Judith Butler
Born: 24 February 1956
American philosopher. Key figure in queer theory due to book Gender Trouble (1990), which argued that the idea of two 'biological' sexes is just as socially constructed as gender is. Feminist discussion of men and women as separate groups - and all women as one coherent group - has only served to maintain this problem. Butler calls for proliferation of radical gender performances to subvert assumptions.

Selected Works:
Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity (Routledge, 1990)
Bodies That Matter. On the Discursive Limits of Sex' (Routledge, 1993)
Excitable Speech: A Politics of the Performative (Routledge, 1997)