

INDEX

A

Absurdity, 6, 16, 18, 24, 62, 63, 68, 70, 71, 75, 94, 102, 136, 139–140, 149–175, 179, 180, 192, 193, 197–200, 203–205, 210, 212, 214, 215. *See also* Nonsense Theatre of the Absurd, 173
Adorno, Theodor, 13, 15, 182–183, 185–187, 190
Aesthetics, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11–19, 39, 41, 43, 48, 50, 51, 60–62, 67, 81, 82, 85–87, 91–93, 96, 98, 99, 103, 105, 111, 113–116, 119–121, 123, 129, 140, 143, 150, 151, 156, 166, 167, 170–172, 180–204, 209–215. *See also* Political aesthetics
Affect, 16, 17, 19, 20, 27–28, 91, 94, 95, 98, 103, 113–116, 123, 126, 133, 146, 149, 175, 184, 191, 192, 194, 201, 206, 210
Amusement, 7, 11, 19, 20, 91–93, 106, 108, 116, 121, 130, 182, 192–194, 204
Anglosphere, 6, 8, 26, 29, 40–41, 59, 61, 90, 120, 146, 180, 209–210

Animation, 120, 150–151, 156, 161, 164–165, 173
Anxiety, 2, 18, 26, 91, 99, 113, 124, 142, 145–146, 172, 196, 203
Apathy, 26, 38, 61, 190
Arab Spring, 40
Aristophanes, 59
Aristotle, 9, 215
Art, 12–13, 15, 46, 94, 114–115, 151, 181–190, 201
Audience, 3, 5, 10, 17, 20–21, 64, 66, 74, 77, 78, 83, 91–93, 95, 98, 99, 101, 103–105, 110–117, 119–121, 123–125, 128–130, 138, 140–143, 146, 164, 167, 170, 191, 192, 196, 197, 204, 211, 212
Awkwardness, 6, 77–78, 89–90, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 108, 116, 138

B

Bakhtin, Mikhail, 9, 19, 47–49, 51, 116, 161
Baudrillard, Jean, 35, 183, 195, 196

- Beck, Ulrich, 171
- Bergson, Henri, 9, 10, 19, 20, 92–93, 104, 116, 117
- Biden, Joe, 71–72
- Big Bang Theory, The*, 112, 195, 214
- Billig, Michael, 7, 11, 19, 28, 39, 51, 113, 122
- Boltanski, Luc, 36, 202–203
- Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*, 15, 17, 89, 90, 91, 105–111, 114, 117, 119, 192, 204
- Bourdieu, Pierre, 15, 181
- Brent, David. *See* The Office
- Brown, Wendy, 28–29, 33–35, 37, 52
- Bruce, Lenny, 90, 120
- Bullying, 104, 116
- Bush, George W., 66, 70, 72–74, 82, 84, 86
- Burke, Kenneth, 46
- Butt, 10, 40, 63, 66, 68, 85, 86, 123, 136, 180, 196, 198
- C**
- Canada, 53, 69, 83
- Capitalism, 32–37, 43, 52, 144, 158–159, 183–184, 191, 195, 203, 205, 214. *See also* Neoliberalism
- Carnival, 24, 36, 39, 46–47, 49–51, 60, 84–85, 94, 116, 136, 156, 161
- Cenac, Wyatt. *See* Daily Show
- Chaplin, Charlie, 24, 95
- Chappelle, Dave. *See* Chappelle’s Show
- Chappelle’s Show*, 15, 17, 119–121, 123, 124–131, 136, 141, 143–146, 192, 204, 212
- “Clayton Bigsby”, 125, 127, 145
- “The Nigger Family”, 126–128, 143
- “Stereotype Pixies”, 129
- Colbert, Stephen, 15, 24–27, 30–33, 41, 51, 53, 197, 212
- Comedy Central, 17, 124, 129, 130, 212
- Consumerism, 8, 69, 156, 159–160, 184, 189
- Critchley, Simon, 39, 47–48
- Critique, 16, 18, 26–28, 35, 39, 41–42, 45, 46, 48, 52, 53, 65, 67, 68, 73, 74, 82, 85–87, 122, 126, 129, 131, 144–145, 159–160, 171, 202, 205, 215
- Cultural Studies, 12, 27, 61, 181, 183, 185, 195, 212, 215
- D**
- Daily Show, The*, 16, 23, 26, 27, 49, 60–63, 65–68, 70–72, 74, 75, 84, 85, 212. *See also* Stewart, Jon
- Cenac, Wyatt, 68–70, 83, 87
- Day, Amber, 44, 61, 63
- Deadpan, 69, 71, 96, 136
- Deleuze, Gilles, 35
- Democracy, 23, 25–29, 32, 35, 38–40, 42, 52, 61, 152, 190, 203
- Democrats (US Political Party), 64, 71
- Deviance, 99, 103, 111, 112, 114, 191
- Dewey, John, 19
- Discomfort, 4, 16–18, 89–117, 119, 120, 126, 127, 129, 142, 179, 199, 214
- Dissent, 13, 15, 16, 18, 27–29, 34–39, 42–44, 46, 49–52, 60, 84, 86, 199, 200, 202, 204, 205, 209, 213, 214
- Distribution of the Sensible. *See* Rancière, Jacques

