Difficult Justice

Commentaries on Levinas and Politics

Edited by Asher Horowitz and Gad Horowitz

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS
Toronto Buffalo London
Contents

Acknowledgments vii
Contributors ix

INTRODUCTION

Reflections on the Philosophy of Hitlerism 3
EMMANUEL LEVINAS

Is Liberalism All We Need? Prelude via Fascism 12
ASHER HOROWITZ AND GAD HOROWITZ

ESSAYS

Beyond Rational Peace: On the Possibility/Necessity of a Levinasian Hyperpolitics 27
ASHER HOROWITZ

Hands that Give and Hands That Take: The Politics of the Feminine in Levinas 48
TINA CHANTER

Levinas in the Key of the Political 63
OONA EISENSTADT

'The Politics' by Levinas: Towards a 'Critical' Political Philosophy 78
ENRIQUE DUSSEL
Contents

Hemorrhage and Filiality: Towards a Fecundation of the Political
MIELLE CHANDLER 97

Levinas and Alterity Politics
SHANNON BELL 111

Public Transgressions: Levinas and Arendt
KEITH ANDERSON 127

Can Fig Trees Grow on Mountains? Reversing the Question of Great Politics
BRIAN SCHROEDER 148

Levinas, Nietzsche, and Benjamin’s ‘Divine Violence’
VICTORIA TAHMASEBI 172

From Escape to Hostage
MARINOS DIAMANTIDES 191

The Ethics and Politics of the Handshake: Levinas, Merleau-Ponty, and Nancy
ROSALYN DIPROSE 221

Strangers-and Slaves in the Land of Egypt: Levinas and the Politics of Otherness
ROBERT BERNASCONI 246

Levinas’s Jewish Perspective on State, Revolution and Utopia
ZE’EV LEVY 262

Levinas, the Messianic, and the Question of History
ROBERT GIBBS 271

From a Memory beyond Memory to a State beyond the State
JOSEPH ROSEN 285

Aporia and Messiah in Derrida and Levinas
GAD HOROWITZ 307