

# Abstract



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Ground and Technique

- On the horizon--a thinking of originary technique that is at once anterior to its anthropocentric determination as the essential property of human life, modernist interpretation as a force of calculative nihilism, and traditional understanding as the antithesis to nature; technique, in light of 20th and 21st century philosophy, understood in a more fundamental manner, as material articulation, the finite conditioning, tracing out and contouring of being—but this thought of technique will remain there, at the horizon, for the task of this paper will be the far nearer one, the task of simply beginning to ground this thinking. This, however, is a unique experience of grounding, because this thought of originary technique arises precisely through the question of grounding at its most radical, through the attempt to rigorously think the absolute conditions of the possibility of experience as it plays out, in different ways, in the work of Bernard Stiegler and Jacques Derrida, as I will present. Now, this question of grounding, of seeking and maintaining a relation to theoretical and ontological ground, is especially important in regards to this theme that tries to think what exceeds human experience, for such attempts all too often slip into dogmatic forms of metaphysics, being almost predisposed to the kinds of speculation that have become fashionable today, as the most direct, perhaps also easiest, and naive, way to respond to the crises of environment that we face, to respond to the Earth's insistence for us to transform the hegemonic ways of conceiving and treating non-human existence. If then, the ends of this project resemble such forms of speculation insofar as it too strives to think the happening of being beyond its relation to human existence, its relation to this question of ground separates it from them by an abyss—and this is the case not only insofar that this question of ground explicitly marks its point of departure and shapes its development, but, as I hope to begin to indicate now, how the very act of grounding at its most radical apodictically affirms originary technique prior to anthropotechnics, at, and as, the very articulation of ground.



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