Responses to Crisis: Culture and Finance

Reading and Discussion Group
5pm – 6pm Wednesday 3rd & 10th March 2010
Centre for Philosophy and Political Economy

Derivatives are the latest topic for cultural criticism.
Banksy is out, collateralised debt obligations are in.

Programme
Everyone is talking about the financial system - including a lot of people who, until recently showed, very little interest in it or demonstrated any particular aptitude for understanding it.

Predictably, Zizek, in his official role as ‘the most dangerous philosopher in the West’ (I don’t think he has much competition for this title), has also thrown his hat in the ring.

Can a Lacanian with a peccadillo for Hitchcock films really tell us anything about the financial system? Surely us business school academics know better?

Let’s find out.

Schedule

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<th>Section</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Introduction &amp; Part One: It’s Ideology Stupid (p. 1-85)</td>
<td>5pm – 6pm, Wednesday 3rd March, 2010**</td>
<td>The Lansdowne, London Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Part Two: The Communist Hypothesis (p. 86-157)</td>
<td>5pm – 6pm, Wednesday 10th March, 2010**</td>
<td>The Lansdowne, London Road</td>
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**These reading groups are scheduled for the early evening in a pub after our departmental seminar. This, hopefully, removes the standard ‘I’d love to attend but I was too busy teaching/meeting students/marking/at the pub etc.’ excuse. Yes, it does.

Books
Zizek, Slavoj (2009) First as tragedy, then as farce, London: Verso