

Editor's Note

With this volume, *boundary 2* inaugurates a new series of issues, dossiers, and articles under the title “Legacies of the Future.” Our aim is to examine recent and older past writings and careers for their value to those interested in working toward different futures. In this issue on William Spanos, colleagues and former students measure his achievements as resources for future critical efforts.

“Legacies of the Future” is neither a historicist project nor a monumentalizing one. *boundary 2* wants to keep freshly in mind the variety of important critical projects and modes of academic critical work that have given us important insights and directions, especially when they remain incomplete. We believe it is important that the complex range and diversity of intellectual life, work, and imagination we see in our inheritances remain an active part of our efforts to build alternative futures. The foci of these projects will not always be academic or US; we have a chance to present figures from outside the standard academic canon whose recall would be important. Writings under this rubric will keep in mind the importance of judgment, of identifying and valuing past contributions of persistent value. We begin this series with an examination of William Spanos, not least because of his role as founding coeditor of *boundary 2*.