Jean Francois Lyotard
(1924-1998)
His book The Postmodern Condition (1979) argues that the postmodern era is characterised by the collapse of faith in grand narratives like science, religion, and Marxism. This ‘incredulity towards metanarratives’ means we can only address fragmentary or case-specific explanations and preoccupations. Lyotard sees metanarratives as tyrannical, trying to force order and universal rules onto the world. Claims to truth, or proof, are suspicious.

Selected Works:
The Postmodern Condition (Univ. of Minnesota, 1985)
Postmodern Fables (Univ. of Minnesota, 1999)
Toward the Postmodern (Humanity, 1998)