- Documentary, 17, 77, 89, 93, 95–99, 103, 105–108, 110, 111, 113, 114
 mockumentary, 100, 105–107, 111, 113
Doomesbury, 59
 Doubt, 15, 18, 103, 104, 113, 115, 116, 140, 169–171, 193–194, 198–202, 204, 209, 210, 212
- E**
 Eclecticism, 196, 197
 Eco, Umberto, 5, 39, 50
 Egypt, 40–41
 Embarrassment, 91, 92, 100, 102, 104, 110–111, 113
 Embodiment, 91–92, 96, 119
 body genre, 92
 Empathy, 6, 91, 93, 94, 98, 101, 104, 110–111, 114, 116, 121, 142, 193
 Epistemology, 13, 18, 99, 106, 170–171, 173, 175, 180, 188, 191, 194, 199, 200, 203, 209, 210, 212, 214
Everybody Loves Raymond, 20, 214
- F**
 Facebook, 23
 Failure, 3, 6, 17, 19, 21, 74, 76–78, 80, 81, 83, 84, 95, 99–105, 110, 111, 113, 114, 120, 182, 210
 Farce, 110, 121, 137–138, 192
 Farrelly Brothers, 120
Family Guy, 17, 41, 150, 151, 161–166, 168, 169, 174, 179, 191, 193, 197, 204, 206
 Feminism, 2, 132
 Film, 8, 59, 90, 93, 94, 99, 105–107, 110, 111, 120, 124, 136–140, 143–145, 164, 209
- Fiske, John, 35
 Flusser, Vilem, 193–194
Four Lions, 17, 119, 121, 123, 136–145, 191, 192. *See also* Morris, Chris
 Fox Network, 17, 120
 Fox News, 23, 64
 Foucault, Michel, 46
 Frank, Thomas, 212
 Frankfurt School, 183
 Freedom, 16, 28–29, 32–34, 36–39, 41–43, 47, 50, 171, 199, 200, 204, 209, 214
Friends, 1–3, 5–6, 20, 21, 102, 103, 112, 113, 191, 193, 199, 214
 Freud, Sigmund, 9, 21, 113, 127
 Funniness, 19–20, 192
- G**
 Gender, 2, 21, 131, 133, 134, 143, 144
 femininity, 2, 132
 masculinity, 2, 43, 93, 95
 Giddens, Anthony, 35, 52
 Gilbert, Jeremy, 12, 33, 35, 36, 53, 61
 Gournelos, Ted, 153, 156–158, 202
 Gramsci, Antonio, 2, 29, 182
 Gray, John, 27, 44, 45, 104, 113, 152, 154
 Gross-out, 93, 120, 132
 Groys, Boris, 36, 183
- H**
 Hall, Stuart, 29, 212
 Hardt, Michael and Negri, Antonio, 34
 Hegemony, 29, 67, 212
 Hitler, Adolf, 24
 Hobbes, Thomas, 9, 10, 19
 Holocaust, the, 119, 121, 130, 134–136, 143, 144, 146, 198

