

The Plague Of Fantasies Slavoj Zizek

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Cinematic Cuts Sheila Kunkle 2016-05-09 Explores the philosophical, literary, and

psychoanalytic significance of film endings. Editing has been called the language of cinema, and thus a film's ending can be considered the final punctuation mark of this language, framing everything that came before and offering the key to both our interpretation and our enjoyment of a film. In *Cinematic Cuts*, scholars explore the philosophical, literary, and psychoanalytic significance of film endings, analyzing how film endings engage our fantasies of cheating death, finding true love, or determining the meaning of life. They examine how endings offer various forms of enjoyment for the spectator, from the momentary fulfillment of desire in the happy ending to the pleasurable torment of an indeterminate ending. The contributors also consider how film endings open onto larger questions relating to endings in our time. They suggest how a film ending's hidden counternarrative can be read as a political act, how our interpretation of a film ending parallels the end of a psychoanalytical session, how film endings reveal our anxieties and fears, and how cinema itself might end with the increasing intervention of digital technologies that reorient the spectator's sense of temporality and closure. Films by Akira Kurosawa, Lars von Trier, Joon-Hwan Jang, Claire Denis, Christopher Nolan, Jane Campion, John Huston, and Spike Jonze, among others, are discussed. Sheila Kunkle is Associate Professor of Individualized Studies at Metropolitan State University and the coeditor (with Todd McGowan) of *Lacan and Contemporary Film*.

The Bloomsbury Handbook of Literary and Cultural Theory Jeffrey R. Di Leo 2018-11-

15 The Bloomsbury Handbook of Literary and Cultural Theory is the most comprehensive available survey of the state of theory in the 21st century. With chapters written by the world's leading scholars in their field, this book explores the latest thinking in traditional schools such as feminist, Marxist, historicist, psychoanalytic, and postcolonial criticism and new areas of research in ecocriticism, biopolitics, affect studies, posthumanism, materialism, and many other fields. In addition, the book includes a substantial A-to-Z compendium of key words and important thinkers in contemporary theory, making this an essential resource for scholars of literary and cultural theory at all levels.

Žižek on Race Zahi Zalloua 2020-02-20 Slavoj Žižek's prolific comments on anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, scapegoating, popular nationalism, the refugee crisis, Eurocentrism, the War on Terror, neocolonialism, global justice, and rioting comprise a dizzying array of thinking. But what can we pull out of his various writings and commentaries on race in the contemporary world? Is there anything approaching a Žižekian philosophy of race? Zahi Zalloua argues here that there is and that the often polemical style of Žižek's pronouncements shouldn't undermine the importance and urgency of his work in this area. Zalloua not only examines Žižek's philosophy of race but addresses the misconceptions that have arisen and some of the perceived shortcomings in his work to date. Žižek on Race also puts Žižek in dialogue with critical race and anti-colonial studies, dwelling on the sparks struck up by this dialogue and the

differences, gaps, and absences it points up. Engaging Žižek's singular contribution to the analysis of race and racism, *Žižek on Race* both patiently interrogates and critically extends his direct comments on the topic, developing more fully the potential of his thought. In a response to the book, Žižek boldly reaffirms his theoretical stance, clarifying further his often difficult-to-work-out positions on some of his more controversial pronouncements.

Ecomobilities Michael W. Pesses 2021 *Ecomobilities* examines the American cultural attachment to automobility. By analyzing the role of machines and transportation in apocalyptic films, Michael W. Pesses reveals the ideological connections between automobiles, the environment, and the end of the world.

Fear and Fantasy in a Global World 2015-08-27 *Fear and Fantasy in a Global World* is a collection of essays which examines the processes, meanings and relations between fear and fantasy in the globalized world, from bold interdisciplinary and comparative perspectives.

