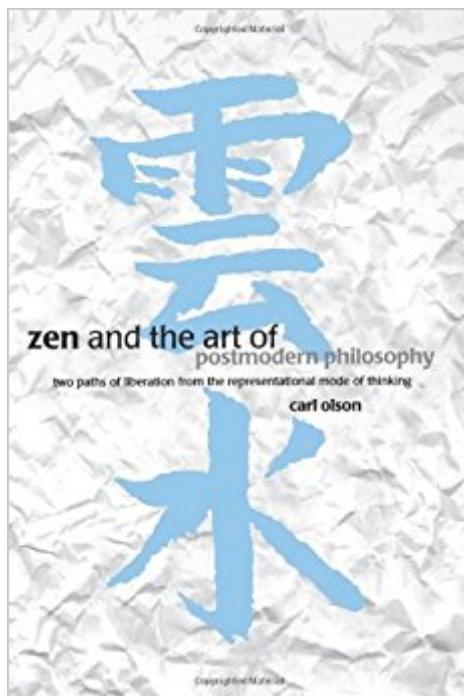


The book was found

Zen And The Art Of Postmodern Philosophy



Synopsis

This book examines and compares the philosophical positions of various postmodern thinkers and Zen Buddhist philosophers on: language and play; modes of thinking; skepticism and doubt; self and other; time and death; nihilism and metaphysics; and the conception of the end of philosophy. The Zen thinkers dealt with are Dogen and Nishitani, and the Western thinkers are Derrida, Lacan, Heidegger, Lyotard, Foucault, Deleuze and Guatarri, Kristeva, and Levinas. Although each share similar notions concerning the shortcomings of representational thinking, major differences still exist. By clarifying these differences, Olson counters the tendency to overtly assert or covertly imply that postmodern and Zen philosophies are moving in the same direction. Some postmodern thinkers and Zen Buddhist philosophers share common philosophical ground with regard to a mutual philosophical attack and attempt to overcome the perceived shortcomings of the representational mode of thinking that conceives of the mind like a mirror and assumes a correspondence between appearance and reality that is supported by a metaphysical structure. "The book is fascinating! I was so excited by this work that I could hardly bear to put it down. Every page is replete with fresh insight. It is rare to discover a writer who is not only conversant, but also clearly expert in both the postmodern and Zen traditions. Olson's scholarship is impressive. His competent and detailed analyses elucidate both traditions. One can never approach either tradition in the same way again." The book approaches representational dualism with penetration and depth, and helpfully illuminates both the postmodern and the Zen traditions. The issues it deals with are central both to the Western tradition of postmodernism and to the East Asian tradition of Zen Buddhism. Olson's book could easily become a standard in the field of comparative philosophy." -- Steven W. Laycock, author of *Mind as Mirror and the Mirroring of Mind: Buddhist Reflections on Western Phenomenology*

Book Information

Paperback: 324 pages

Publisher: SUNY Press; n edition (August 24, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0791446549

ISBN-13: 978-0791446546

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #672,525 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #276 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy > Epistemology #582 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Eastern > Buddhism > Zen > Philosophy #644 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Epistemology

Customer Reviews

The book is fascinating! I was so excited by this work that I could hardly bear to put it down. Every page is replete with fresh insight. It is rare to discover a writer who is not only conversant, but also clearly expert in both the postmodern and Zen traditions. Olson's scholarship is impressive. His competent and detailed analyses elucidate both traditions. One can never approach either tradition in the same way again. The book approaches representational dualism with penetration and depth, and helpfully illuminates both the postmodern and the Zen traditions. The issues it deals with are central both to the Western tradition of postmodernism and to the East Asian tradition of Zen Buddhism. Olson's book could easily become a standard in the field of comparative philosophy.

