

HT - first round [v1-3]

Between September 2005 and January 2007, Factory School published fifteen titles under the "Heretical Texts" series banner. Bundled into three volumes of five books each, Heretical Texts from the beginning emphasized both authorial inter-individuality and thematic connections between and among books. The original HT prompt stressed the importance of publishing books as provocations for future writing, reading, editing, and learning activities. Concerned with nurturing an evolving series identity as much as producing discrete works, Heretical Texts continues to investigate its own structural past in order to construct a series future.

As a series containing poetry, HT set out to test old assumptions about the efficacies of poetic texts as political and historical documents. If poetry can extend the document, as Muriel Rukeyser proposed, then one goal with HT has been to extend the documentary function of poetry even further, using the series frame as both method and motivator. A related series goal is to create new curriculum for heterodox education worlds, infecting communication channels with what Herbert Marcuse called "the expression of protest and refusal." Thus all HT books—heretical insofar as each attempts its own form of playful and purposeful deviance—operate within Factory School's larger effort to build curriculum (teachable texts) through publishing and other media projects.

HT - second pass [v4-6]

Drawing on existing resources (current books, authors, editors, ideas, ambitions), HT continues with three new volumes, beginning with number four released in January 2009. The fourth volume of Heretical Texts expands on the original series prompt by stressing rhetorical and poetic variety, collaborative design and distribution work, and participation in a growing "series phalanx" (compact, community) involving HT authors and series editors.

Volume 5 Prompt: Heretical Texts aims to explore poetry as political investigation and intervention, favoring social and historical documentarian ventures (discerning the moment, with momentum) taking the form of assemblages, disclosures, and expositions. HT books investigate past and present political realities insofar as they take language, ecology, tradition, resistance, and revolution as driving themes and points of departure. Some possible vectors include "case files," matters (and explorations) of fact, history reports, design plans, "image events," media exposés, and research projects made to resemble, or reassemble, poetry.

For more information about the Heretical Texts series, please write to bmarsh@factoryschool.org

For more about Factory School, visit www.factoryschool.org or write to editors@factoryschool.org

proposed Vol. 5 schedule

Jun-July: Reading, response
Aug: V5 final lineup
Sept-Oct: Pre-production
Jan 2010: Publication