WORKS AND DAYS 65/66, 67/68

Scholactivism: Reflections on Transforming Praxis in and beyond the Classroom

Edited by

Joseph G. Ramsey

Editorial Assistants:

Peter Faziani Matthew Stumpf

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Works and Days provides a scholarly forum for the exploration of problems in cultural studies, pedagogy, institutional critique, and critical university studies. Each issue of the journal is organized around specific inquiries conducted as shared disciplinary or postdisciplinary research projects.

Works and Days aims to serve not only as a forum for collaborative research and teaching, but also as an environment in which mutual inquiries may flourish. Thus, we are eager to hear from collaborators who are already at work on projects suitable for publication in Works and Days. We also encourage proposals for joint projects and will assist in their formation.

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Correspondence: Direct correspondence to *Works and Days*, English Department, 506T Humanities and Social Sciences Building, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705.

All email correspondence should be sent to: downing@iup.edu.

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Here We Come

Marc Bousquet

If you take a step towards freedom,
It'll take two steps toward you.
—Tom Morello, "Maximum Firepower"

Hoo-ee, this is one fistful of revolution you are holding in your hand right now. This is a live transmission from the wrecking crew. They are dynamiting the campus accumulation machine and sharing the video. They're publishing inflammatory infographics and launching manifestos from the occupation. This is the full cookbook. Don't read it. Unless you can handle the truth. Unless you are ready to conspire against the status quo. Because it is fierce in here. Nobody on this haywagon thinks it's enough to stand around and say "I see racism" or "Sexism is bad," or "Capitalists are mean." Witness is essential to justice. But is second- and third-hand witnessing from within a classroom enough? Or is it an alibi for inaction? An exorcism of guilt for the global executive club?

All of us in here, or in kindred places, we're up to something. We

All of us in here, or in kindred places, we're up to something. We have asked ourselves: How can we keep writing history, or rewriting it, or writing it from below—and also, at the same time, in the same heartbeat, seize the means of making history itself? And we have answers. Answers that we've lived, for decades and lifetimes. Answers that we tested on ourselves, which sometimes blew up in our faces or left us maimed. But even in failure or self-injury: We tilt the needle toward justice. We are concrete.

The one thing missing from this 500 pages? A rousing chorus of "Get Up, Stand Up" or some such peaceful ditty in honor of David Downing and Joe Ramsey, both lifetime freedom fliers. They will be your pilots today.

Read on at your own risk. These people have lived dangerously. Some have been hurt. And they need you to join them.

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