

Philosophy of Poetic Existence

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Abstract:

Philosophy of poetic existence is centered on language, experience and embodiment. Placing the past and future on equal footing, it is premised on exploiting the contradictions inherent in ideology, to formulate a four-dimensional identity projecting itself past the immediacy of the moment. It pragmatically embraces fragments of black southern folklore, Wittgensteinian, existentialist, nihilistic and feminist schools of thought, integrating them into womanist paradigms of knowing and feeling. It is a constructivist philosophy, that partially appropriates philosopher Lewis R. Gordon's philosophies of existence (distinct from existentialism - the popularly named ideological movement that is fundamentally a European, historical phenomenon) as "philosophical questions premised upon concerns of freedom, anguish, responsibility, embodied agency, sociality, and liberation. Philosophies of existence are marked by a centering of what is often known as the situation of questioning or inquiry itself...the lived context of concern."