

April 16, 2014

“The Role of Art in Liberal Democracies”

Roger Kimball, *The New Criterion*



Roger Kimball is Editor and Publisher of *The New Criterion* and President and Publisher of Encounter Books. He is an art critic for *National Review* and writes a regular column for PJ Media at *Roger's Rules*. Mr. Kimball lectures widely and has appeared on national radio and television programs as well as the BBC.

Kimball's latest book is *The Fortunes of Permanence: Culture and Anarchy in an Age of Amnesia* (2012). He is also the author of *The Rape of the Masters*, *Lives of the Mind: The Use and Abuse of Intelligence from Hegel to Wodehouse*, and *Art's Prospect: The Challenge of Tradition in an Age of Celebrity*. Other titles by Kimball include *The Long*

March: How the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s Changed America and *Experiments Against Reality: The Fate of Culture in the Postmodern Age*. Mr. Kimball is also the author of *Tenured Radicals: How Politics Has Corrupted Our Higher Education*.

Kimball is a frequent contributor to many publications in the US and England, including *The New Criterion*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *Modern Painters*, *Literary Review*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Public Interest*, *Commentary*, *The Spectator*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, *The American Spectator*, *The Weekly Standard*, *National Review*, and *The National Interest*.

Kimball is also a contributor to and co-editor, with Hilton Kramer, of *Against the Grain: The New Criterion on Art and Intellect at the End of the Twentieth Century*, *The Future of the European Past: Essays from The New Criterion*, *The Betrayal of Liberalism: How the Disciples of Freedom and Equality Helped Foster the Illiberal Politics of Coercion and Control*, *The Survival of Culture: Permanent Values in a Virtual Age*, *Lengthened Shadows: America and Its Institutions in the Twenty-First Century*, and *Counterpoints: 25 Years of The New Criterion on Culture and the Arts*. In addition, Mr. Kimball edited and provided introductions to an edition of Walter Bagehot's *Physics and Politics: Or, Thoughts on the Application of the Principles of "Natural Selection" and "Inheritance" to Political Society* and *Against the Idols of the Age*, an anthology of writings by the Australian philosopher David Stove.

Kimball has served on the Board of Advisors of the Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History, the Board of Visitors and Governors of St. John's College, Annapolis and Santa Fe, and Transaction Publishers. He currently serves on the board of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research.

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Farhang Erfani is an Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at American University and Research Associate at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in South Africa. He has also taught at Villanova University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Port Elizabeth, South Africa, Bryn Mawr College, and St. Joseph's University. His areas of

Specialization include continental Philosophy, political philosophy, and aesthetics. He is the author of two books: *Iranian Cinema and Philosophy: Shooting Truth* (2012) and *The Aesthetics of Autonomy: Ricœur and Sartre on Emancipation, Authenticity and Selfhood* (2011) and the editor of another: *Paul Ricœur (1913-2005): Honoring and Continuing the Work* (2011). He has also published articles and book chapters on Marx, Machiavelli, Rousseau, Tocqueville, Hegel, Kierkegaard, Sartre, Ricoeur, Lacan, Levinas, Lefort, Merleau-Ponty, Dickinson, Beckett, Iranian cinema, and the politics of boredom. He has a Baccalauréat de Science from France, his B.A. is from University of the Pacific, and his M.A. and Ph.D. are in philosophy from Villanova University.