Horkheimer, Max, 31, 183
Huffington Post, 28, 51
 Humiliation, 10, 17, 91, 92, 103–105,
 110, 194
 Husserl, Edmund, 167–168
 Hutcheson, Francis, 11

I

Iannucci, Armando, 76
 Ideology, 5, 7, 8, 13, 14, 17, 26, 29,
 31–33, 36–39, 41–44, 47, 50, 84,
 132, 140, 144, 151, 167, 187,
 191, 196, 197, 204, 212–214
 Impersonation, 52, 64, 66, 105
 Incongruity, 9–11, 42, 48, 63, 66,
 68, 71, 73–76, 81, 82, 93, 108,
 112–116, 124–127, 132, 135,
 139, 143, 144, 153, 163, 184,
 192, 193, 196, 198, 199, 205,
 211
 Intertextuality, 135, 146, 152
 Iraq, 70, 72–75, 83, 86, 156
 Irony, 16, 24, 108, 116, 143, 174,
 179, 183, 206, 210, 212
 Islam, 134, 136, 137, 140

J

Jackass, 17, 89, 90–102, 104, 105
 Knoxville, Johnny, 94, 96–97
 Jameson, Fredric, 13, 15, 182, 184,
 194–196
 Jones, Jeffrey P., 45, 48, 60

K

Kant, Immanuel, 9, 10, 19, 184–185
 Knoxville, Johnny. *See* Jackass

L

Laughter, 18–19
 Left, the, 24–26, 33, 52, 66–67, 69,
 83, 85, 162, 200
 Lewis, Paul, 9, 19, 52, 61, 82, 85, 94,
 121–123, 202
 “Killing Jokes”, 121–122
 Liberalism, 13, 16, 18, 26–43, 47–50,
 52, 67, 83, 96, 126, 131, 136,
 143, 190, 199–201, 204, 205
 Limbaugh, Rush, 60, 122–123
 Locke, John, 30
 Lockyer, Sharon, 7, 52
Loony Tunes
 Wiley E. Coyote, 149, 150, 191
 Daffy Duck, 150
 Bugs Bunny, 150–151
 Michigan J. Frog, 216
 Low, David, 59
 Lyotard, Jean-Francois, 195

M

Mad About You, 1
 Major, John, 45
 Marx Brothers, 59
 Marx, Karl, 36
 Marxism, 18, 182–183, 185
 Media, 3, 6–8, 15, 16, 19, 59, 61, 63,
 70, 86, 90, 99, 120, 139, 146,
 151, 162, 179, 180, 183, 185,
 189, 190, 194, 196–199, 201,
 209–210, 212, 215
 news media, 24, 63–64, 70, 76, 139
 social media, 40, 41
 Miller, Toby, 30
 Mindess, Harvey, 27, 42–45, 46, 52
 Mirzoeff, Nicholas, 3
 Mizejewski, Linda, 130–133, 143

Mockumentary. *See* Documentary
 Morreall, John, 46
 Morris, Chris, 17, 119, 121, 136–
 137. *See also* *Four Lions*
Brass Eye, 59, 136
Muppets, The, 135–136, 146, 150
Music Man, The, 154, 163, 164

N

Narrative, 12, 17, 72, 77–79, 97, 105,
 106, 108, 135, 138–140, 142,
 143, 150, 151, 154, 157–60,
 162–171, 175, 180, 189, 191,
 193, 197, 203
 Neoliberalism, 8, 14, 26, 33–36, 52,
 179, 213. *See also* Capitalism,
 Liberalism
 News media. *See* Media
NewsRadio, 1
 New York City, 1–3, 64–66, 72,
 106–108, 195
 Nihilism, 203, 205
 Noah, Trevor, 62
 Nonsense, 8, 45, 66, 135, 149, 151,
 153, 157, 163, 166–168, 170,
 172, 173, 211. *See also* Absurdity
Not the Nine O’Clock News, 62