Het subject en zijn onbehagen Slavoj Žižek 1997

Traversing the Fantasy Sandra Meiri 2020-02-06 *Traversing the Fantasy: The Dialectic of Desire/Fantasy* proposes a new and comprehensive model of spectatorship at the heart of which it draws an analogy between the ethics of Lacanian psychoanalysis and the ethics of narrative film. It demonstrates how spectators engage with narrative film, undergoing unconscious processes that generate a shift in the adherence to fantasies

that impede assuming responsibility for one's fate and well being. The authors discuss the affinities that the ontology and aesthetics of narrative film share with subjective, unconscious processes, offering new insights into the popular appeal of narrative film, through three film corpora, analyzed at length: body-character-breach films; dreaming-character films; and gender-crossing films. With a range of case studies from the old (Rebecca, Vertigo, Some Like it Hot) to the new (Being John Malkovich, A Fantastic Woman), Sandra Meiri and Odeya Kohen Raz build on psychoanalytic ideas about the cinema and take them in a completely new direction that promises to be the basis for further developments in the field.

The Plague of Fantasies Slavoj Žižek 1997 Slavoj Zizek is, without doubt, one of the most stimulating and vibrant thinkers of our time, and his idiosyncratic blend of Lacan and Hegel is always sparkling with insight and studded with amusing stories, anecdotes and jokes. In The Plague of Fantasies Zizek approaches another enormous subject with characteristic brio and provocativeness. The current epoch is plagued by fantasms: there is an ever intensifying antagonism between the process of ever greater abstraction of our lives—whether in the form of digitalization or market relations—and the deluge of pseudo-concrete images which surround us. Traditional critical thought would have sought to trace the roots of abstract notions in concrete social reality; but today, the correct procedure is the inverse—from pseudo-concrete imagery to the abstract process which structures our lives. Ranging in his examples from national

differences in toilet design to cybersex, and from intellectuals' responses to the Bosnian war to Robert Schumann's music, Zizek explores the relations between fantasy and ideology, the way in which fantasy animates enjoyment while protecting against its excesses, the associations of the notion of fetishism with fantasized seduction, and the ways in which digitalization and cyberspace affect the status of subjectivity. To the already initiated, *The Plague of Fantasies* will be a welcome reminder of why they enjoy Zizek's writing so much. For new readers, it will be the beginning of a long and meaningful relationship.

Radical Space Debra Benita Shaw 2016-03-24 A multidisciplinary collection which brings together cutting edge research about the cultural politics of space.

Questioning God John D. Caputo 2001-09-01 Jacques Derrida and other scholars explore postmodern thinking about God and consider the nature of forgiveness in relation to the paradoxes of the gift. In fifteen insightful essays, Jacques Derrida and an international group of scholars explore the implications of deconstruction for religion, focusing on two topics: God and forgiveness. Among the themes addressed by contributors are the possibilities of imagining God as unthinkable, imagining God as nonpatriarchal, imagining a return to Augustine, and imagining an age in which praise is far more important than narrative. *Questioning God* moves readers beyond the parameters of metaphysical reason and modernist rationality as it attempts to think the questions of God and forgiveness in a postmodernist context. Contributors include John

D. Caputo, Jacques Derrida, Mark Dooley, Francis Schüssler Fiorenza, Robert Gibbs, Jean Greisch, Kevin Hart, Richard Kearney, Cleo McNelly Kearns, John Milbank, Regina M. Schwartz, Michael J. Scanlon, and Graham Ward. “What sets this work apart from the majority of other publications on the subject of postmodern theology and prevents it from descending into a sanctimonious hagiography of Derrida’s genius is the presence among the contributors of Graham Ward and John Milbank, two of the founding members of the movement known as radical orthodoxy. This present work is the first to document supporters of radical orthodoxy critically engaging with proponents of Derridean deconstruction.” —Perspectives

Interface Fantasy Andre Nusselder 2009-09-11 Behind our computer screens we are all cyborgs: through fantasy we can understand our involvement in virtual worlds.

