

Asunder

Torn AsunderPlaneTalk Collected Writings 2013-2014 Erika Pani Donald J. DeGracia

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in 1848 the treaty of guadalupe hidalgo ended the mexican american war and dramatically reshaped north american geopolitics by ceding half of mexico s territory to the united states in the following decades as conflicts over slavery in the united states and over the nature of nation state and religion in mexico overwhelmed politics both republics collapsed into civil war in mexico internal conflict sparked foreign intervention and the establishment of monarchical rule under an austrian prince while across the border eleven southern states seceded from the union to establish a republic founded on slavery and white supremacy erika pani s torn asunder weaves these two tales of crisis war and political experimentation into a single story pani argues that by consecrating these episodes as epic and exceptionalist chapters in both nations histories scholars have overlooked the coincidences and connections between the united states and mexico she chronicles the ways in which between 1848 and 1867 politicians from the two nations tested different formulas reacted to virulent opposition sedition and war and ultimately attempted to unite deeply divided countries torn asunder highlights the fragile contentious and unpredictable nature of politics in the americas rooted in the inherent instability of popular sovereignty

fair warning is given to the materialists and physicalists who think we are nothing more than our brain and body degracia throws down the gauntlet and offers substantial challenges to such shallow and naive views in this provocative set of essays this collection consists of planetalk blogs from 2013 and 2014 covering a variety of topics about this and the other worlds the möbius geometry that lets us move amongst the planes is discussed as are the ten types of samadhi described by patanjali in the yoga sutras read about wilder penfield the dualist neurosurgeon and what he says about where consciousness begins and ends in the brain a toy model of epistemology is developed based on chaitin s ideas in algorithmic information theory leibniz monads and richard feynman s philosophies are discussed and so much more there s bound to be something here for everyone interested in the links between our physical and nonphysical existence

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