

Review of: "György Márkus 75% Mensch: On the occasion of the Publication of the English version of *How is a Critical Economic Theory Possible?*"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for submitting this article. I'm writing this from the perspective of someone who has written on Marx, Engels and ecology and therefore has some general knowledge on the subject but was not familiar with Gyorgy Markus' work previously (unlike the other reviewer, Harry Blatterer, who I can see works in this area). I think this article makes a good case that we should revisit Markus' writings - especially his understanding of concepts of progress and modernity - and I like how this is contrasted with Heller's thinking. Although not stated in this article, these themes have a lot of contemporary resonances when viewed in the context of discussions of degrowth and general interest in alternatives to the linear model of "historical progress" apparently advocated by Heller. The author might find Kohei Saito's more recent work interesting in this regard as it draws on Marx's unpublished later work to argue that Marx became a degrowth communist, and that he neglected his earlier focus on the progressive development of productive forces. I also like the brief discussion of popular science.

There are some areas where I think the points in this article could be explained further, especially if this is intended to be read by a more general audience. I think it should explain what the project of the New Left was, for example, and how it represented a break from Communist orthodoxy (which may be obvious to some readers but not all). What are "unorthodox Marxists"? This obviously has a specific meaning for scholars of Lukacs. I was also expecting this article to focus more on Markus himself and the influence of the Budapest School in Australia. Some biographical information at the start - even if brief - would help orientate the reader. We don't find out he was a musicologist until very late on and we don't know that Maria was his wife until after she is mentioned. It sounds like an understatement to say that the new translation of *How is a Critical Economic Theory Possible?* "has some current economic and political interest". If the author wants to argue that it is "vitally contemporary" or that Markus was one of the "great thinkers of our times" than they should say so more emphatically. Presumably part of the aim of this article is to raise awareness of this book, which the author also edited. This article would also benefit from a stronger conclusion as it seems to end a bit abruptly and some editing throughout - for eg is this a "lecture" or an "article"? who is Feher? wasn't the Hawke government Labor rather than Labour? (Hawke's Labor is mentioned in the abstract but I don't think the author ever returns to this point). Overall these are quite minor suggestions though. Thanks again for raising awareness of Markus' work.