Cyberspace is first and foremost a mental space. Therefore we need to take a psychological approach to understand our experiences in it. In *Interface Fantasy*, André Nusselder uses the core psychoanalytic notion of fantasy to examine our relationship to computers and digital technology. Lacanian psychoanalysis considers fantasy to be an indispensable “screen” for our interaction with the outside world; Nusselder argues that, at the mental level, computer screens and other human-computer interfaces incorporate this function of fantasy: they mediate the real and the virtual. *Interface Fantasy* illuminates our attachment to new media: why we love our devices; why we are fascinated by the images on their screens; and how it is possible that virtual images

can provide physical pleasure. Nusselder puts such phenomena as avatars, role playing, cybersex, computer psychotherapy, and Internet addiction in the context of established psychoanalytic theory. The virtual identities we assume in virtual worlds, exemplified best by avatars consisting of both realistic and symbolic self-representations, illustrate the three orders that Lacan uses to analyze human reality: the imaginary, the symbolic, and the real. Nusselder analyzes our most intimate involvement with information technology—the almost invisible, affective aspects of technology that have the greatest impact on our lives. *Interface Fantasy* lays the foundation for a new way of thinking that acknowledges the pivotal role of the screen in the current world of information. And it gives an intelligible overview of basic Lacanian principles (including fantasy, language, the virtual, the real, embodiment, and enjoyment) that shows their enormous relevance for understanding the current state of media technology.

Documentary Across Platforms Patricia R. Zimmermann 2019-10-01 Essays “capturing media ecologies as varied as museum installations, film festival showings, photography, and multiple varieties of internet sharing.” —Jump Cut In *Documentary Across Platforms*, noted scholar of film and experimental media Patricia R.

Zimmermann offers a glimpse into the ever-evolving constellation of practices known as “documentary” and the way in which they investigate, engage with, and interrogate the world. Collected here for the first time are her celebrated essays and speculations

about documentary, experimental, and new media published outside of traditional scholarly venues. These essays envision documentary as a complex ecology composed of different technologies, sets of practices, and specific relationships to communities, engagement, politics, and social struggles. Through the lens of reverse engineering—the concept that ideas, just like objects, can be disassembled to learn how they work and then rebuilt into something new and better—Zimmermann explores how numerous small-scale documentary works present strategies of intervention into existing power structures. Adaptive to their context, modular, and unfixed, the documentary practices she explores exploit both sophisticated high-end professional and consumer-grade amateur technologies, moving through different political terrains, different platforms, and different exhibition contexts. Together these essays demonstrate documentary’s role as a conceptual practice to think through how the world is organized and to imagine ways that it might be reorganized with actions, communities, and ideas.

Hegemony and Fantasy in Irish Drama, 1899-1949 P. Murphy 2008-11-05 Hegemony and Fantasy in Irish Drama, 1899-1949 offers a theoretically innovative reconsideration of drama produced in the Irish Renaissance, as well as an engagement with non-canonical drama in the under-researched period 1926-1949.

The Split God Nimi Wariboko 2018-02-20 Offers a critical Pentecostal philosophy of God that challenges orthodox Christianity. Although Pentecostalism is generally

considered a conservative movement, in *The Split God* Nimi Wariboko shows that its operative everyday notion of God is a radical one that poses, under cover of loyalty, a challenge to orthodox Christianity. He argues that the image of God that arises out of the everyday practices of Pentecostalism is a split God—a deity harboring a radical split that not only destabilizes and prevents God himself from achieving ontological completeness but also conditions and shapes the practices and identities of Pentecostal believers. Drawing from the work of Slavoj Žižek, Jacques Lacan, Jean-Luc Nancy, and Giorgio Agamben, among others, Wariboko presents a close reading of everyday Pentecostal practices, and in doing so, uncovers and presents a sophisticated conversation between radical continental philosophy and everyday forms of spirituality. By de-particularizing Pentecostal studies and Pentecostalism, Wariboko broadens our understanding of the intellectual aspects of the global Pentecostal and Charismatic movements. “Not since the early work of Thomas J. J. Altizer has a theologian/philosopher opened such a radical new vision of reality with new language as Nimi Wariboko does in *The Split God*. Through an analysis of Pentecostalism, Wariboko creates a vivid, shocking theology that self-consciously repeats classical Christian orthodoxy (in some of its modes) while transforming it so as to make new sense of Pentecostal beliefs and practices. He mines the language of contemporary continental critical theory of the psychoanalytical and Marxist sort for resources to express his claim that God is split, not whole, reality both spiritual and material is split,

