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## Consequences of Enlightenment

What is the relationship between contemporary intellectual culture and the European Enlightenment it claims to reject? In *Consequences of Enlightenment*, Anthony J. Cascardi revisits the arguments advanced in Horkheimer and Adorno's seminal work *Dialectic of Enlightenment*. Cascardi argues against the view that postmodern culture has rejected Enlightenment beliefs and explores instead the continuities contemporary theory shares with Kant's theory of judgment. The positive consequences of Kant's failed ambition to bring the project of Enlightenment to completion, he argues, are evident in the aesthetic basis on which subjectivity has survived in the contemporary world. Cascardi explores the link between aesthetics and politics in thinkers as diverse as Habermas, Derrida, Arendt, Nietzsche, Hegel, and Wittgenstein in order to reverse the tendency to see works of art simply in terms of the worldly practices among which they are situated. Works of art, he argues, are themselves capable of disclosing truth. The book explores the post-Enlightenment implications of Kant's claim that feeling, and not only cognition, may provide a ground for knowledge.

ANTHONY J. CASCARDI is Richard and Rhoda Goldman Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at the University of California, Berkeley, where he teaches in the Departments of Comparative Literature, Rhetoric, and Spanish. He is co-editor of the Literature, Culture, Theory series, and author of *The Subject of Modernity*, among numerous other books and articles.

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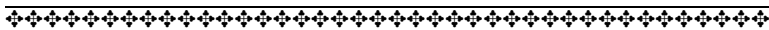
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