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«Simmel et Tarde. Le retour »

This study is a contribution to a question of intellectual policy: to propose an author may have as main function to dispute the intellectual line incarnated by another author. Thus, Georg Simmel (1858-1918) and Gabriel Tarde (1843-1904) owe their fortune since the years 1980, after a long period of lapse of memory and darkness, with the attempt to undermine the durkheimian capital and all that it represents. They are emblems in a intellectual fight more than of the resources for a sociological research program: between the texts of the authors, the comments of their admirors and the effective contributions to the sociology of these authors, the contrast is rather apparent. Four questions will be considered: the common features of Simmel and of Tarde ; arguments in the

commentators in favour of this bringing together; the structure of the space of the commentators; durkheimism like stake.