



VERSO

Foreign Rights Catalogue / **Spring 2018**

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About Verso

Verso Books is the largest independent radical publisher in the English-speaking world, with a list that encompasses trade and academic titles in politics, current affairs, history, philosophy, social sciences and literature.

Launched by *New Left Review* in 1970, Verso—the left-hand page—has offices in London and New York and publishes, on average, 80 books a year.

Its rich backlist includes landmark books by Tariq Ali, Benedict Anderson, Robin Blackburn, Robert Brenner, Judith Butler, Alexander Cockburn, Noam Chomsky, Mike Davis, David Harvey, Eric Hobsbawm, Fredric Jameson, Edward Said, Rebecca Solnit, Ellen Meiksins Wood, and Slavoj Žižek.

For a full list of Verso's titles, please visit our website, www.versobooks.com.

A different kind of politics for a new kind of society – beyond work, scarcity and capitalism

Fully Automated Luxury Communism

A Manifesto

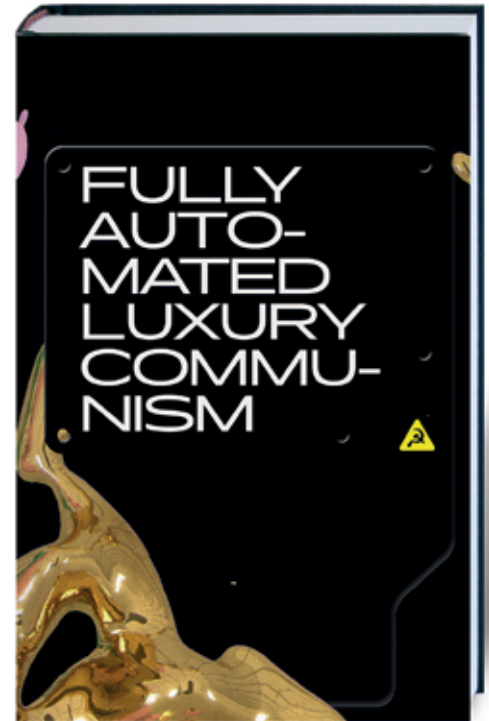
Aaron Bastani

The first decade of the twenty-first century marked the demise of the current world order. Despite widespread acknowledgement of these disruptive crises, the proposed response from the mainstream remains the same. Against the confines of this increasingly limited politics, a new paradigm has emerged. *Fully Automated Luxury Communism* claims that new technologies will liberate us from work, providing the opportunity to build a society beyond both capitalism and scarcity. Automation, rather than undermining an economy built on full employment, is instead the path to a world of liberty, luxury and happiness. For everyone.

In his first book, radical political commentator Aaron Bastani conjures a new politics: a vision of a world of unimaginable hope, highlighting how we move to energy abundance, feed a world of nine billion, overcome work, transcend the limits of biology and build meaningful freedom for everyone. Rather than a final destination, such a society heralds the beginning of history.

Fully Automated Luxury Communism promises a radically new left future for everyone.

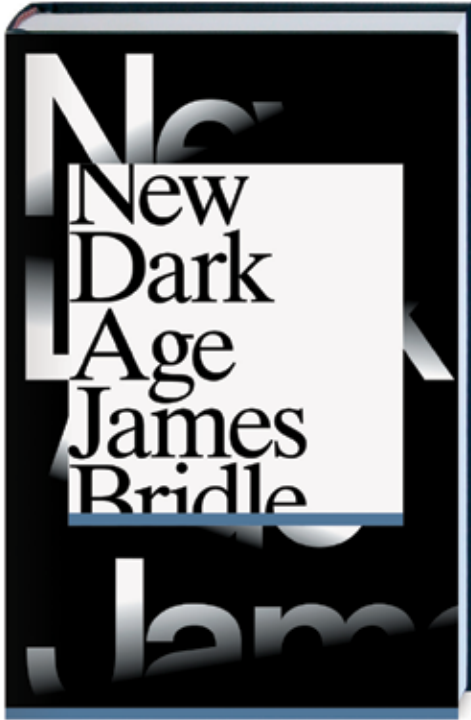
Aaron Bastani is co-founder and senior editor at Novara Media. He holds a PhD from the New Political Communication Unit, University of London, examining social movements in the digital environment which fail to correspond to the traditional logic of collective action. His research interests include new media, social movements, asymmetric strategies and post-scarcity political economy. He has written for *Vice*, *London Review of Books*, *Guardian* and *Open Democracy*.



June 2018

208 pages

How the Information Age destroys knowledge



June 2018

256 pages

New Dark Age

Technology, Knowledge and the End of the Future

James Bridle

We live in times of increasing inscrutability. Our news feeds are filled with unverified, unverifiable speculation, much of it automatically generated by anonymous software. As a result, we no longer understand what is happening around us. Underlying all of these trends is a single idea: the belief that quantitative data can provide a coherent model of the world, and the efficacy of computable information to provide us with ways of acting within it. Yet the sheer volume of information available to us today reveals less than we hope. Rather, it heralds a new Dark Age: a world of ever-increasing incomprehension.

In his brilliant new work, leading artist and writer James Bridle offers us a warning against the future in which the contemporary promise of a new technologically assisted Enlightenment may just deliver its opposite: an age of complex uncertainty, predictive algorithms, surveillance, and the hollowing out of empathy. Surveying the history of art, technology and information systems he reveals the dark clouds that gather over discussions of the digital sublime.

James Bridle is a literary editor, technologist, writer, journalist, and visual artist. He writes for *Guardian*, *Observer*, *Wired*, *Frieze*, *Atlantic*, and many other publications.

“The young British artist is spearheading a conceptual-art movement – ‘the New Aesthetic’ – through Tumblr, Twitter, and Instagram, as he tries to capture technology’s strange effects on society.” *Vanity Fair*

A field manual to the technologies that are changing our lives

NEW IN PAPERBACK

Radical Technologies

The Design of Everyday Life

Adam Greenfield

Everywhere we turn, a startling new device promises to transfigure our lives. But at what cost? In this urgent and revelatory excavation of our Information Age, leading technology thinker Adam Greenfield forces us to reconsider our relationship with the networked objects, services and spaces that define us. It is time to reevaluate the Silicon Valley consensus determining the future.

Having successfully colonised everyday life, radical technologies – from smartphones, blockchain, augmented-reality interfaces and virtual assistants to 3D printing, autonomous delivery drones and self-driving cars – are now conditioning the choices available to us in the years to come. How do they work? What challenges do they present to us, as individuals and societies? Who benefits from their adoption? In answering these questions, Greenfield's timely guide clarifies the scale and nature of the crisis we now confront – and offers ways to reclaim our stake in the future.

Adam Greenfield has worked as a lead information architect for the Tokyo office of internet services consultancy Razorfish, head of design direction for service and user-interface design at Nokia headquarters in Helsinki, and Senior Urban Fellow at the LSE Cities Centre of the London School of Economics. He has been an instructor in Urban Design at the Bartlett, University College London. His books include *Everyware*, *Urban Computing and its Discontents*, and the 2013 pamphlet *Against the Smart City*.

"Adam Greenfield goes digging into the layers that constitute what we experience as smooth tech surface. He unsettles and repositions much of that smoothness. *Radical Technologies* is brilliant and scary." **Saskia Sassen**, *Columbia University, author of Expulsions*

"We exist within an ever-thickening web of technologies whose workings are increasingly opaque to us. In this illuminating and sometimes deeply disturbing book Adam Greenfield explores how these systems work, how they synergise with each other, and the resultant effects on our societies, our politics, and our psyches. This is an essential book." **Brian Eno**

"A tremendously intelligent and stylish book on the 'colonisation of everyday life by information processing' calls for resistance to rule by the tech elite ... a landmark primer and spur to more informed and effective opposition."

Steve Poole, Guardian



May 2018

340 pages

Chinese (simplified): Publishing House of Electronics Industry

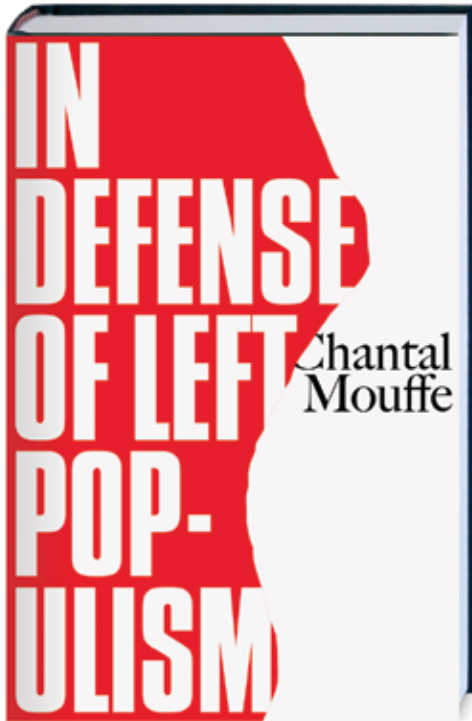
Italian: Einaudi

Polish: Bec Zmiana Foundation

Russian: Delo Publishers

Turkish: Epos

What is the “populist moment” and what does it mean for the left?



In Defense of Left Populism

Chantal Mouffe

Populism, today, is the expression of a crisis of liberal-democratic politics. It is more than an ideology or a political regime. It is a way of doing politics that can take various forms but emerges when one aims at building a new subject of collective action – the people.

