

Badiou's Resistance and Creation to the Concept of “Cogito”: About “Beckett's Subject of Cogito”

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Abstract

The philosopher Alain Badiou used the artist Samuel Beckett's works to create his own concept of “cogito”—a concept of “Beckett's subject of cogito.” The concept resists Descartes' “cogito,” which limited the subject to “one” in the field of philosophy.

The concept of “Beckett's subject of cogito” is itself inspired by Lacan's concept of “cogito,” which allowed the subject to reach “multiple” in the field of psychoanalysis. However, unlike Lacan's “cogito,” Badiou's—a concept of “Beckett's subject of cogito”—involves a “true subject” which reaches “multiple” in the field of art.

Therefore, unlike Descartes and Lacan, Badiou creatively interprets and endows a new “cogito” in the field of art from the perspective of the “multiple,” which is the core concept of his own “ontology of the multiple.”

Key Words: Badiou, Descartes, Lacan, cogito, Beckett's subject of cogito