O

Obama, Barack, 23, 61, 64, 66, 75
 Offence, 17, 100–101, 106, 108, 117,
 120–123, 125–127, 129–133,
 135, 141–143, 149, 156, 161,
 167, 180, 193, 197, 199, 203
Office, The, 17, 77, 89–92, 96,
 99–105, 110, 111, 113, 114,
 116, 119, 180, 192
 Brent, David, 96, 99–105, 110, 116
Onion, The, 16, 60, 61, 70–72, 74, 75,
 83, 84, 192

Ontology, 47, 60, 106, 150

P

Pain, 19, 91, 94–99, 101–102, 110,
 113–114, 116, 121, 164, 206
 Palin, Sarah, 64–65, 72, 75
 Paratexts, 101
 Parody, 50, 63, 72, 75, 90, 124, 134,
 164, 205, 206, 210
 Phiddian, Robert, 44
 Philosophy, 13–14, 27, 43, 45, 46, 52,
 53, 158, 182, 186, 216
 Pickering, Michael, 7, 52
 Political aesthetics, 11–15, 17, 18,
 48, 82, 87, 119, 129, 143, 156,
 179–185, 187–191, 194–196,
 200, 202, 203, 211
 Political correctness, 8, 34, 123
 Political humour, 51, 59–62, 64, 78,
 85, 142
 vs. politicised humour, 26, 61–62,
 68–69, 72, 75, 83–84, 86, 138,
 140, 203
 Political sphere, 16, 24, 26, 61–64,
 67, 69, 70, 72–76, 80–82, 86,
 187
 Politics, definition of, 12
 Postmodernity, 8, 14, 51, 189,
 194–206, 212–214
 Provocation, 6, 16–18, 53, 69, 90,
 99, 104, 108, 110, 119–124,
 126–132, 134–137, 140–146,
 175, 179, 180, 192, 200, 204,
 205
 Pryor, Richard, 90, 120
 Puns, 30, 45, 64, 72, 143

R

Race, 21, 46, 65, 120, 121, 124–125,
 127, 131, 132, 145, 146

- racism, 10, 31, 47, 96, 120, 125–129, 131, 143, 156, 162
- whiteness, 2, 37, 43, 72, 95, 119, 125–126, 129, 130, 133, 137, 143, 212, 215
- Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear, the, 15, 23–26, 30, 41, 50
- Rancière, Jacques, 13, 15, 18, 114, 182–183, 187–190, 201, 214, 215
- Distribution of the Sensible, 187–188, 190, 204
- Rawls, John, 30, 52
- Realism, 99, 105, 114, 153, 155, 168, 169
- Reason, 10, 12, 18, 24, 30–31, 36, 43, 51, 65, 80, 97, 98, 112, 126, 135, 154, 200, 202, 213
- Reasonableness, 4, 5, 24–26, 28–33, 35, 37–39, 41–42, 50–52
- "reasonable dissent", 28–29, 37, 38, 42, 50, 51, 200
- Rebellion, 27, 35, 38, 50, 53
- Reflexivity, 5, 6, 128, 141, 143, 171, 180, 195, 197
- Reilly, Ian, 23, 32
- Relief, 9, 64, 67, 68, 70, 95, 105, 113
- Religion, 7, 29, 70, 132, 140, 174
- Repetition, 33, 53, 63, 100, 164, 165, 168, 169, 175, 198, 214
- Representation, 13, 17, 31, 41, 48, 49, 61–63, 64, 70, 79, 80, 92, 94, 95, 98, 99, 102, 104, 106, 111, 114, 116, 119, 122, 125, 127, 130, 132, 138, 139, 150, 151, 158, 162, 163, 165, 173, 185, 187, 197, 199, 209, 210, 212, 213
- Republicans (US Political Party), 64, 66, 67
- Resistance, 7, 13, 27, 34–39, 134, 143–144, 159, 202, 212
- Revolution, 35–36, 39–40, 41, 52, 182, 185, 188, 189, 196, 212
- Rhetoric, 9, 26, 29, 30, 34, 37, 44, 47, 73, 74, 86
- Rice, Condoleezza, 73
- Ridicule, 3, 6, 7, 10, 38, 44, 49, 51, 59, 65–68, 70, 74, 75, 82, 83, 85, 96, 103, 107, 145, 171, 194, 199, 214
- S**
- Sarah Silverman Program, The*, 17, 119–121, 123, 130–136, 141–146, 179, 189, 192, 198, 212
- Satire, 23, 24, 27, 31, 32, 41, 43–46, 48, 51, 52, 59–60, 62, 70, 71, 74, 132, 145, 152, 159–60
- definition of, 44
- Scatology, 63, 76, 130, 156, 157, 161
- Schopenhauer, Arthur, 9, 10
- Seinfeld*, 2–6, 20, 130, 194, 197
- "Soup Nazi", 3–5
- Seriousness, 7, 24, 26, 47, 60–61, 70, 71, 80, 124, 131–132, 136, 138–140, 161, 173, 181, 191, 215
- Sex in the City*, 1
- Silverman, Sarah. *See Sarah Silverman Program*
- Simpsons, The*, 15, 17, 150–158, 161–164, 166, 168–169, 174, 193
- Sitcom, 2, 61, 75, 81, 99–102, 105, 106, 110, 114, 126, 127, 130, 133, 142–145, 150, 152, 153, 162, 164, 195, 197, 214
- Slapstick, 10, 79, 95–96, 98, 113–114, 134, 137–138
- Social media. *See media*
- South Park*, 17, 44, 53, 120, 150, 151, 156–162, 164, 166, 168–169, 171, 173, 174, 193, 199, 212