In this new book the leading political thinker Chantal Mouffe proposes a new way to define left populism. The political is to be constructed by establishing a political frontier that divides society into two camps, mobilising an “underdog” against “those in power”. Populism, far from being a perversion of democracy, constitutes the most adequate political force to recover and reconstitute itself. This new politics must recognise its partisan character. This presents itself as more than the image of demagoguery and emotive rabbles seen across our media. Furthermore, it is an urgent struggle, because the future will be formed by the kind of populism that emerges victorious from the conflict against the current threats of post-politics and post-democracy.

Chantal Mouffe is Professor of Political Theory at the Centre for the Study of Democracy at the University of Westminster. Her books include *Agonistics*, *The Return of the Political*, *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy* (with Ernesto Laclau), *The Dimensions of Radical Democracy*, *The Democratic Paradox* and *The Challenge of Carl Schmitt*.

July 2018

176 pages

French: Albin Michel

Praise for Chantal Mouffe

“Mouffe represents a position that every serious student of contemporary political thought must acknowledge and come to terms with.”

Philosopher's Magazine

“Evocative and challenging.” *Radical Philosophy*

“Important and timely.” *Political Theory*

The Blanqui Reader

Louis Auguste Blanqui

Edited by Philippe Le Goff and Peter Hallward

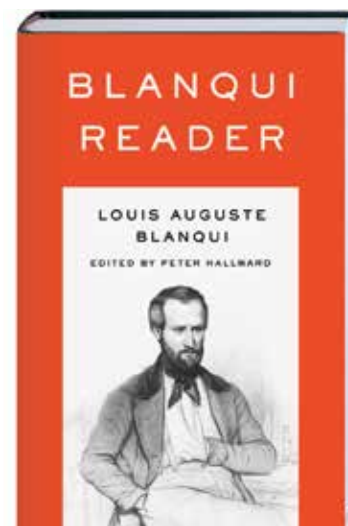
Translated by Philippe Le Goff, Peter Hallward and Mitchell Abidor

Louis Auguste Blanqui (1805–1881) was one of the most important and controversial figures in nineteenth-century French revolutionary politics, and he played a major role in all of the great upheavals that punctuated his life – the insurrections of 1830, 1848 and 1870–1871. Adamant that a just and egalitarian society can only be established by revolutionary means, he recognised that no revolution can succeed if it fails to overcome the coercive resources of the state, and no revolutionary government can endure if it betrays the principles that alone earn and deserve mass support.

This is the first collection of Blanqui's political writings ever published in English, and it includes new and complete translations of his best known texts: *Instructions for an Armed Uprising* and *Eternity by the Stars*.

Philippe Le Goff teaches French at Kingston University, where he was previously a postdoctoral research fellow in the Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy.

Peter Hallward teaches Philosophy at Kingston University. His books *The Will of the People* and *Blanqui and Political Will* are also forthcoming from Verso.



February 2018

336 pages

NEW IN PAPERBACK

The Communist Horizon

Jodi Dean

Jodi Dean unshackles the communist ideal from the failures of the Soviet Union. In the new capitalism of networked information technologies, our very ability to communicate is exploited, but revolution is still possible if we organise on the basis of our common and collective desires. Examining the experience of the Occupy movement, Dean argues that such spontaneity can't develop into a revolution and it needs to constitute itself as a party. An innovative work of pressing relevance, *The Communist Horizon* offers nothing less than a manifesto for a new collective politics.

Jodi Dean teaches political and media theory in Geneva, New York. She has written many books, including *Crowds and Party* and *Democracy and Other Neoliberal Fantasies*.



Paperback edition July 2018

256 pages

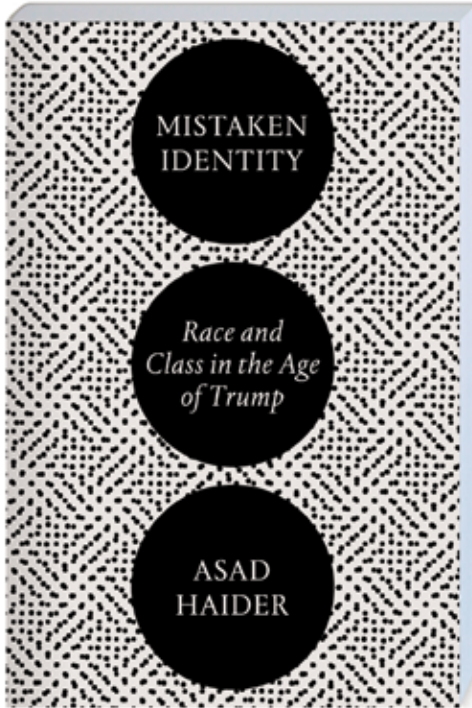
"This is what everyone engaged in today's struggles for emancipation needs: a unique combination of theoretical stringency and a realistic assessment of our predicament. To anyone who continues to dwell in illusions about liberal democracy, one should simply say: read Jodi Dean's new book!" **Slavoj Žižek**

"Jodi's sharp analysis of the impasses of the left is also a kind of requiem for much of the 2.0 bluster of the last decade." **Mark Fisher, author of Capitalist Realism**

French: Nous
German: Laika
Japanese: Koshisha
Korean: Hyunsil
Serbian: Faculty of Media and Communications
Spanish: Bellaterra
Turkish: Yapi Kredi



A powerful challenge to the way we understand class, identity, and the history of anti-racism



Mistaken Identity Race and Class in the Age of Trump **Asad Haider**

The phenomenon of “identity politics” represents one of the primary impasses of the left, and has occasioned the reignition of frustrating debates between the partisans of race and class ad infinitum. In *Mistaken Identity*, Asad Haider reaches for a different approach – one rooted in the rich legacies of the black freedom struggle. Drawing from the words and deeds of black revolutionary theorists, he argues that identity politics is not synonymous with anti-racism, but instead amounts to the neutralisation of its movements. It marks a retreat from the crucial passage from identity to solidarity, and from individual recognition to collective struggle against an oppressive social structure.

Mistaken Identity is a political and theoretical tour de force, an urgent call for alternative visions, languages, and practices against the white identity politics of right-wing populism. The idea of universal emancipation now seems old-fashioned and outmoded. But if we are attentive to the lines of struggle that lie outside the boundaries of the state, we will see that it has been placed on the agenda once again.

Asad Haider is a writer and activist in the San Francisco Bay Area, a PhD student at UC Santa Cruz and the co-founder of *Viewpoint Magazine*.

April 2018

144 pages

An exhaustive collection of revolutionary theory from slavery and reconstruction to Black Power to Black Feminism

Black Radical Tradition

A Reader

Edited by Ben Mabie, Erin Gray
and Asad Haider

Preface by Barbara Ransby

With activists taking to the streets with renewed vigor to fight racism, inequality, and capitalism, this collection of classic writings and primary documents restores the historical grounding and revolutionary genealogy of today's protest movements. Including key writings of thinkers and figures like W.E.B. Du Bois, Hubert Harrison, Harry Haywood, Claude McKay, Claudia Jones, C.L.R. James, Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Audre Lorde and the Combahee River Collective, this is the most comprehensive collection of revolutionary black voices ever assembled. In highlighting the central debates that animated the movement through its long history, it registers the monumental import once of black radical theory to our understanding of the past and present alike.

Incisive contextual materials from the editors help situate each contribution in its historical and political setting, and a preface from Barbara Ransby argues for the resounding purchase these authors have for our own time. The book is a powerful testament to over 150 years of struggle, a valuable resource for both scholars and activists.

Ben Mabie is the managing editor of *Viewpoint Magazine*, a journal of Marxist theory as it is articulated within mass movements. He works as an editorial assistant at Verso Books.

Erin Gray is a historian and theorist of lynching. Her writing appears in *Viewpoint Magazine*, and multiple other journals.

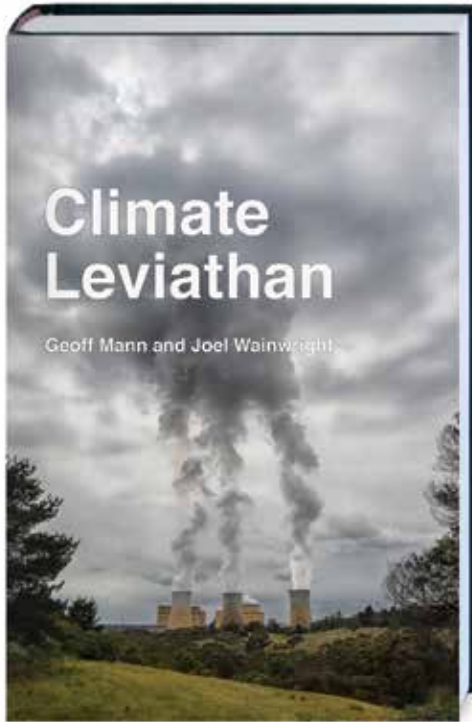
Asad Haider is a founding editor of *Viewpoint Magazine* and author of *Mistaken Identity*.



July 2018

352 pages

How climate change will affect our political theory — for better and worse



Climate Leviathan

A Political Theory of Our Planetary Future

Geoff Mann and Joel Wainwright

Despite all the science and summits, leading capitalist states have not managed to mitigate anything close to an adequate level of carbon emissions. There is no way the world will warm less than the critical 2°C threshold. What are the likely political-economic outcomes? Where is our warming world headed? Possibilities in the struggle for climate justice depend on our capacity to anticipate where the existing global order is likely to go. *Climate Leviathan* provides a radical way of thinking about how environmental change will intensify existing challenges to global order, unearthing the forces for a planetary variation on existing forms of sovereignty. Drawing on a wide range of political thought, Wainwright and Mann argue that rapid climate change will transform global political economy and our world's basic political arrangements, leading toward a capitalist planetary sovereignty. Alternative futures must be constructed in the face of these transformations.