not whole, society is split, not whole, and persons are split, not whole. What Pentecostalism does, he claims, is to unite these split parts into vital ways of living in the face of God without making them holistically coherent, just alive and vital.” — Robert Cummings Neville, author of *Defining Religion: Essays in Philosophy of Religion*

Slavoj Žižek Matthew Sharpe 2017-05-15 Slavoj Zizek has emerged as the pre-eminent European cultural theorist of the last decade and has been described as the ultimate Marxist/Lacanian cultural studies scholar. His large and growing body of work has generated considerable controversy, yet his texts are not structured as standard academic tomes. In *Slavoj Zizek: A Little Piece of the Real*, Matthew Sharpe undertakes the difficult task of drawing out an evolving argument from all of Zizek's texts from 1989 to 2001, and reads them as the bearers of a single theoretical project, providing an authoritative, reliable, clearly written and well-structured account of Zizek's demanding body of work. From an exposition of Zizek's social and philosophical critical theory the book moves to a critical analysis of Zizek's theoretical project and its political implications. Sharpe concludes by suggesting that Zizek's work, however, raises as many questions as it answers; questions both about Zizek's theoretical system and to the wider new Left in today's world.

Iraq Slavoj Zizek 2005-11-17 Zizek analyzes the logic behind toppling Saddam Hussein despite no evidence of WMDs and questions the actual ideological and political stakes

of the attack on Iraq.

Zizek Kelsey Wood 2012-03-19 A comprehensive overview of Slavoj Zizek's thought, including all of his published works to date. Provides a solid basis in the work of an engaging thinker and teacher whose ideas will continue to inform philosophical, psychological, political, and cultural discourses well into the future Identifies the major currents in Zizek's thought, discussing all of his works and providing a background in continental philosophy and psychoanalytic theory necessary to its understanding Explores Zizek's growing popularity through his engagement in current events, politics, and cultural studies Pertains to a variety of fields, including contemporary philosophy, psychology, cultural studies, sociology, political science, esthetics, literary theory, film theory, and theology

Zizek's Politics Jodi Dean 2012-12-06 A critical introduction to the political thought of one of the most important, original and enigmatic philosophers writing today. Zizek's Politics provides an original interpretation and defence of the Slovenian philosopher's radical critique of liberalism, democracy, and global capital.

From 1989, Or European Music and the Modernist Unconscious Seth Brodsky 2017-01-24 "Roth Family Foundation music in America imprint."

Geweld Slavoj Žižek 2009 Essays over verschillende vormen van geweld, belicht vanuit de actualiteit, film, literatuur en filosofie.

On Belief Slavoj Zizek 2003-09-02 What is the basis of belief in an era when

globalization, multiculturalism and big business are the new religion? Slavoj Zizek, renowned philosopher and irrepressible cultural critic takes on all comers in this compelling and breathless new book. From 'cyberspace reason' to the paradox that is 'Western Buddhism', *On Belief* gets behind the contours of the way we normally think about belief, in particular Judaism and Christianity. Holding up the so-called authenticity of religious belief to critical light, Zizek draws on psychoanalysis, film and philosophy to reveal in startling fashion that nothing could be worse for believers than their beliefs turning out to be true.

Poststructuralism & International Relations Jenny Edkins 1999 Offering an introduction to the major poststructuralist thinkers, this text shows how Foucault, Derrida, Lacan and Zizek expose the depoliticization found in conventional international relations theory. poststructuralists are concerned with the big questions of international politics: it is precisely their work that analyzes the political and explains the processes of depoliticization and technologization.

