

THE CREATIVITY HOAX Precarious Work and the Gig Economy



The Creativity Hoax

Precarious Work in the Gig Economy By George Morgan and Pariece Nelligan

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Creativity, the leitmotif of new capitalism, has become a key neo-liberal idiom for reorganizing work and working life.

'A great blend of the personal, the political and the empirical – this is an essential volume for anyone who wants to understand work and the problems of work in our society.'

-Kate Oakley, Professor of Cultural Policy, School of Media and Communication, University of Leeds, UK

'This is a wonderful and important book in the best tradition of cultural studies. It explores what "autobiographies of uncertainty" feel like in contemporary capitalism. Morgan and Nelligan's notions of "just-in-time workers", "labile labour" and "promiscuous aspiration" look set to become key points of reference for future analyses.'

-Rosalind Gill, Professor of Cultural and Social Analysis, City, University of London, UK

'In The Creativity Hoax, George Morgan and Pariece Nelligan unleash a scathing, and timely, critique of the promises and fantasies of the "gig economy". Most poignant are the book's diverse voices, drawn from interviews with those at the coalface of new forms of precarious work.' —Chris Gibson, Professor of Human Geography, University of Wollongong, Australia

We often hear that creativity is the key to economic regeneration in the west, yet those who pursue creative skills/ambitions typically experience low incomes and poor career prospects. 'The Creativity Hoax' argues that the 'call to creativity' is designed to make workers more labile, agile and mobile, ready to shelve their ambitions and transfer their skills towards the opportunities the labour market produces.

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