October 2017

208 pages

Spanish: Malpaso

Geoff Mann is Director of the Centre for Global Political Economy, Simon Fraser University. He is the author most recently of *In the Long Run We Are All Dead: Keynesianism, Political Economy and Revolution*.

Joel Wainwright, associate professor at Ohio State, is author of *Geopiracy* and *Decolonizing Development*, which won the Blaut award.

Praise for *In the Long Run We Are All Dead*

"[Mann] treats Keynesianism as the alternative to economic collapse and/or revolution and argues that insofar as leftists have come to embrace it, they have quite explicitly given up hope for an alternative to capitalism."

Dean Baker, author of *The End of Loser Liberalism*

"A detailed, fast-flowing account of how repeatedly guileful Keynesianism crisis management has saved the elite by reengineering tragedy ... rewarding reading." **Danny Dorling, author of *Inequality and the 1%***

"Mann makes it clear that Keynes's critique of liberalism can be found already in Hegel; and that now we need to leave behind the caution of the great philosopher and the great economist, thus realizing a radical alternative to capitalism. This is a provocative, original and brilliant book."

Domenico Losurdo, author of *Liberalism: A Counter-History*

What does the good life – and the good society – look like in the twenty-first century?

NEW IN PAPERBACK

Out of the Wreckage

A New Politics for an Age of Crisis

George Monbiot

Today, our lives are dominated by an ideology of extreme competition and individualism. It misrepresents human nature, destroying hope and common purpose. But we cannot replace it without a positive vision, one that reengages people in politics and lights a path to a better world. Urgent and passionate, George Monbiot shows how new findings in psychology, neuroscience and evolutionary biology cast humans in a radically different light: as the supreme altruists and cooperators. He shows how both democracy and economic life can be radically reorganised from the bottom up, enabling us to take back control and overthrow the forces that have thwarted our ambitions for a better society. *Out of the Wreckage* explains just how communities can be rebuilt with the help of a new "politics of belonging".

George Monbiot writes a weekly column for the *Guardian* and is the author of a number of books, including *Heat*, *The Age of Consent*, *Captive State*, *Feral* and *How Did We Get Into This Mess?*. He recently helped to found Rewilding Britain, which seeks to redefine people's relationship to the living world.

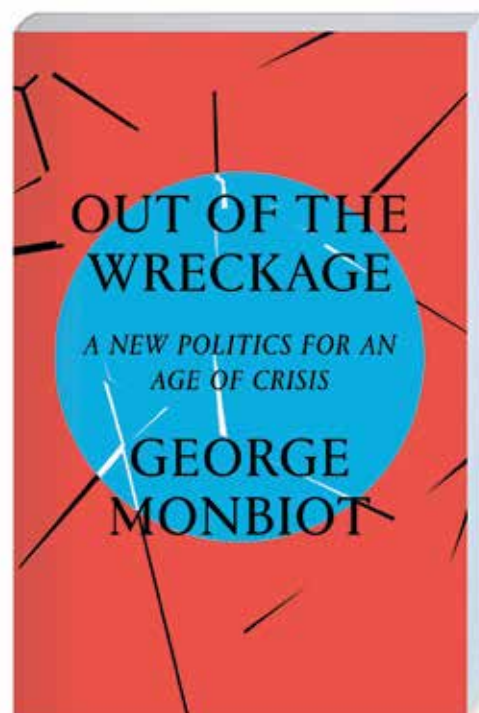
"A dazzling command of science and relentless faith in people ... I never miss reading him." **Naomi Klein**

"What most impresses in Monbiot's clever, elegant writing is the way he strives to think beyond protest towards realistic, representative solutions to the problems of world politics and trade." **The Times of London**

"A writer of eloquence and passion." **Observer**

"George Monbiot, with the clarity and straightforwardness that is his trademark, has managed to lay out our dilemma and our possibilities – this book strikes the necessary balance between visionary and practical, and does it with real grace." **Bill McKibben, author of *Enough***

"Inspired and inspirational, George Monbiot's call to act gives new coherence to a movement that is changing as it learns. So much has to change that the scale of the task can feel overwhelming. But we have changed our lives as fast and fundamentally before." **Danny Dorling, author of *Inequality and the 1%***

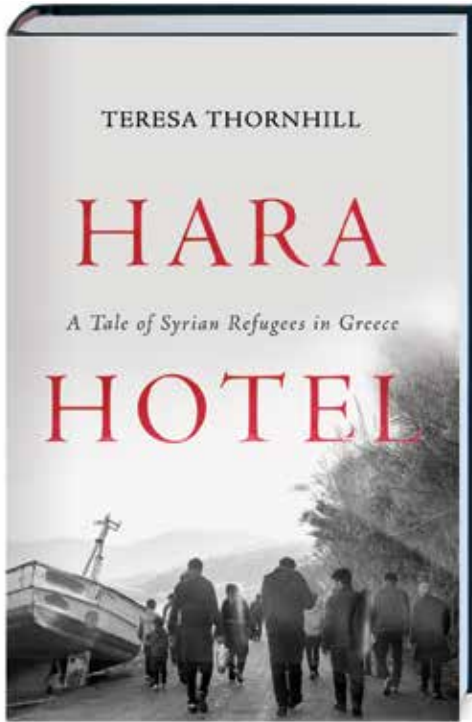


Paperback edition May 2018

224 pages

Swedish: Leopard

A first-hand account of a Greek refugee camp – and the stories of the refugees staying there



April 2018

256 pages

Hara Hotel

A Tale of Syrian Refugees in Greece

Teresa Thornhill

Hara Hotel chronicles everyday life in a makeshift refugee camp on the forecourt of a petrol station in northern Greece. In the first two months of 2016, more than 100,000 refugees arrived in Greece. Half of them were fleeing war-torn Syria, seeking a safe haven in Europe. As the numbers seeking refuge soared, many were stranded in temporary camps, staffed by volunteers. *Hara Hotel* tells some of their stories.

Teresa Thornhill arrived in Greece in April 2016 as a volunteer. She met one refugee, a young Syrian Kurd called Juwan, who left his home and family in November 2011 to avoid being summoned for military service by the Assad regime. Interweaving memoir with Juwan's story, and with the recent history of the failed revolution in Syria, and the horror of the ensuing civil war, *Hara Hotel* paints a vivid picture of the lives of the people trapped between civil war and Europe's borders.

Teresa Thornhill is a linguist, writer and child protection barrister with a special interest in the Middle East. Her previous publications include *Sweet Tea with Cardamom* and *The Curtain Maker of Beirut*.

A heartbreaking, full-colour graphic novel of the refugee drama

Threads

From the Refugee Crisis

Kate Evans

In the French port town of Calais, the historic home of the lace industry, a city within a city has arisen. This new town, known as the Jungle, is the home of thousands of refugees, mainly from the Middle East and Africa, all hoping, somehow, to get to the UK. Into this squalid shantytown of shipping containers and tents, full of rats and trash and devoid of toilets and safety, the artist Kate Evans brought a sketchbook and an open mind. Combining the techniques of eyewitness reportage with the medium of comic-book storytelling, Evans has produced this unforgettable book, filled with poignant images—by turns shocking, angering, wry, and heartbreaking.

Weaving into the story hostile comments about the migrants from nativist politicians and Internet trolls, *Threads* addresses one of the most pressing issues of modern times—making a compelling case, through intimate evidence, for compassionate treatment of refugees and the free movement of peoples. Evans's creativity and passion as an artist, activist, and mother shine through.

Kate Evans is a cartoonist, artist, mother and sometime activist. She is the author of *Red Rosa: A Graphic Biography of Rosa Luxemburg*, *Funny Weather: Everything You Didn't Want to Know About Climate Change but Probably Should Find Out*, and the comic guides to pregnancy, birth and breastfeeding *Bump* and *The Food of Love*. She lives in Somerset, UK, with her partner, children and cats. Evans blogs at www.cartoonkate.co.uk and tweets @cartoonkate.

Praise for *Red Rosa*

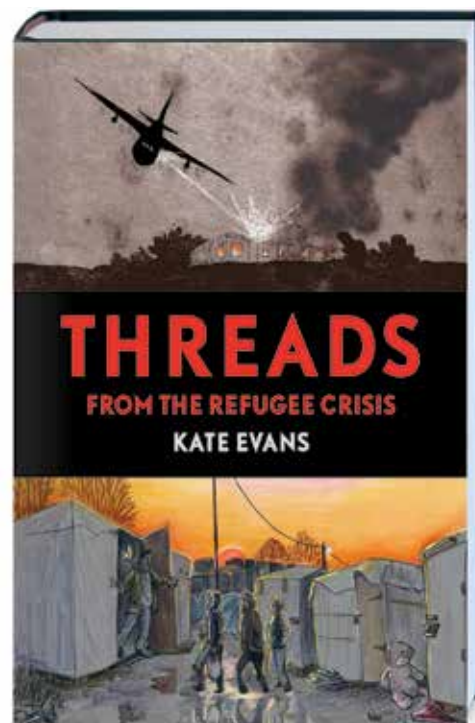
"Utterly brilliant. The best book I've read this year" **Steve Bell**, *Guardian*

"Stunningly good." **Paul Mason**, author of *Postcapitalism*

"Hard to put down" **Barbara Ehrenreich**, author of *Living with a Wild God*

"I admire it as an artist. I admire it as a writer. A huge achievement."