Filosofen van deze tijd Maarten Doorman 2018-08-15 Nog nooit was er zo veel belangstelling voor filosofie als de laatste jaren. Daarmee groeit de behoefte aan een heldere inleiding die de oppervlakkigheid overstijgt zonder in dor academisch proza te vervallen. Filosofen van deze tijd heeft zich bewezen als een uiterst leesbare introductie op het hedendaagse denken. Het behandelt de 32 belangrijkste denkers van na de Tweede Wereldoorlog. Een keur van specialisten presenteert de

spraakmakendste thema's van de afgelopen decennia. Filosofen van deze tijd is niet louter een geschiedenis van de recente ontwikkelingen - het schetst meteen het filosofische landschap voor de eenentwintigste eeuw. Dit boek behandelt het denken van onder anderen Heidegger, Wittgenstein, Popper, Arendt, Foucault, Habermas, Dennett, Kristeva, Nussbaum, Sloterdijk, Žižek en, vanaf deze nieuwe druk, ook Singer, Deleuze en Fanon. Het is een inleiding in de moderne filosofie, onmisbaar voor studenten aan universiteiten en hogescholen, maar tegelijk een verrassende kennismaking voor een breed publiek. Inmiddels zijn er al ruim 25.000 exemplaren verkocht. Deze nieuwe editie 2018 is geheel geactualiseerd. Maarten Doorman is filosoof en essayist. Van hem verschenen op filosofisch gebied onder meer De romantische orde, Rousseau en ik en De navel van Daphne. Heleen Pott is filosoof en Socrates-hoogleraar Kunst, Cultuur en Samenleving aan de Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam. 'De bijdragen zijn helder geschreven en informatief van karakter. De auteurs slagen erin hun filosoof op een voor een breed publiek begrijpelijke wijze voor het voetlicht te brengen.' De Volkskrant 'Filosofen van deze tijd als overzichtswerk staat als een huis.' Filosofie Magazine 'Filosofen van deze tijd is bedoeld voor een breed publiek en een goede opstap voor wie meer wil weten van de eigentijdse filosofie.' Nederlands Dagblad

The Lacanian Left Yannis Stavrakakis 2007-08-09 Innovative exploration of the

relationship of Lacanian psychoanalysis to political and democratic theory.

Trauma and the Memory of Politics Jenny Edkins 2003-07-31 In this interesting study, Jenny Edkins explores how we remember traumatic events such as wars, famines, genocides and terrorism, and questions the assumed role of commemorations as simply reinforcing state and nationhood. Taking examples from the World Wars, Vietnam, the Holocaust, Kosovo and September 11th, Edkins offers a thorough discussion of practices of memory such as memorials, museums, remembrance ceremonies, the diagnosis of post-traumatic stress and the act of bearing witness. She examines the implications of these commemorations in terms of language, political power, sovereignty and nationalism. She argues that some forms of remembering do not ignore the horror of what happened but rather use memory to promote change and to challenge the political systems that produced the violence of wars and genocides in the first place. This wide-ranging study embraces literature, history, politics and international relations, and makes a significant contribution to the study of memory.

Het jaar van het gevaarlijke dromen / druk 1 Slavoj Žižek 2013-04-05 Kritische beschouwing over de huidige maatschappij en het tegenwoordige politieke bestel.

Lacan Slavoj Žižek 2006 Jacques Lacan is the foremost psychoanalytic theorist after Freud. Revolutionising the study of social relations, his work has been a major influence on political theory, philosophy, literature and the arts, but his thought has so far been studied without a serious investigation of its foundations. Just what are the

