Thinking past methodological individualism in the construction of the academic self.

Varied concepts of the university have evoked various concepts of the appropriate academic self as appropriate holders of academic office. In this paper the older forms of academic self are examined, without nostalgia, and the constraints and possibilities of the neo-liberal self, both as chooser and owner of a particular kind of capital are discussed, with some reflection on how one might resist and provoke, or poke, the expectations of current discourses. In particular I will look at the Schumpeterian model of entrepreneur, and the lack of gaiety, goodness or metanoia engendered by the sadness/banality of neo-liberal environments.

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