



What Is Left of the Enlightenment?

A SYMPOSIUM AT LUND UNIVERSITY | 5–6 OCTOBER, 2017

While critique of the Enlightenment is as old as the Enlightenment itself, the past decades have seen an intensified and more disparaging critique in academic currents such as poststructuralism, posthumanism, postcolonialism and postsecular theology. At the same time, outside academia, populist voices make claim on the Enlightenment in order to justify a particular notion of Europe vis-à-vis especially Islam.

These patterns prompt an array of questions. Can the Enlightenment legacy be rehabilitated despite the fierce critique that has been launched from various academic camps in recent decades? Is this criticism, in actual fact, only another phase in the evolving self-criticism of the Enlightenment project itself? Can the Enlightenment's

powerful legacy of universalism remain a valuable source of emancipatory thinking in an age of cultural pluralism and ethnic diversity? And what about the Enlightenment's complex relationship to religion? If the Enlightenment legacy is revealed to be much more intertwined with religion than has often been recognized, what are the implications of the fact that the religion in question is not religion in general, but a specific form of Protestant Christianity? Despite being unmistakably rooted in a particular era of European history, can the Enlightenment legacy still inspire understanding and communication across cultural borders?

In brief – what is left of the Enlightenment in the 21st century?

Speakers

Jonathan Israel, Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton | **Brian Klug**, Senior Research Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy at St. Benet's Hall, Oxford | **Joanna Stalnaker**, Associate Professor of French at Columbia University | **Richard Wolin**, Distinguished Professor of History and Political Science at the CUNY Graduate Center

The symposium is open to all and free of charge, but places are limited and must be booked in advance (by 15 September). To book, please email: victoria.hoog@fil.lu.se.

For further details about the programme, please visit:

www.ctr.lu.se/forskning/konferenser-och-symposier/what-is-left-of-the-enlightenment



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