influences on his thinking, so crucial to its proper understanding? In *Lacan: The Silent Partners* Slavoj Zizek, the maverick theorist and pre-eminent Lacan scholar, has marshalled some of the greatest thinkers of our age in support of a dazzling re-evaluation of Lacan's work. Focussing on Lacan's 'silent partners', those who are the hidden inspiration to Lacanian theory, they discuss his work in relation to the Pre-Socratics, Diderot, Hegel, Nietzsche, Schelling, Hölderlin, Wagner, Turgenev, Kafka, Henry James and Artaud. This major collection, including three essays by Zizek, marks a new era in the study of this unsettling thinker, breathing new life into his classic work. Contributors: Alain Badiou, Bruno Bosteels, Miran Bozovic, Lorenzo Chiesa, Joan Copjec, Mladen Dolar, Timothy Huson, Fredric Jameson, Adrian Johnston, Sigi Jöttkandt, Silvia Ons, Robert Pfaller, Alenka Zupancic and Slavoj Zizek.

Shakespearean Fantasy and Politics Thomas Betteridge 2005 Why read Shakespeare? This work draws extensively on the work of Slavoj Žižek and other contemporary thinkers to discover the truths of Shakespeare's drama and relate them to contemporary issues within the discipline of English literature."

A Plague of Fantasies Slavoj Zizek 2008

Traversing the Fantasy Jason Glynos 2017-11-30 Slavoj Zizek is one of the most provocative and important thinkers writing in contemporary philosophy. This book is an engaged debate with Zizek. It contains a series of specially commissioned critical essays from an impressive collection of contributors covering the full extent of his

oeuvre. Essays examine Žižek on cultural theory, film studies, ethics, political theory, social theory, Kant and Lacanian psychoanalysis. In the spirit of Žižek's own interventions, these essays critically interrogate his ideas, challenging him to respond directly which he does in an extended polemical reply that concludes the collection. This volume represents an exciting and important contribution to contemporary theoretical debate and adds significantly to the growing literature on Žižek.

Did Somebody Say Totalitarianism? Slavoj Žižek 2002 Totalitarianism, as an ideological notion, has always had a precise strategic function: to guarantee the liberal-democratic hegemony by dismissing the Leftist critique of liberal democracy as the obverse, the twin, of the Rightist Fascist dictatorships. Instead of providing yet another systematic exposition of the history of this notion, Žižek's book addresses totalitarianism in a Wittgensteinian way, as a cobweb of family resemblances. He concludes that the devil lies not so much in the detail of what constitutes totalitarianism as in what enables the very designation totalitarian: the liberal-democratic consensus itself.

The Fragile Absolute, Or, Why is the Christian Legacy Worth Fighting For? Slavoj Žižek 2001 No Marketing Blurb

Shelley's Music Paul A. Vatalaro 2016-01-13 First published in 2009. This book argues that the images of and allusions to music in Shelley's writing demonstrate his attempt to infuse the traditionally masculine word with the traditionally feminine voice and music.

This further extends to his even more fundamental desire to integrate the "object voice" with his own subjectivity. For Shelley, what plagues this integration is the prospect of losing both the poet's authority and the subjectivity upon which it relies. This book asserts that the resultant deadlock and instability paradoxically becomes Shelley's ultimate goal — creating a steady state of suspension that finally preserves both his authority and his humanity.

Twentieth Century Forcible Child Transfers Ruth Amir 2018-11-27 This book focuses on the gap between genocide as a legal term and genocidal forcible child transfer as a catastrophic experience that disrupts a group's continuity. It argues for the need to add an Amending Protocol to the Genocide Convention in order to provide protection from forcible transfer to all children.

The Plague of Fantasies Slavoj Žižek 2009-01-05 Modern audiovisual media have spawned a 'plague of fantasies', electronically inspired phantasms that cloud the ability to reason and prevent a true understanding of a world increasingly dominated by abstractions—whether those of digital technology or the speculative market. Into this arena, enters Žižek: equipped with an agile wit and the skills of a prodigious scholar, he confidently ranges among a dazzling array of cultural references—explicating Robert Schumann as deftly as he does John Carpenter—to demonstrate how the modern condition blinds us to the ideological basis of our lives.

