



vol. 4: The state

JUNE 22-23 2023

Money, the commodity, and labor in all its historically ignored forms: These are the fundamental elements of the modern capitalist system. But how does all of this go on? What mediates and administers this system and our sense of normality? What orders and organizes — in short, what allows us to make “sense” of the social realities we see around us? We know this construction that designs and designates our daily lives under a powerfully ambiguous name: The State. Whether you’ve got an Empire or an N.Y. state of mind,¹ we’re all subject to this staggering leviathan. Marx reminds us that this is not

some neutral entity: under capitalism, it operates to the benefit of one class and one class only. Punk bands have long admonished us to “hate ‘yer state,” and Bad Brains was even banned in D.C.² By now, we’re all thoroughly aware. The real question, as Marx himself would tell us, is how to change it.

1 Jay-Z feat. Alicia Keys, “Empire State (of Mind).” *The Blueprint III*. Roc Nation/Atlantic, 2009 and NAS, “N.Y. State of Mind.” *Illmatic*. Columbia Records, 1994.

2 Choking Victim, “Hate Yer State.” *No Gods, No Managers*. Hellcat Records, 1999 and Bad Brains, “Banned in D.C.” *Bad Brains*. ROR, 1982.

Program 22.06.2023 (Polak 2-04)

- 12:30 Lunch (Erasmus Pavilion)
- 14:00 Lecture: Jamie van der Klaauw
- 15:30 Coffee Break
- 16:00 Lecture: Jodi Dean
- 17:30 Borrel (Erasmus Pavilion)

Program 23.06.2023 (Polak 1-21)

- 13:30 Lecture: Willem Schinkel
- 15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:30 Masterclass: Jodi Dean
- 17:00 Wrap-Up

Please e-mail articulationsofdesire@gmail.com to sign up for the Masterclass and receive the text.

Jodi Dean is Professor of Politics at Hobart and William Smith Colleges and author of the communist trilogy: *The Communist Horizon* (2012), *Crowds and Party* (2016), and *Comrade* (2019). Most recently, she co-edited *Organize, Fight, Win: Black Communist Women’s Political Writing* (2022) with Charisse Burden-Stelly.

Willem Schinkel is Professor of Social Theory at Erasmus University and author of *Aspects of Violence: A Critical Theory* (2010) and *Imagined Societies: A Critique of Immigrant Integration in Western Europe* (2017) as well as a myriad of Dutch social, political and philosophical texts.

Jamie van der Klaauw is a PhD candidate and lecturer at Erasmus School of Philosophy. His Phd is titled: *In the Name of the People: Government, Democracy, and Representation*

The Reading Group (all available free at marxists.org, page references to Penguin Editions)

Marx, Karl. *Grundrisse*, Excerpt: “Original accumulation of capital” up to and including “Ramsay, Circulation Time” *GR*. pp. 459-554.

Marx, Karl. *Capital Vol 1*. Excerpt: Part 7 “The Process of Accumulation of Capital - The So-Called Labour Fund” + Part 8 “The Secret of Primitive Accumulation” up to and including “The Modern Theory of Colonization” *C1*. pp. 707-758 + 873-940.