The Popular Front In France

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Popular Front and the Global Circulation of Marxism through Calcutta,
1920s-1970sBritain, Fascism, and the Popular FrontVisions of ExcessNew
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Otto J. Lehrack Ellen J. Gordon Margaret Paton-Walsh John Kerry King Cliff
Slaughter

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out of the social and economic turmoil of europe in the 1930s the popular front emerged as the spearhead of the left s bid to stop fascism in its tracks fifty years on from the birth of the popular front this edited collection assesses the impact of the idea of bourgeois proletarian alliance on the european left as a whole it also examines the fate of the popular front governments both in france which remained nominally at peace and in spain where the bitter strife over social and economic reform erupted into open civil war

this is the first full length study in english of the popular front the left wing coalition which emerged in france during the 1930s in response to the threat of fascism and which went on to win the elections of 1936 giving france her first socialist premier léon blum after a brief narrative history of the popular front the book is organised thematically around the main historiographical debates to which the popular front has given rise among the issues considered are the origins of the strikes of 1936 the reasons for the failure of the popular front economic policy the relationship between culture and politics in france in the 1930s and the causes of france s policy of non intervention in the spanish civil war the book views the popular front at three levels as a mass movement political coalition and government and argues that it must not be seen just as a narrowly political phenomenon but as a political social and cultural explosion which attempted to break down the barriers between all areas of human activity in the highly compartmentalised society of france in the 1930s even if the popular front ultimately failed in this aim it has acquired legendary status in france and the epilogue to the book briefly examines the myth of the popular front from 1936 to the present day

the communist international s popular front campaign of the 1930s brought to the fore ideas that resonated in chicago s african american community indeed the popular front not only connected to the black experience of the era but outlasted its communist party affiliation to serve as both model and inspiration for a postwar cultural insurrection led by african americans with a new preface bill v mullen updates his dynamic reappraisal of a critical moment in american cultural history mullen s study includes reassessments of the politics of richard wright s critical reputation and a provocative reading of class struggle in gwendolyn brooks a street in bronzeville he also takes an in

depth look at the institutions that comprised chicago s black popular front the chicago defender the period s leading black newspaper negro story the first magazine devoted to publishing short stories by and about african americans and the wpa sponsored south side community art center

this book examines the global circulation of marxism seen from one of its most highly charged sites calcutta in india building on but also revising existing approaches to global intellectual history the book presents the circulation of marxism through calcutta as a historically sited problem of mass mediation using tools from media studies the book explores the way that marxism was presented to the public the technologies used and the meanings of marxism in twentieth century calcutta demonstrating how the popular front was split between the so called people s group and those whom were called intellectuals the book argues that the people s group generally identified themselves as marxists and preferred audio visual media such as theatre while the so called intellectuals privileged academic rigour and print media usually referring to themselves as marxians thus the author reveals a polyphony of marxisms in the popular front tracing marxism back to the bengal renaissance and the swadeshi and naxal movements this book shows how debate around the meaning of marxism continued throughout the 1970s in calcutta and eventually engendered the historiographical movement that has come to be known as subaltern studies

since the publication of visions of excess in 1985 there has been an explosion of interest in the work of georges bataille the french surrealist continues to be important for his groundbreaking focus on the visceral the erotic and the relation of society to the primeval this collection of prewar writings remains the volume in which batailles s positions are most clearly forcefully and obsessively put forward this book challenges the notion of a closed economy predicated on utility production and rational consumption and develops an alternative theory that takes into account the human tendency to lose destroy

and waste this collection is indispensible for an understanding of the future as well as the past of current critical theory georges bataille 1897 1962 a librarian by profession was founder of the french review critique he is the author of several books including story of the eye the accused share erotism and the absence of myth

in pursuit of the people addresses these questions and in so doing provides the first comparative analysis of left and right in 1930s france challenging the polarization of previous research it reveals the hidden community of thought that coexisted with very real political differences as militants leaders journalists theatre and film directors all competed to organize and depict the masses as the people this book offers an original contribution to the study of political culture and is essential reading for those interested in the symbolism ideology and activism of interwar france book jacket

an oral history of the third battalion third marines in vietnam

in the late 1930s a number of american women especially those allied with various peace and isolationist groups protested against the nation s entry into world war ii while their story is fairly well known margaret paton walsh reveals a far less familiar story of women who fervently felt that american intervention was absolutely necessary paton walsh recounts how the united states became involved in the war but does so through the eyes of american women who faced it as a necessary evil covering the period between 1935 and 1941 she examines how these women functioned as political actors even though they were excluded from positions of power through activism in women s organizations informal women s networks and even male dominated lobbying groups in the great debate over whether america should enter the war some women favored aid to the allies not because they hoped for war but because they hoped aid would forestall more direct u s involvement but also because they believed war was preferable to a nazi victory paton walsh shows that this

activism involved some of the most prominent women of their day elizabeth cutter morrow whose son in law charles lindbergh was an isolationist spokesman supported the revision of the neutrality acts to allow the sale of arms to the allies and expressed her support in a national radio broadcast soon other women joined this debate esther brunauer of the aauw journalist dorothy thompson and organizations like the league of women voters and national women s trade union league broke from the pacifist tradition to advocate american aid for the allied cause focusing on the conflict in europe paton walsh shows how these women grasped the implications of the lend lease program for america s entry into the war but supported it nevertheless by late 1941 the women's division of the fight for freedom committee had been established no longer merely advocating aid to britain to keep american boys out of battle this organization supported direct american involvement in the war as a means of stopping nazi oppression while most historians have focused on women s pacifism paton walsh connects women more directly to world events and shows how those interventionists reformulated maternalist ideas to justify and explain their beliefs our war too is a story of american women trying to reconcile the irreconcilable to preserve both their principles and their peace it expands our understanding of women as political actors and thinkers about foreign policy as it sheds new light on american public opinion over the build up to the war

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