## 49th Lecture at the Gramsci Monument, The Bronx, NYC: 18th August 2013 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO PAY? Marcus Steinweg

- 1. As Bataille, Blanchot, Sartre and Lacan have shown, the experience of what is *heterogeneous*, of the *exterior*, of *contingency*, of the *real*, a borderline experience that tears the subject out of its interior security.
- 2. The subject loses itself as the subject of self-control and world-control.
- 3. It plunges out of its essence and this experience is the terror of an absolute disconcertion and disintegration.
- 4. The becoming of the subject describes the subject's confrontation with its unconscious, which is a touching of the limit of the order of consciousness.
- 5. The question concerning the touching of truth must be extended to the question concerning the subject.
- 6. The subject *lives* as a subject touching truth.
- 7. To be a subject means to make a pact with a truth.
- 8. Something resembling a subject exists only as a subject of truth.
- 9. The subject neither speaks the truth, nor is it in the truth, in the accessible openness of being, as Heidegger calls it.
- 10. A subject is that which experiences the limit of the opened-up truth and the limitedness of the truth of propositions.

- 11. The experience of the limit and of limitedness (of delimiting what is actual as a factual truth) is what I call touching the untouchable.
- 12. The subject *performs* this touching in the moment of its *decision* in favour of a truth which does not pre-exist as such.
- 13. The subject as a subject of this touching is the subject of truth.
- 14. By touching on a truth it also touches itself in an unmistakable way, a self which, strictly speaking, does not exist.
- 15. It comes into contact with an (impossible) beyond.