

POSTFACE

Though with an epilogue and subsequently wrought postface, this effort is far from exhaustive. My attempt has been to leave the discussion openended, to avoid closure. It is just one foray into the myriad possibilities of dialogue that Bakhtin sets up. The thesis is not even rounded out in that I could not take stock of some very recent studies in the area like the New Accents issue on Dialogism by Holquist; Subversive Pleasures: Bakhtin, Cultural Criticism, and Film by Robert Stam; Rethinking Bakhtin: Extensions and Challenges edited by Gary Saul Morson and Caryl Emerson; Bakhtin and Cultural Theory edited by Ken Hirschkop and David Shepherd; etc. All of these, I am sure, have a bearing on my arguments: perhaps they anticipate me, perhaps they even derail views that I subscribe to. But then I look on a Ph.D. dissertation as nothing but a training for further, more durable, work.