

Univerzita Karlova v Praze
Filosofická fakulta
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Diploma thesis

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Situation of the Surrealist Subject
(abstract)

2012

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Abstract

This thesis focuses on the situation of a substantial subject in the historical development of the surrealist experience and confronts it with our original postmodern interpretation of thoughts of early Marx. The surrealist consciousness is based on a dialectical opposition between rational and irrational elements of cognitive processes. André Breton apprehends this dialectics under the perspective of love life and relates it to values of love, freedom and poetry. Nevertheless, this conception changes in the immanent development of the surrealist consciousness from Breton over the work and thoughts Salvador Dalí and Mikuláš Medek to Vratislav Effenberger. Effenberger removes positive values from surrealism and puts emphasis on the critical functions of the irrational. On the psychological field, all these ideas are based on the conception of the unconscious which means there is the substantial approach in them. Our critical interpretation of Marx shows, that the surrealist concept of subject is in the contradiction with its substantial determination. The subject has to be perceived as the essential negativity.

Key words

André Breton – dadaism – dialectical method – dialectics – erotism – Georg Wilhelm Fridrich Hegel – imagination – irrationality – Karel Marx – Karel Teige – concrete irrationality – love – Mikuláš Medek – unconscious – object – objective chance – ontology – paranoiac-critical method – praxis – principle of analogy – principle of negation – psychic automatism – psychoanalysis – Salvador Dalí – state of grace – subject – substance – surrealism – surrealistic phenomenology of imagination – UDS – Vratislav Effenberger