Molly Crabapple, author of *Drawing Blood*

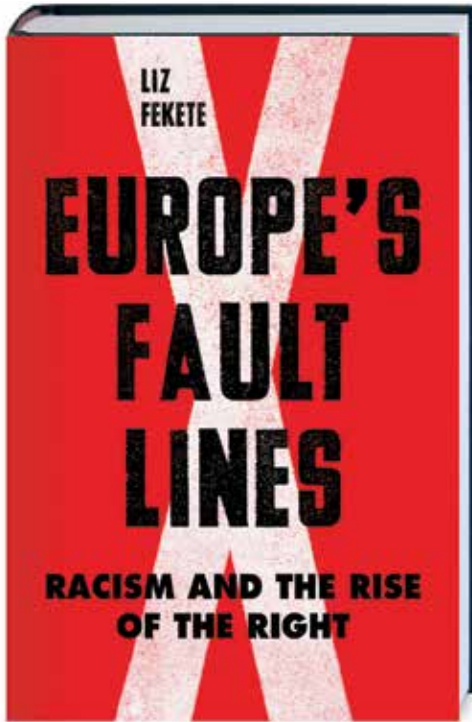


June 2017

176 pages

Korean: Green Knowledge
Portuguese (Brazil): DarkSide
Swedish: Epix
Turkish: Tudem

An expansive investigation into the relationship between contemporary states and the far-right



January 2018

240 pages

Europe's Fault Lines Racism and the Rise of the Right

Liz Fekete

It is clear that the right is on the rise, but after Brexit, the election of Donald Trump and the spike in popularity of extreme-right parties across Europe, the question on everyone's minds is: how did this happen?

An expansive investigation of the ways in which a newly-configured right interconnects with anti-democratic and illiberal forces at the level of the state, *Europe's Fault Lines* provides much-needed answers, revealing some uncomfortable truths.

What appear to be "blind spots" about far-right extremism on the part of the state, are shown to constitute collusion—as police, intelligence agencies and the military embark on practices of covert policing that bring them into direct or indirect contact with the far right, in ways that bring to mind the darkest days of Europe's authoritarian past.

Old racisms may be structured deep in European thought, but they have been revitalized and spun in new ways: the war on terror, the cultural revolution from the right, and the migration-linked demonization of the destitute "scrounger." Drawing on her work for the Institute of Race Relations over thirty years, Liz Fekete exposes the fundamental fault lines of racism and authoritarianism in contemporary Europe.

Liz Fekete is Director of the Institute of Race Relations, where she has worked for over thirty years. She heads its European Research Programme (ERP) and is Advisory Editor to its journal *Race & Class*. She is the author of *A Suitable Enemy: Racism, Migration and Islamophobia in Europe*.

Praise for *A Suitable Enemy*:

"Illuminating the issues and enlightening readers confused by the contradictions of the liberal press, this book is an essential tool for understanding contemporary racism and a demonstration of how necessary the fight against racism is for the full realization of human rights."

Manchester Mule

"Fekete's writing is incisive, informative and infused with a controlled but passionate outrage at the injustices she relates." *Red Pepper*

"Liz Fekete is one of the best analysts of the complexities of racism in Europe today." *Avery Gordon, University of California, Santa Barbara*

How our contemporary counter-terrorism practices reveal the persistence of Empire

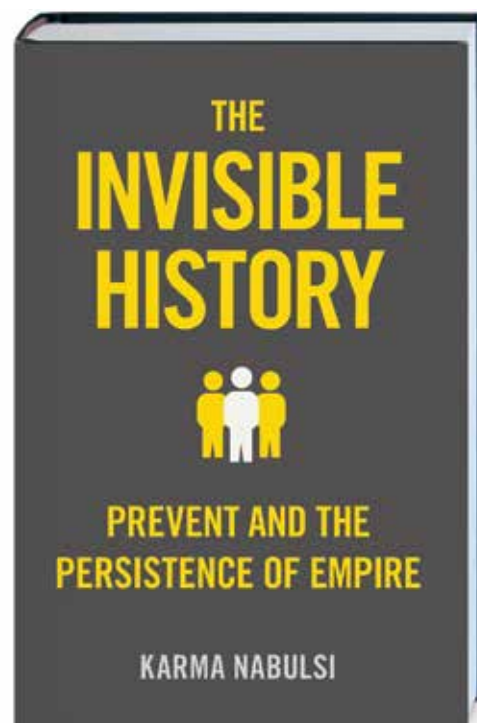
The Invisible History Prevent and the Persistence of Empire

Karma Nabulsi

When the conservative government introduced the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act in 2015, its existing Prevent programme was upgraded placing a duty on public sector workers, including university staff, nurses, teachers, doctors, and council employees, to report signs of extremism among those they encounter in their work. This new responsibility turns British citizens into a surveillance militia of minority communities, viewing black, migrant, minority, and racialised Muslims as potential threats, and removes basic democratic liberties and protections from everyone. It is now being used as a means of controlling unwanted dissent in the name of counter-terrorism.

Karma Nabulsi shows how this policy is more than counterproductive, but deeply dangerous to all. Eighty per cent of reported accusations have been shown to be unfounded. Over sixty children are investigated each week. Few believe this method is an effective deterrent, yet it continues. Nabulsi shows why: another set of customs and habits lie behind this current policy, connecting Prevent to Britain's deeper historical origins, to Empire and its insidious denial of recent colonial history. *The Invisible History* explores our current crisis in policing, and demands that we understand our recent history rather than bury it, in order to overcome divisions and create a more equal future.

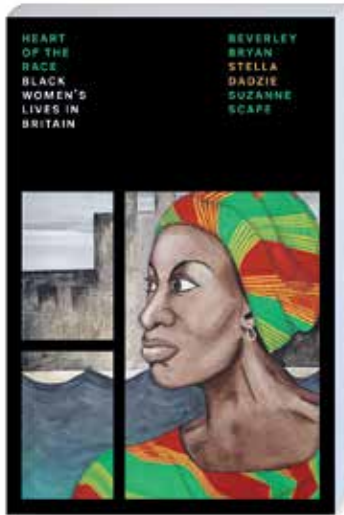
Karma Nabulsi is Fellow in Politics at St Edmund Hall and Associate Professor at the University of Oxford, where she is Director of Undergraduate Studies at the Department of Politics and International Relations. She writes for the *London Review of Books*, and the *Guardian*.



February 2018

144 pages

FEMINIST CLASSICS



July 2018

256 pages

NEW EDITION

The Heart of the Race

Black Women's Lives in Britain

Beverley Bryan, Stella Dadzie and Suzanne Scafe

Introduction by Lola Okolosie

The Heart of the Race is a powerful record of life as a black woman in Britain: grandmothers drawn to the promise of the "mother country" in the 1950s talk of a different reality; young girls describe how their aspirations at school were largely ignored; working women tell of their commitments to families, jobs, communities. First published in 1985, this new edition includes a new introduction by Lola Okolosie and a new interview with the authors, conducted by Heidi Mirza, on the impact and relevance of their book today.

Beverley Bryan is Professor at the University of the West Indies, and the author of *Between Two Grammars*. **Stella Dadzie** is a founding member of the Organisation of Women of Asian and African Descent. **Suzanne Scafe** is a Reader in Caribbean and Post-colonial Literature at London South Bank University.



July 2018

196 pages

NEW EDITION

Constituting Feminist Subjects

Kathi Weeks

Kathi Weeks suggests that one of the most important tasks for contemporary feminist theory is to develop theories of the subject that are adequate to feminist politics. Although the 1980s modernist-postmodernist debate put the problem of feminist subjectivity on the agenda, Weeks contends that limited debate now blocks the further development of feminist theory.

Both modernists and postmodernists succeeded in making clear the problems of an already constituted, essentialist subject. What remains as an ongoing project, Weeks contends, is creating a theory of the constitution of subjects to account for the processes of social construction. This book presents one such account. Drawing on a number of different theoretical frameworks, including feminist standpoint theory, socialist feminism and poststructuralist thought, as well as theories of performativity and self-valorisation, the author proposes a nonessentialist feminist subject, a theory of constituting subjects.

Kathi Weeks is Professor in the Program of Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies at Duke University. She is the author of *The Problem With Work* and a co-editor of *The Jameson Reader*.

How the law harms sex workers – and what they want instead

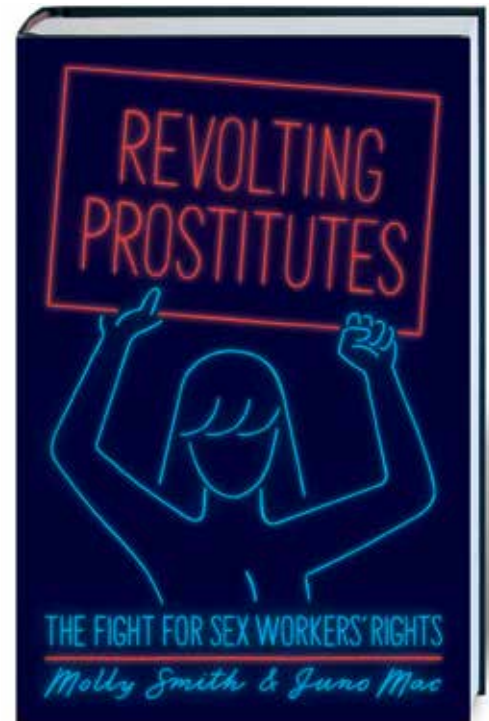
Revolting Prostitutes The Fight for Sex Workers' Rights Molly Smith and Juno Mac

You hear that selling sex is degrading; you hear that no one would ever choose to do it; you hear that it's dangerous; that women get abused and killed. You often hear, "There should be a law against it!" Or, perhaps just against the buyers. What do sex workers want? That's not something you hear asked very often.

