



# **The Creation of the World or Globalization (SUNY Series in Contemporary French Thought)**

*Jean-Luc Nancy*

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# The Creation of the World or Globalization (SUNY Series in Contemporary French Thought)

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*Philosophical reflections on the phenomenon of globalization.*

Appearing in English for the first time, Jean-Luc Nancy's 2002 book reflects on globalization and its impact on our being-in-the-world. Developing a contrast in the French language between two terms that are usually synonymous, or that are used interchangeably, namely *globalisation* (globalization) and *mondialisation* (world-forming), Nancy undertakes a rethinking of what "world-forming" might mean. At stake in this distinction is for him nothing less than two possible destinies of our humanity, and of our time. On the one hand, with globalization, there is the uniformity produced by a global economical and technological logic leading to the contrary of an inhabitable world, "the un-world" (*l'im-monde*)—as Nancy refers to it—an un-world that entails social disintegration, misery, and injustice. And, on the other hand, there is the possibility of an authentic world-forming, that is, of a making of the world and of a making sense that Nancy calls a "creation" of the world. Nancy understands such world-forming in terms of an inexhaustible struggle for justice. This book is an important contribution by Nancy to a philosophical reflection on the phenomenon of globalization and a further development on his earlier works on our being-in-common, justice, and a-theological existence.

"...the writer has developed a unique interpretation of subjectivity and experience as a critical basis for rethinking community ... It is impossible not to be impressed by a book in which nothing, from the poetics of the writing to the final proposition, is overemphasized or strained." — *Social & Legal Studies*

"...recently translated into English ... the book reframes a question from earlier days; what does it mean to exist with others in a world whose disparate global parts are increasingly being brought together and unified?" — *The Kelvingrove Review*

"Graced by a lucid introduction from his superb translators, Jean-Luc Nancy's *The Creation of the World or Globalization* plots the creative world-forming possibilities by which, in the name of a certain justice, the nihilism of globalization may be resisted. The future of the world hangs in the balance; Nancy makes a brilliant contribution to thinking new beginnings." — David Wood, author of *The Step Back: Ethics and Politics after Deconstruction*

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