Spin City, 1

Stewart, John, 15, 23–28, 30–33, 41, 51, 53, 60, 62–68, 70, 72, 82, 190. *See also* *The Daily Show*

Stupidity, 2, 5, 10, 67, 82, 137, 161, 192

Suffering, 10, 17, 91, 93–95, 110–111, 115, 116

Subversion, 7, 11, 16, 26–28, 36, 38–42, 45–46, 48, 49, 60, 82–83, 125, 143, 150, 152, 189, 212

Superiority, 9–11, 20–21, 42, 66

Sympathy, 10, 38, 62, 89, 91–92, 95, 100, 103, 105, 114, 116, 120, 162, 173, 197, 202, 204, 214

Syria, 40–41, 64

T

Taboo, 17, 64, 108, 120–121, 123–127, 130–132, 134, 136, 142, 143, 145, 146

Television, 1, 2, 6, 23, 51, 64, 70, 90, 93, 101, 120, 124, 126, 133, 136, 152, 157, 159, 163, 173, 189, 209, 211

Tendentiousness, 21, 127

Terrorism, 119, 121, 137–140, 143–145

Textuality, 13, 14, 16, 19, 61, 86, 89, 90, 92, 98, 99, 103, 107, 113–115, 129, 142, 143, 150, 153, 158, 169, 179, 180, 191, 192, 197, 199, 209, 211, 213, 214

Thick of It, The, 16, 61, 75–81, 83

Thompson, Ethan, 45, 48, 156

Tolerance, 7, 18, 26, 27, 30–33, 38, 42, 108–110, 131, 151, 200

Trump, Donald, 40, 52, 64–66, 68, 72, 75, 82, 84, 192

Twain, Mark, 43

U

Uncomfortableness, 2, 77, 87, 89–92, 95, 96, 99–104, 107, 110, 111–116, 119–121, 125, 127, 129, 140–142, 146, 149, 167, 175, 180, 192, 195, 197, 200, 202–205, 212

V

Veep, 16, 61, 75–82, 85

Violence, 7, 31–32, 79, 95, 119, 121–122, 138, 139, 157, 165, 215

Vonnegut, Kurt, 59

W

Wallace, David Foster, 59

Washington D.C., 23, 79

Week that Was, The, 62

Weiner, Anthony, 64–65

Wickberg, Daniel, 27, 28, 38–41, 43

Williams, Raymond, 8, 28–29, 180, 182, 183

Y

Young Ones, The, 120, 137, 150

Z

Žižek, Slavoj, 31–33, 189

Zupančič, Alenka, 39, 42, 82–84