In some places, like New York, selling sex is illegal. In others, like Sweden, only buying it is. In some, like the UK and France, it's legal to sell sex and to buy it, but not to run a brothel or solicit a sale. In New Zealand, it's not illegal at all. In *Revolting Prostitutes*, Juno Mac and Molly Smith – both sex workers – explain what each of these laws do in practice to those doing the work. Addressing each model in turn, they show that prohibiting the sex industry actually exacerbates every harm that sex workers are vulnerable to.

Juno Mac is a sex worker and activist with the Sex Worker Open University, a sex worker-led collective with branches in London, Leeds and Glasgow.

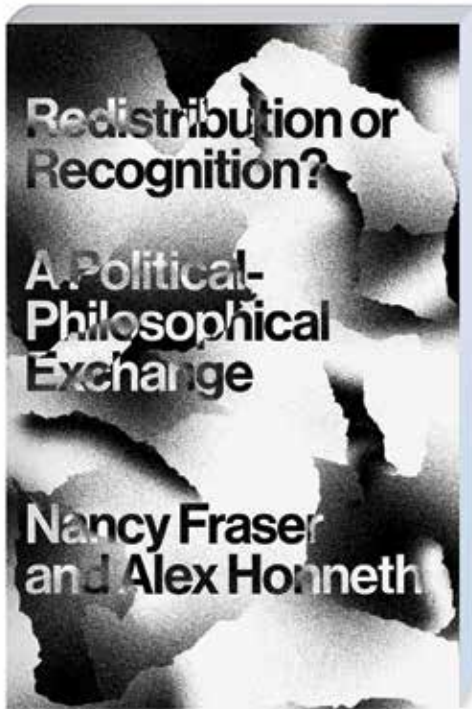
Molly Smith is a sex worker and activist with the Sex Worker Open University. She is also involved with SCOT-PEP, a sex worker-led charity based in Edinburgh, which is working to decriminalise sex work in Scotland. She has written articles on sex work policy for *Guardian* and *New Republic*.



June 2018

144 pages

A debate between two leading theorists on the relation of redistribution to recognition



NEW EDITION

Redistribution or Recognition?

A Political-Philosophical Exchange

Nancy Fraser and Axel Honneth

“Recognition” has become a veritable keyword of our time, but its relation to “redistribution” remains under-theorised. This volume remedies the lacuna by staging a sustained debate between two philosophers, one North American, the other European, who hold different views of the matter. Highly attuned to contemporary politics, the exchange between Nancy Fraser and Axel Honneth constitutes a rigorous dialogue on moral philosophy, social theory, and the best way to conceptualise capitalist society.

Axel Honneth is a Professor of Philosophy at both the University of Frankfurt and Columbia University.

Nancy Fraser is Loeb Professor of Philosophy and Politics at the New School for Social Research. Her books include *Fortunes of Feminism* and *Adding Insult to Injury*.

March 2018

288 pages

Arabic: Bahrain Authority for Culture
German: Suhrkamp

“A carefully wrought and provocative debate between philosophers with strong commitments to asking what a more just social life might be. This text will doubtless produce a spate of new and important scholarship in critical theory in its wake.” **Judith Butler**

“In this exciting dialogue, Nancy Fraser and Axel Honneth do not simply explore with perfect conceptual rigor the analogies and tensions of the paradigms of ‘equal distribution’ and ‘struggle for recognition.’ They also demonstrate why engaged theory matters for collective practice. Their speculative effort will set the agenda for transnational debates of vital importance.” **Etienne Balibar**

“In this fascinating volume, two of the major theorists of our time battle it out over the question of redistribution versus recognition. The stakes are high: how might a critical theory of capitalist society be revived in a manner that unites philosophy, politics, and social theory. This is engaged theoretical debate of the highest level.” **Simon Critchley**

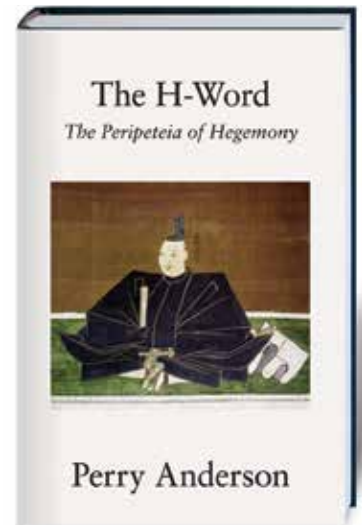
The H-Word

The Peripeteia of Hegemony

Perry Anderson

Few terms are so widely used in the literature of international relations and political science, with so little agreement about their exact meaning, as hegemony. In the first full historical study of its fortunes as a concept, Perry Anderson traces its emergence in Ancient Greece, its rediscovery during the upheavals of 1848–9 in Germany, and then its chequered career in revolutionary Russia, fascist Italy, Cold War America, Thatcherized Britain, post-colonial India, feudal Japan, Maoist China, through to the world of Merkel and May, Bush and Obama. The result is a surprising and fascinating expedition into global intellectual history, ending with a strong political statement about the present.

Perry Anderson is the author of, among other books, *American Foreign Policy and Its Thinkers*, *The Indian Ideology*, *The New Old World*, *Spectrum*, *Lineages of the Absolutist State*, *Passages from Antiquity to Feudalism*, *Considerations on Western Marxism*, *English Questions* and *The Origins of Postmodernity*. He teaches History at UCLA and is on the editorial board of *New Left Review*.



April 2017

224 pages

German: Suhrkamp

Greek: Ekdosisis tou Eikostou Protou

Russian: Gaidar Institute

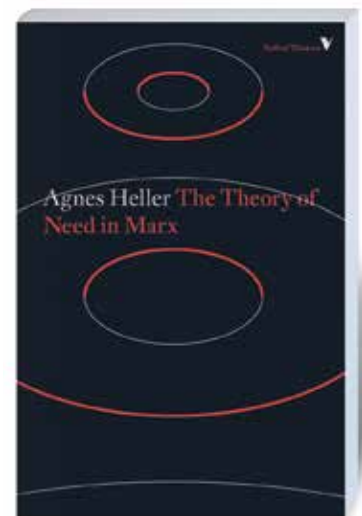
Spanish: Akal

The Theory of Need in Marx

Agnes Heller

From Marx's varying and passing interpretations of a theory of need, Agnes Heller unravels the main tendencies and demonstrates the importance which Marx attached to the "restructuring" of a system of needs going beyond the purely material.

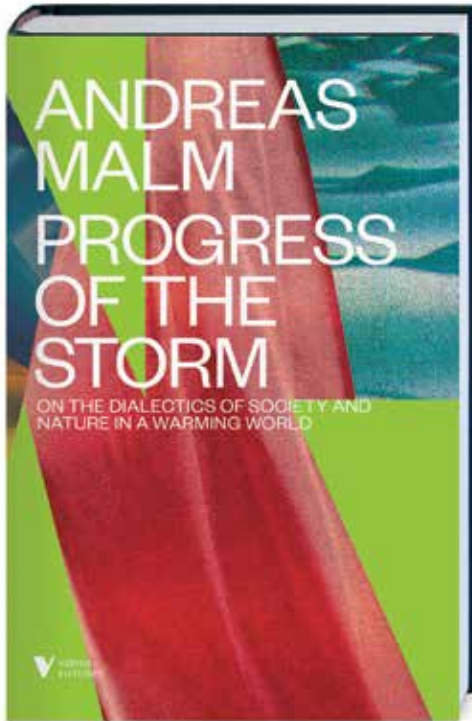
Agnes Heller was born in Budapest in 1929. A pupil and co-worker of Lukács during the 1950s, her other published works include studies of Aristotle's *Ethics* and Marx's theory of value.



March 2018

144 pages

An attack on the idea that nature and society are impossible to distinguish from each other



VERSO FUTURES

Progress of this Storm

On Society and Nature in a Warming World

Andreas Malm

In a world careening towards climate chaos, nature is dead. It can no longer be separated from society. Everything is a blur of hybrids, where humans possess no exceptional agency that sets them apart from dead matter. But is it really so? In this blistering polemic and theoretical manifesto, Andreas Malm develops a contrary argument: in a warming world, nature comes roaring back, and it is more important than ever to distinguish between the natural and the social. Only with a unique agency attributed to humans can resistance become conceivable. Deflating several prominent currents in contemporary theory—constructionism, hybridism, new materialism, posthumanism—and submitting the influential work of Bruno Latour to particularly biting critique, Malm shows that action against fossil fuels is best served by a theory that takes nature, society and the dialectics between them very seriously indeed.

Andreas Malm teaches human ecology at Lund University, Sweden. He is the author, with Shora Esmailian, of *Iran on the Brink: Rising Workers and Threats of War*, and of *Fossil Capital*, which won the Isaac and Tamara Deutscher Memorial Prize.

