

A Thousand Plateaus 1: Introduction: Rhizome

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I. Books

- A. Multiple authors
- B. Matters, dates, speeds: an assemblage; a multiplicity
 - 1. Articulation/segmentarity; strata; territories
 - 2. Lines of flight; deterritorializations; destratification: toward the BwO
- C. Types of books
 - 1. Root-books (dominating psychoanalysis, linguistics, structuralism, information science)
 - a. Binary logic (subject)
 - b. Biunivocal relationships btw successive circles (object)
 - 2. Radicle system: fascicular root; aborted unity (modernism: Burroughs, Joyce, Nietzsche)
 - a. Root's unity subsists as past or yet to come, as possible
 - b. Supplementary dimension of folding: ongoing spiritual labor of unity
 - c. Multiplicity in linear direction, but unity of totalization in circular or cyclic dimension
 - 3. Rhizome: making the multiple; writing at n-1 dimensions

II. Characteristics of the rhizome

- A. Connection & Heterogeneity
 - 1. Any point can be connected to any other point
 - 2. Connection of semiotic chains with diverse codes:
 - 3. different regimes of signs connected w/ state of things of different status
 - 4. E.g, abstract machine connecting language to micropolitics of semantics and pragmatics
- B. Multiplicity: multiple treated as a substantive
 - 1. Determinations, magnitudes, dimensions: cannot increase in number w/o changing its nature
 - 2. Laws of combination increase as multiplicity grows
 - 3. Assemblage: increase in dimensions of a multiplicity
 - 4. Number:
 - a. no longer a universal concept measuring elements in a given dimension
 - b. but itself a multiplicity varying according to dimensions considered
 - 5. Measure
 - a. no longer unities of measure (only thru power takeover by signifier or subjectification)
 - b. but varieties of measurement
 - 6. Always flat: no overcoding: only a plane of consistency of multiplicities
 - 7. Multiplicities defined by the outside, by the line of flight connecting it to other multiplicities
 - 8. Lay out everything on the same sheet: plane of exteriority
- C. Assignifying rupture
 - 1. Line of flight: always part of the rhizome
 - 2. Yet always recuperation
 - a. Organizations that restratify
 - b. Formations that restore power to signifier
 - c. Attributions that reconstitute a subject
 - 3. Thus can never have a dichotomy of good/bad: must be a always renewed temporary selection
 - 4. Example of orchid and wasp as deterr/reterr
 - a. This is not imitation
 - b. But becoming; aparallel evolution
 - 5. Viral genetic transfer: transversal communication: rhizomatic rather than arborescent evolution
 - 6. Book is a rhizome w/ world rather than an image of the world
 - 7. Advice, slogans: follow the plants
 - 8. Example of music
- D. Cartography & Decalcomania
 - 1. Rhizome is stranger to genetic axis or deep structure: these are tracings of the already-made
 - 2. Rhizome is a map, not a tracing: experimentation in contact w/ the real; performance
 - 3. This is not a dualism; there is a question of method: put the tracing back on the map
 - a. The tracing has always selected; it makes map into an image by organizing, stabilizing, rhizome
 - b. Example of little Hans: Freud institutes power takeover by signifier, subjectification of affects
 - 4. Rhizome-root, map-tracing assemblages w/ variable coefficients of deterritorialization
 - a. Not theoretical analysis

- b. But pragmatics
- 5. Brain as multiplicity: uncertain, probabilistic system
 - a. Short-term (rhizomatic) vs. Long-term (arborescent) memory
 - b. One writes w/ short-term (associations)
- 6. Image of thought:
 - a. Tree: sad: imitating the multiple on basis of centered or segmented higher unity
 - b. Rhizome: acentered multiplicity
- 7. Centered vs. Acentered: methods rather than types of things
 - a. Psychoanalysis vs. Schizoanalysis (both analyze the "same" thing, the unconscious)
 - b. Linguistics vs. Pragmatics (both analyze language)
- 8. Must produce (bring forth its connections) the unconscious, rather than reduce it or interpret it
- 9. West (tree) vs East (rhizome)
- 10. America, the special case
- 11. NB: no dualism:
 - a. Knots of arborescence in rhizomes; rhizomatic offshoots in roots
 - b. Thus not a matter of opposed models or of places on earth, moments in history, category of thought
 - (1) tree = transcendent model and tracing, engendering its own escapes
 - (2) rhizome = immanent process overturning the model and outlining a map, w/ own hierarchies
 - c. Problem of writing: anexact expressions to designate something exactly: what is underway
- 12. Pragmatics of writing:
 - a. invoke one dualism to challenge another
 - b. Dualism of models to challenge all models
- 13. Magic formula: pluralism = monism via necessary enemy of dualisms
- E. Summary of characteristics of rhizome
- III. Reflections on the writing of ATP
 - A. Plateaus:
 - 1. Bateson: continuous, self-vibrating region of intensities w/ ateleological development
 - 2. D/G: multiplicity connected to other multiplicities forming a rhizome
 - B. ATP as rhizome of plateaus
 - 1. Not typographical experimentation
 - 2. Words functioning like plateaus: rhizomatics = schizoanalysis = pragmatics = micropolitics
 - 3. Not a science, but assemblages
 - a. Machinic assemblages of desire
 - b. Collective assemblages of enunciation
 - 4. Assemblages working on semiotic, material, and social flows simulataneously
 - 5. Book as assemblage with the outside, a rhizome-book
 - C. Against History
 - 1. History as sedentary, as State
 - 2. Need a nomadology (e.g., rare successes on subject of Children's Crusades)
 - D. Cultural load: use it actively, for forgetting, for nomadism
 - E. State as model for book vs. War-machine as assemblage making thought nomadic
 - F. Write with slogans!
 - G. Start and grow in the middle: and ... and ... and