Steven W. Laycock, author of *Mind as Mirror* and *the Mirroring of Mind: Buddhist Reflections on Western Phenomenology*"The book is fascinating! I was so excited by this work that I could hardly bear to put it down. Every page is replete with fresh insight. It is rare to discover a writer who is not only conversant, but also clearly expert in both the postmodern and Zen traditions. Olson's scholarship is impressive. His competent and detailed analyses elucidate both traditions. One can never approach either tradition in the same way again. "The book approaches representational dualism with penetration and depth, and helpfully illuminates both the postmodern and the Zen traditions. The issues it deals with are central both to the Western tradition of postmodernism and to the East Asian tradition of Zen Buddhism. Olson's book could easily become a standard in the field of comparative philosophy." -- Steven W. Laycock, author of *Mind as Mirror* and *the Mirroring of Mind: Buddhist Reflections on Western Phenomenology*

Carl Olson is Professor of Religious Studies at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania. His previous books include *The Indian Renouncer* and *Postmodern Poison: A Cross-Cultural Encounter* and *The Theology and Philosophy of Eliade: A Search for the Centre*.

This was a tough read for me: The author assumes a good level of familiarity with the postmodern philosophers under discussion, so I recommend studying them a bit before jumping into this book or, like me, you will have a tough time comprehending/following about 20 percent of the material.

That said, this is a unique work of serious comparative philosophy, one that can be read several times before it really sinks in. I am surprised by how well Dogen holds up against post-modern philosophers...a true testament to the genius and plasticity of the Buddhist tradition. The author does a really fantastic job of setting the Buddhist and post-modern philosophers side by side in dialogue with each other - you'd almost believe they really were.

This book is not a harsh discourse on deconstructionism and the radicalism associated often with youthful postmodernism. Rather it is a beautiful discourse on the many parallels of Zen and philosophy in the 1900s. Strongly recommended. Also see Benoit's Zen and the Psychology of Transformation.

This book elucidates the thought of Dogen which is often ignored in books on important Buddhist thinkers. This in itself was appreciated but there is much more to be valued in this excellent book on comparative Postmodern thinking and Buddhism.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

ZEN: Everything You Need to Know About Forming Zen Habits → A Practical Guide to Find Inner Peace, Practice Mindfulness & Learn Zen Meditation (Zen Buddhism, Zen Mastery, Zen for Beginners) Zen Buddhism: How Zen Buddhism Can Create A Life of Peace, Happiness and Inspiration (Zen Buddhism for Beginners, Zen, Zen Books) Zen: Beginner's Guide to Understanding & Practicing Zen Meditation to Become Present (Zen for Beginners, Zen Meditation, Zen Habits, Meditation for Beginners) Zen: Zen For Beginners → The Ultimate Guide To Incorporating Zen Into Your Life → A Zen Buddhism Approach To Happiness And Inner Peace Zen Flesh Zen Bones: A Collection of Zen and Pre-Zen Writings Zen and Zen Classics 1: From the Upanishads to Huineng (Zen & Zen Classics) Zen: How to Practice Zen Everywhere in Your Daily Life (FREE Bonus Inside) (Zen Meditation, Zen for Beginners, Buddhism) Zen and the Art of Postmodern Philosophy Landscape architecture design theory and methods: Modern, Postmodern & Post-postmodern, including Landscape Ecological Urbanism & Geodesign Manifesto for Philosophy: Followed by Two Essays: "the (Re)Turn of Philosophy Itself" and "Definition of Philosophy" (Suny Series, Intersections, Philosophy and Critical Theory) Zen Gardens: The Art and Principles of Designing a Tranquil, Peaceful, Japanese Zen Garden at Home Shodo: The Quiet Art of Japanese Zen Calligraphy; Learn the Wisdom of Zen Through Traditional Brush Painting Postmodern Art (Eye on Art) Z.B.A.: Zen of Business Administration - How Zen Practice Can Transform Your Work And Your Life Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind: Informal Talks on Zen Meditation

and Practice Zen Mind, Zen Horse: The Science and Spirituality of Working with Horses Zen: The Beginners Guide on How to Practice Zen Everywhere by Incorporating Meditation Into Your Life (Buddhism - Improve Your Daily Life with Happiness and Inner Peace Using Meditation) Buddhist Quotes: Meditation, Happiness, Inner Peace.: Spirituality and Buddhism: Bouddha, Zen, Thich Nhat Hanh, DalaÃfÃ -LamaÃ¢ -Ã| (Buddhism, Bouddha, Buddhist ... & Spirituality, DalaÃfÃ Lama, Zen. Book 1) Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind: Informal Talks on Zen Meditation and Practice (Shambhala Library) Zen and Zen Classics

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)