October 2017

240 pages

Praise for *Fossil Capital*:

"Malm forcefully unmasks the assumption that economic growth has inevitably brought us to the brink of a hothouse Earth. Rather, as he shows in a subtle and surprising reinterpretation of the Industrial Revolution, it has been the logic of capital, not technology or even industrialism per se, that has driven global warming." **Mike Davis, author of *Planet of Slums***

"A theoretical masterpiece and a political-economic-ecological manifesto. It looks unblinkingly at the catastrophe that could await human society if we fail to act on the words System Change or Climate Change. It is a book that I will return to again and again—and take notes." **John Bellamy Foster, University of Oregon, author of *Marx's Ecology***

"The definitive deep history on how our economic system created the climate crisis. Superb, essential reading from one of the most original thinkers on the subject." **Naomi Klein, author of *This Changes Everything***

A cutting exploration of how cities drive climate change while being on the frontlines of the coming climate crisis

Extreme Cities

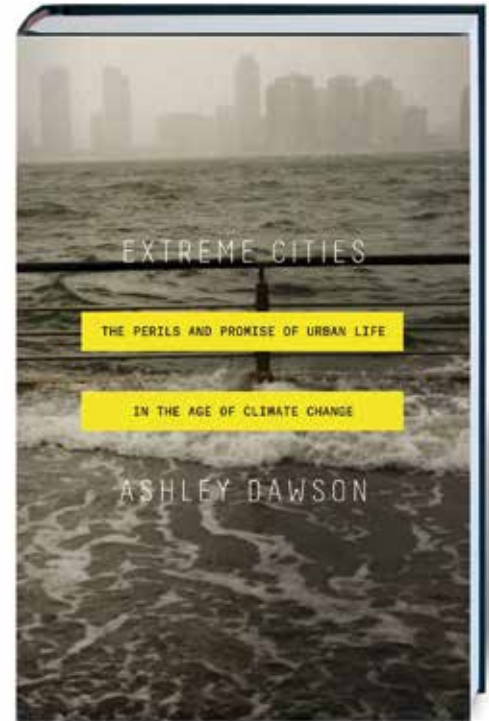
The Perils and Promise of Urban Life in the Age of Climate Change

Ashley Dawson

How will climate change affect our lives? Where will its impacts be most deeply felt? Are we doing enough to protect ourselves from the coming chaos? In *Extreme Cities*, Ashley Dawson argues that cities are ground zero for climate change, contributing the lion's share of carbon to the atmosphere, while also lying on the frontlines of rising sea levels. Today, the majority of the world's megacities are located in coastal zones, yet few of them are adequately prepared for the floods that will increasingly menace their shores. Instead, most continue to develop luxury waterfront condos for the elite and industrial facilities for corporations. These not only intensify carbon emissions, but also place coastal residents at greater risk when water levels rise.

In *Extreme Cities*, Dawson offers an alarming portrait of the future of our cities, describing the efforts of Staten Island, New York, and Shishmareff, Alaska residents to relocate; Holland's models for defending against the seas; and the development of New York City before and after Hurricane Sandy. Our best hope lies not with fortified sea walls, he argues. Rather, it lies with urban movements already fighting to remake our cities in a more just and equitable way. As much a harrowing study as a call to arms *Extreme Cities* is a necessary read for anyone concerned with the threat of global warming, and of the cities of the world.

Ashley Dawson is a professor of English at the City University of New York, and the author of *Extinction: A Radical History*.



October 2017

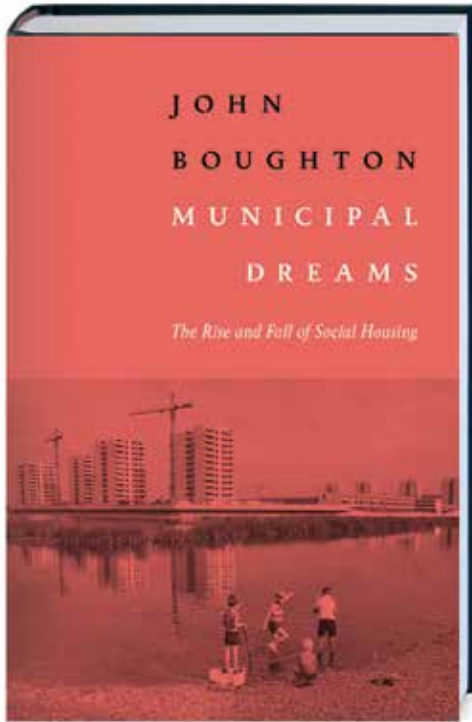
240 pages

Praise for *Extinction*

"The most accessible and politically engaged examination of the current mass extinction." *Los Angeles Review of Books*

"Succinct and moving." **Jasbir Puar**, author of *Terrorist Assemblages*

A narrative history of council housing – from slums to the Grenfell Tower



April 2018

384 pages

Municipal Dreams The Rise and Fall of Social Housing **John Boughton**

Municipal Dreams presents an alternative history of the United Kingdom. This history begins in the slum clearances of the late nineteenth century and the aspirations of those who would build anew. John Boughton looks at how and why the state's duty to house its people decently became central to our politics.

Traversing the nation, Boughton offers an architectural tour of some of the best and most remarkable of our housing estates, as well as many accounted ordinary; he asks us to understand better their complex story and to rethink our prejudices. His accounts include extraordinary planners and architects who wished to elevate working men and women through design and the politicians, high and low, who shaped their work, the competing ideologies which have promoted state housing and condemned it, the economics which has always constrained our housing ideals, the crisis wrought by Right to Buy, and the evolving controversies around regeneration. He shows how the loss of the dream of good housing for all is a danger for the whole of society – as was seen in the fire in Grenfell Tower.

John Boughton has published in the *Historian* and *Labor History* and gives talks on housing to a range of audiences. He is involved in a number of housing campaigns and lives in London. His blog is municipaldreams.wordpress.com.

The rise and fall of New York – a radical architect's view of the destruction of the city

What Goes Up

The Rights and Wrongs of the City

Michael Sorkin

Michael Sorkin is one of the most forthright and engaging architectural writers in the world. In *What Goes Up* he charts the dehumanising regimes of mayors Bloomberg and De Blasio that created a city of glittering towers and increasing inequality. He looks at what has happened to Ground Zero, as a place of memory has been reconstructed by “staritects” and turned into malls. The city, he suggests, has to be reimagined from the street up on a human scale, to develop new ways to revitalise neighbourhoods

Alongside these essays on New York, Sorkin also brings his lifetime's experience as an architect to bear. He talks of the joy of observing a city in order to understand it. Why a young designer must learn to draw by hand rather than only use a computer. There are also personal encounters with some of the greatest names who have changed the city. Sorkin gets lost in Rio with Zaha Hadid; talks about the old Bronx with Marshall Berman; and gets on the wrong side of Daniel Libeskind.

Michael Sorkin is an award-winning architect and Distinguished Professor of Architecture and Director of the Graduate Program in Urban Design at the City College of New York. For ten years, Sorkin was architecture critic for the *Village Voice*, and he has written for the *New York Times*, *Architectural Review*, *Vanity Fair*, the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Nation*. His books include *Exquisite Corpse*, *Twenty Minutes in Manhattan* and *All Over the Map*.

“Easily one of the best architecture critics around ... Sorkin is a flaneur with a sense of public purpose.” *Guardian*

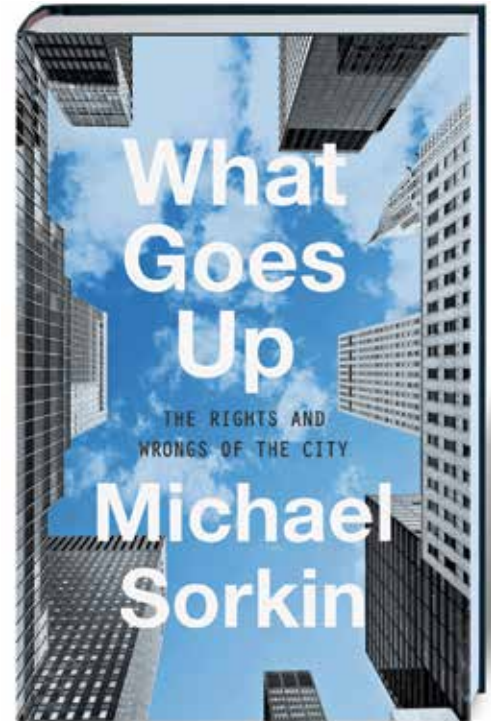
“America's most invigorating writer on architecture.” *Observer*

“Sorkin is one of the most intelligent writers on architecture today.”
Library Journal

Praise for *Twenty Minutes in Manhattan*

“I am glad Sorkin doesn't take the subway: this is the most brilliant epitome of Manhattan ever written.” *Mike Davis*

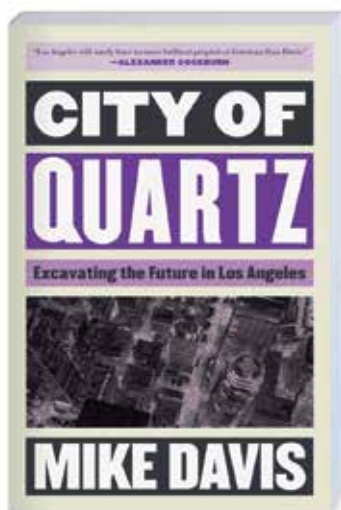
“Michael Sorkin secures his claim to succeed Jane Jacobs ... He brings to bear an eye every bit as acute, a pen nearly as trenchant, and a political understanding perhaps a little bit more sophisticated of the never-ending struggle over New York's neighbourhoods.” *Times Literary Supplement*



April 2018

304 pages

THE ESSENTIAL MIKE DAVIS



June 2018

448 pages

Chinese (simplified): Shanghai
Sanhui

Portuguese: Scritta

Swedish: Arkiv & Tidskrift

City of Quartz**Excavating the Future in Los Angeles****Mike Davis**

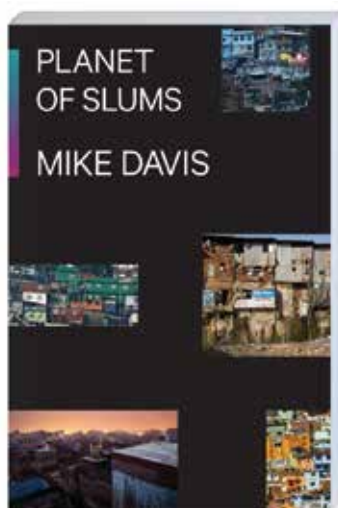
In *City of Quartz*, Davis reconstructs LA's shadow history and dissects its ethereal economy. He tells us who has the power and how they hold on to it. He gives us a city of Dickensian extremes, Pynchonesque conspiracies, and a desperation straight out of Nathanael West – a city in which we may glimpse our own future mirrored with terrifying clarity.