The First Person Singular Alphonso Lingis 2007-07-11 Lingis's singular works of

philosophy aren't so much written as performed, and in this work the performance is brilliant, a consummate act of philosophical reckoning. This book is, at the same time, an elegant cultural analysis of how subjectivity is differently and collectively understood, invested, and situated.

Being Posthuman Zahi Zalloua 2020-12-10 Posthumanism is both a descriptive and a prescriptive term. Firstly, it registers a shift beginning in the late 1960s and epitomized by Foucault's "the death of Man". Secondly, it refers to the future and a new relationship with the non-human, along with a different understanding of human exceptionalism. In *Being Posthuman: Ontologies of the Future*, Zahi Zalloua interrogates this future and shows that "post-" does not necessarily mean 'after' or that what comes after is more advanced than what has gone before. He pursues this line of inquiry across four distinct, yet interrelated, figures: cyborgs, animals, objects, and racialized and excluded 'others'. These figures disrupt the narrative of the 'human' and its singularity and by reading them together, Zalloua determines that it is only when posthumanist discourse is combined with psychoanalysis that subjectivity can be properly examined.

Zizek and Politics Matthew Sharpe 2010-03-14 In *Zizek and Politics*, Geoff Boucher and Matthew Sharpe go beyond standard introductions to spell out a new approach to reading Zizek, one that can be highly critical as well as deeply appreciative. They show that Zizek has a raft of fundamental positions that enable his theoretical positions to be put to work on practical problems. Explaining these positions with clear examples, they

outline why Žižek's confrontation with thinkers such as Derrida, Foucault and Deleuze has so radically changed how we think about society. They then go on to track Žižek's own intellectual development during the last twenty years, as he has grappled with theoretical problems and the political climate of the War on Terror. This book is a major addition to the literature on Žižek and a crucial critical introduction to his thought.

Playing at a Distance Sonia Fizek 2022-11-01 An essential exploration of video game aesthetic that decenters the human player and challenges what it means to play. Do we play video games or do video games play us? Is nonhuman play a mere paradox or the future of gaming? And what do video games have to do with quantum theory? In Playing at a Distance, Sonia Fizek engages with these and many more daunting questions, forging new ways to think and talk about games and play that decenter the human player and explore a variety of play formats and practices that require surprisingly little human action. Idling in clicker games, wandering in walking simulators, automating gameplay with bots, or simply watching games rather than playing them—Fizek shows how these seemingly marginal cases are central to understanding how we play in the digital age. Introducing the concept of distance, Fizek reorients our view of computer-mediated play. To “play at a distance,” she says, is to delegate the immediate action to the machine and to become participants in an algorithmic spectacle. Distance as a media aesthetic framework enables the reader to come to terms with the ambiguity and aesthetic diversity of play. Drawing on concepts from

philosophy, media theory, and posthumanism, as well as cultural and film studies, *Playing at a Distance* invites a wider understanding of what digital games and gaming are in all their diverse experiences and forms. In challenging the common perception of video games as inherently interactive, the book contributes to our understanding of the computer's influence on practices of play—and prods us to think more broadly about what it means to play.

Drive in Cinema Marc James Léger 2015-01-05 *Drive in Cinema* offers Žižek-influenced studies of films made by some of the most engaging and influential filmmakers of our time, from avant-garde directors Jean-Luc Godard, Werner Herzog, Alexander Kluge, Pier Paolo Pasolini and Vera Chytilová, to independent filmmakers William Klein, Oliver Ressler, Hal Hartley, Olivier Assayas, Vincent Gallo, Jim Jarmusch and Harmony Korine. These essays in critical cultural theory present interdisciplinary perspectives on the relations between art, film and politics. How does filmic symbolization mediate intersubjective social exchange? What are the possibilities for avant-gardism today and how does this correspond to what we know about cultural production after capitalism's real subsumption of labour? How have various filmmakers communicated radical ideas through film as a popular medium? *Drive in Cinema* pursues Lacanian ethics to avenues beyond the academic obsession with cultural representation and cinematic technique. It will be of interest to anyone who is

concerned with film's potential as an emancipatory force.

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