This book is a summons to such knowledge.

作者介绍:

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标签

哲学

Malabou

认知科学

神经学

心理学

theory

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评论

整个就很奇怪，为了区别可塑性和灵活性，举了个思维活动对脑组织结构的塑造，可疑。也没考虑递归层级的关系，可塑性可以体现在运算规则，规则的规则，规则的规则的规则，是否总有某个层级存在不可塑的规则。回避整个问题，没办法说服还原论者。

沒啥意思，不靠譜

(plasticity vs. elasticity, flexibility, employability), synapse, from neuron to mental ("translation), stem cell

"What should we do with our brain" "Nothing"

研究的出发角度是好的，plasticity 和 flexibility 的区分也很有意义，但是也真的没太看明白

脑洞大开，从脑神经科学中的可塑性（plasticity）转到当代资本主义新精神，赋予可塑性 receive form, give form 和 annihilate form 的能力，从而在决定论和自由之间寻找行动的可能性。

五星不够评。set the bar for modern philosophers

We are still foreign to ourselves . ‘We’ have no idea who ‘we’ are, no idea what is inside ‘us’.

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书评

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