"Absolutely fascinating." **William Gibson**

"A history as fascinating as it is instructive." **Peter Ackroyd, *Times***

"Few books shed as much light on their subjects as this opinionated and original excavation of Los Angeles from the mythical debris of its past and future."

San Francisco Examiner



October 2016

228 pages

Chinese (simplified): Shanghai
Sanhui

Korean: Dolbegae

Slovene: Založba *Cf

Spanish: Akal

Turkish: Metis

NEW EDITION

Planet of Slums**Mike Davis**

According to the United Nations, more than one billion people now live in the slums of the cities of the South. In this brilliant and ambitious book, Mike Davis explores the future of a radically unequal and explosively unstable urban world. From the sprawling barricadas of Lima to the garbage hills of Manila, urbanization has been disconnected from industrialization, and even from economic growth. Davis portrays a vast humanity warehoused in shantytowns and exiled from the formal world economy. He argues that the rise of this informal urban proletariat is a wholly unforeseen development, and asks whether the great slums, as a terrified Victorian middle class once imagined, are volcanoes waiting to erupt.

'A profound enquiry into an urgent subject ... a brilliant book.' **Arundhati Roy**

'The Raymond Chandler of urban geography ... a coruscating tragedy.'

The Independent

'The astonishing facts hit like anvil blows ... A heartbreaking book.' ***Financial Times***

'Davis's prose exudes a crusading fervour—if not exactly messianic, close enough.'

The Village Voice

Prisoners of the American Dream

Politics and Economy in the History of the US Working Class

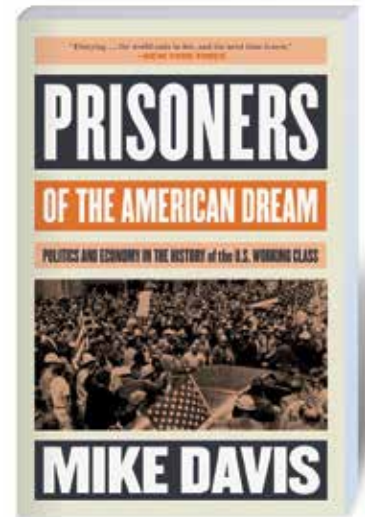
Mike Davis

Prisoners of the American Dream is Mike Davis's brilliant exegesis of a persistent and major analytical problem for Marxist historians and political economists: Why has the world's most industrially advanced nation never spawned a mass party of the working class? This series of essays surveys the history of the American bourgeois democratic revolution from its Jacksonian beginnings to the rise of the New Right and the reelection of Ronald Reagan, concluding with some bracing thoughts on the prospects for progressive politics in the United States.

"Impressive – a perceptive and rigorous structural analysis." **David Montgomery, *Nation***

"One of the most uncompromising books about American political economy ever written – brilliant, provocative, and exhaustively researched." ***Village Voice***

"One of the most trenchant and original analyses of American politics." ***Socialist Review***



June 2018

336 pages

German: Rotbuch Verlag
Korean: Changjak Kwa Bipyong

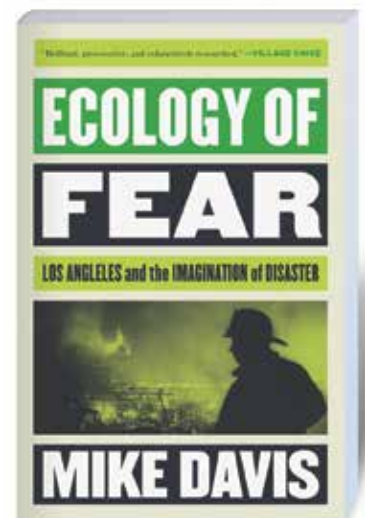
Ecology of Fear

Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster

Mike Davis

Counterpointing LA's central role in America's fantasy life – the city has been destroyed no less than 138 times in novels and films since 1909 – with its wanton denial of its own real history, Davis creates a revelatory kaleidoscope of American fact, imagery, and sensibility. Drawing upon a vast array of sources, *Ecology of Fear* meticulously captures the nation's violent malaise and desperate social unease at the end of the "American century." With savagely entertaining wit and compassionate rage, this book conducts a devastating reconnaissance of our all-too-likely urban future.

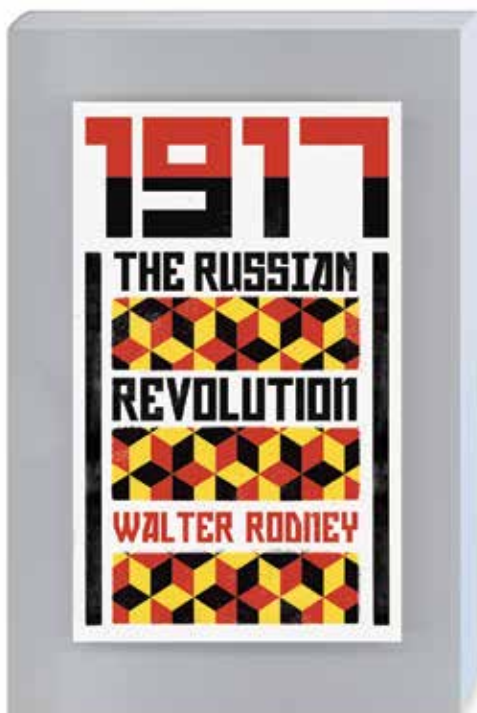
"Graced with a bold political and environmental vision, much splendid phrasemaking and a multitude of facts ... A truly eccentric contribution." ***New York Times Book Review***



June 2018

496 pages

The renowned Pan-Africanist and socialist analyses the Russian Revolution



April 2018

240 pages

1917

The Russian Revolution

Walter Rodney

Preface by Jesse Benjamin and the Walter Rodney Foundation

Introduction by Robin D. G. Kelley

Afterword by Vijay Prashad

In his short life, the Guyanese intellectual Walter Rodney emerged as one of the leading revolutionary thinkers of the Black Sixties. He became a leading force of dissent throughout the Caribbean and a lightning rod of controversy. The 1958 Rodney Riots erupted in Jamaica when he was prevented from returning to his teaching post at the University of the West Indies. In 1980, Rodney was assassinated in Guyana, reportedly at the behest of the government.

In the mid-'70s, Rodney taught a course on the Russian Revolution at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. A Pan-Africanist and Marxist, Rodney sought to make sense of the reverberations of the October Revolution in a decolonising world marked by Third World revolutionary movements. He intended to publish a book based on his research and teaching. Now historians Jesse Benjamin, Robin D. G. Kelley, and Vijay Prashad have edited Rodney's polished chapters and unfinished lecture notes, presenting the book that Rodney had hoped to publish in his lifetime.

1917 is a signal event in radical publishing, and will inaugurate Verso's standard edition of Walter Rodney's works.

Jesse Benjamin is Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Kennesaw State University, and the author of more than sixty articles, chapters, and books.

Robin D. G. Kelley is Professor of history at UCLA. He is the author of five books, most recently *Africa Speaks, America Answers!*

Vijay Prashad is the George and Martha Kellner Chair in South Asian History and Professor of International Studies at Trinity College. He is the author of many books, including *Poorer Nations*.

Yvonne Kapp's monumental biography of the daughter of Karl Marx who became a radical activist

NEW EDITION

Eleanor Marx

A Biography

Yvonne Kapp

Introduction by Sally Alexander

Eleanor was the youngest of three surviving Marx children. She was the only one to be born, live, love, work and die in England and to become a public figure in her own right. Yvonne Kapp, in this highly acclaimed biography, brilliantly succeeds in capturing Eleanor's spirit, from a lively child, opining on the world's affairs, to the new woman, aspiring to the stage, earning her living as a free intellectual, and helping to lead England's unskilled workers at the height of the new unionism; being always more than, yet at the same time inescapably, Karl Marx's daughter. And so inevitably and fortunately Eleanor's biography is also an unrivalled biography of the Marx household in Victorian London, of the Marx circle, and especially of Friedrich Engels, the family's extraordinary mentor.

Yvonne Kapp (1903–1999) was a British writer and political activist.

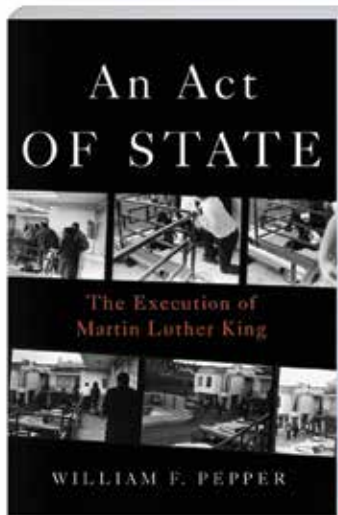
"One of the few unquestionable masterpieces of twentieth-century biography." *Guardian*

"A work of scholarship but also a work of art." **Michael Foot**



July 2018

912 pages



April 2018

352 pages

NEW EDITION

An Act of State

The Execution of Martin Luther King

William F. Pepper

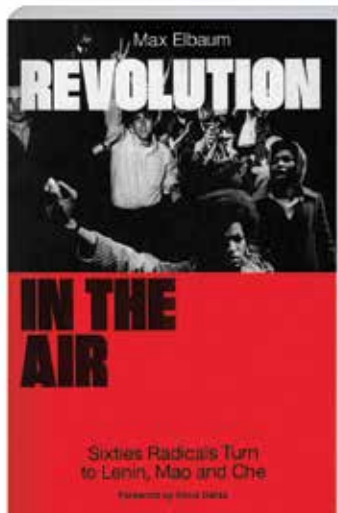
On 4 April 1968, Martin Luther King was killed and a clean-up operation set in motion – James Earl Ray was framed, the crime scene was destroyed, and witnesses were killed. William Pepper, attorney and friend of King, has conducted a thirty-year investigation into his assassination. *An Act of State* shows how the US government shut down a movement for social change by stopping its leader dead in his tracks.

