

Keynes and his Battles



Gilles Dostaler, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada

'An extremely informed and readable account of Keynes's life and achievements, skillfully presented in their context. A teaching aid as well as a reference book, which manages to be both enjoyable and useful.'

– Cristina Marcuzzo, Università di Roma, 'La Sapienza', Italy

This fascinating book brings together and examines all aspects of the life and work of one of the most influential thinkers of the last century, John Maynard Keynes, whose theses are still hotly debated. It combines, in an accessible, unique and cohesive manner, analytical, biographical and contextual elements from a variety of perspectives.

Gilles Dostaler studies in detail the battles that Keynes led on various fronts – politics, philosophy, art, and of course economics – in the pursuit of a single and lifelong goal: to radically transform society to create a better world, a world pacified and freed from the neurotic pursuit of financial wealth and economic rentability, with art at its pinnacle. Containing detailed presentations of the Bloomsbury group and the political history of Great Britain, *Keynes and his Battles* is an essential reference to this most important of 20th century figures whose central message remains as topical today as it ever was. The study also contains a unique chronology of Keynes's life and historical events, portraits of Keynes by his friends and contemporaries, as well as a full bibliography of all his books, chapters contributed to books, journal articles and reviews.

Scholars, students and researchers of economics, the history of economic thought, political science, sociology, history, philosophy and the history of arts will find this an absorbing and revealing work. The book should also interest journalists, decision makers in society and all those who are preoccupied by the problems of our time.

Contents: 1. Introduction 2. Ethics: The Sources of Keynes's Vision 3. Knowledge: Uncertainty, Probabilities and the Moral Sciences 4. Politics: Beyond Liberalism and Socialism 5. War and Peace: From the Boer War to Versailles 6. Money: Economic Motor and Social Pathology 7. Labour: The Battle Against Unemployment 8. Gold: An International Monetary System in the Service of Humanity 9. Art: Theoretician, Consumer and Patron of the Arts 10. Conclusion: From Keynes to Keynesianism Appendix 1. Keynes and His Time: Chronology Appendix 2. Maynard as Seen by His Friends and Contemporaries Bibliography Index

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