William F. Pepper is an English barrister and an American lawyer. He is the author of four other books and numerous articles.

“Within the first chapter, *An Act of State* presents enough circumstantial evidence to raise questions about Ray’s involvement as the sole assassin.” *Washington Post*

“We recommend this book to everyone who seeks the truth about Dr. King’s assassination.” **Coretta Scott King**

“No one has done more than Dr William F. Pepper to keep alive the quest for truth concerning the violent death of Martin Luther King.” **Ramsey Clark, US Attorney General, 1967–1969**



April 2018

380 pages

NEW EDITION

Revolution in the Air

Sixties Radicals Turn to Lenin, Mao and Che

Max Elbaum

Introduction by Alicia Garza (co-founder of Black Lives Matter)

Revolution in the Air is the definitive study of how radicals from the sixties movements embraced twentieth-century Marxism, and what movements of dissent today can learn from the legacies of Lenin, Mao and Che.

Max Elbaum was a member of Students for a Democratic Society and a leader of one of the main new communist movement organisations. His writings have appeared in the *Nation* and the *Guardian*, among others.

“It should be required reading for those interested in the modern history of social movements and for radicals of my generation who are trying to find out what went wrong.” *Los Angeles Times*

“Truly a superb work of scholarship that raises all the right questions.” *Radical History*



A timely reissue of the classic socialist call to arms

NEW EDITION

May Day Manifesto 1968



Edited by Raymond Williams

The original publication of the *May Day Manifesto* in 1967 collected together the most influential radical voices of the era. Among the seventy signatories were Raymond Williams, E. P. Thompson, Stuart Hall, Iris Murdoch, Terry Eagleton, Ralph Miliband and R. D. Laing. The manifesto set out a new agenda for socialist Britain, in the aftermath of the failure of postwar labourism.

Urgently relevant to the current arguments about the crisis of austerity, the burden of empire and the failures to control rampant capitalism, it offers a complete road map to a brighter future. Covering the purpose of the state and how finance and empire are twinned, the importance of a planned economy for all, the role of Britain in the world, the manifesto hoped to inspire change and a fairer society. It is a bold reminder that there are alternatives to the current situation, and that alternative policies can make a difference.



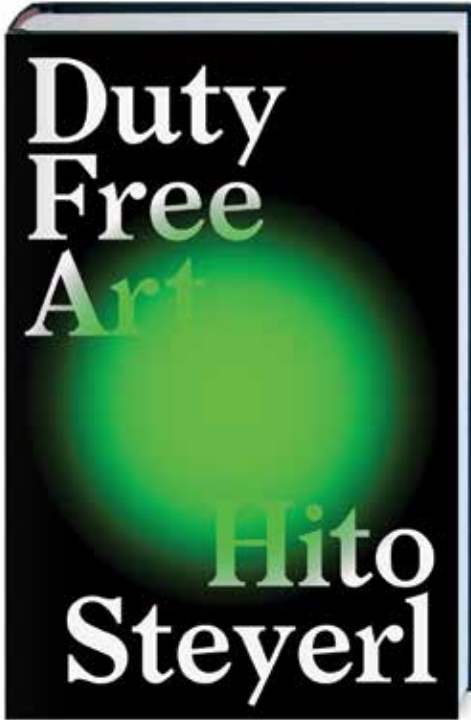
"A genuinely collaborative project among a range of leftwing intellectuals of the day." **Terry Eagleton**

"The *Manifesto* sought to rescue and renew the idea that the purpose of the politics of the left – Labour and beyond – should be to further the long-term transformation of capitalist society in a democratic and egalitarian direction." **Michael Rustin, Guardian**

May 2018

208 pages

What is the function of art in the era of digital globalization?



September 2017

240 pages

Spanish: Caja Negra

Duty Free Art

Art in the Age of Planetary Civil War

Hito Steyerl

In *Duty Free Art*, filmmaker and writer Hito Steyerl wonders how we can appreciate, or even make art in the present age. What can we do when arms manufacturers sponsor museums and some of the world's most valuable artworks are used as a fictional currency in a global futures market that has nothing to do with the works themselves? Can we distinguish between creativity and the digital white noise that bombards our everyday lives? Exploring artifacts as diverse as video games, Wikileaks files, the proliferation of spam, and political actions, she exposes the paradoxes within globalization, political economies, visual culture, and the status of art production.

Hito Steyerl is one of the leading artists working in video today. Her work explores the divisions between art philosophy and politics. She has had solo exhibitions at, amongst others, MOCA, Los Angeles; Reina Sofia, Madrid; ICA, London and has participated in the Venice Biennale, Shanghai Biennale, documenta and Manifesta. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Tate Modern. She is the author of *The Wretched of the Screen* and writes in numerous periodicals. She is currently a professor of new media art at the Berlin University of the Arts.

"Steyerl refuses to nail down a single idea or insist on a point of view. Instead, we get art—her video—as an act of moral thinking-in-progress. In a very of-the-moment, digital-age way, the logic of that thinking is fractured, the nature of morality suspect. But a belief in the necessity of thinking, restlessly, politically, never is in doubt." *New York Times*

"Faced with a world lacking the stable ground necessary to base proper metaphysical claims or foundational political myths, one populated by questionable images, institutions and identities, Steyerl's practice—her example – retains a clear message: agency is still possible; one can still act, if only to needle and pick at representations in order to expose the conditions of manipulation, exploitation and affect underlying their appearance."

Art Review

"Steyerl's art is extremely rich, dense and rewarding ... With Steyerl, you can't always tell fact from fabulation, where the jokes end and seriousness begins, what is truth and what is a lie. A pleasure in art can unhinge us in everyday life, where we are undone by falsehoods at every turn."

Adrian Searle, *Guardian*

An award-winning cultural history of how we experience the world through art, film and architecture

NEW EDITION

Atlas of Emotion

Journeys in Art, Architecture, and Film

Giuliana Bruno

Atlas of Emotion is a highly original endeavour to map a cultural history of spatio-visual arts. In an evocative montage of words and pictures, emphasises that “sight” and “site” but also “motion” and “emotion” are irrevocably connected. In so doing, Giuliana Bruno touches on the art of Gerhard Richter and Annette Messager, the film making of Peter Greenaway and Michelangelo Antonioni, the origins of the movie palace and its precursors, and her own journeys to her native Naples. Visually luscious and daring in conception, Bruno opens new vistas and understandings at every turn.

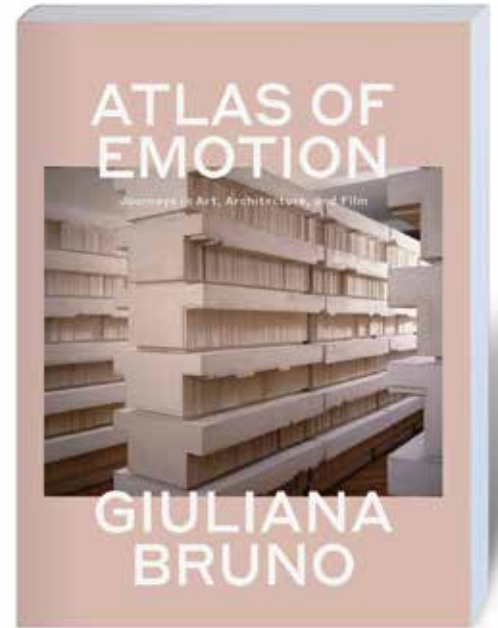
Giuliana Bruno is Emmet Blakeney Gleason Professor of Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University. She is the author of *Streetwalking on a Ruined Map*, winner of the 1993 Katherine Singer Kovács prize for the best book in film studies, *Public Intimacy* and *Surface*.

“One of those critical works packed with learning and insights that at the same time takes you on an exhilarating ride through its author’s imagination.” **Marina Warner, *Guardian***

“A hugely ambitious mapping of the complex intertwinings of film, architecture, and the body. This adventurous book will be of interest to anyone concerned with what we might call ‘mobility studies’: the attempt to understand cultural performances not as the manifestation of fixed structures but as the expression of restless energies.” **Stephen Greenblatt, Harvard University**

“In this astonishingly provocative, captivating, tender, elegant, and passionate nonchronological, interdisciplinary book, Bruno connects splendidly a psychogeography of cultural life ... She takes the readers through a poetico-scholarly and picturesque journey – a visual travelogue, based both on philosophical theories and erudite conjectures ... Bruno writes like an expressionist painter, who deeply captures the invisible and the instantaneous.” **Choice**

“In an exhilarating ride, the reader is transported across this vast hidden landscape to reach a whole new understanding of spatial experience.” **Mark Wigley, Professor of Architecture, Columbia University**



July 2018

496 pages

Italian: Johan & Levi



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