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0521640520 - The Cambridge Companion to Postmodernism
Edited by Steven Connor
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The Cambridge Companion to Postmodernism

The Cambridge Companion to Postmodernism offers a comprehensive introduction to postmodernism. The Companion examines the different aspects of postmodernist thought and culture that have had a significant impact on contemporary cultural production and thinking. Topics discussed by experts in the field include postmodernism's relation to modernity, and its significance and relevance to literature, film, law, philosophy, architecture, religion, and modern cultural studies. The volume also includes a useful guide to further reading and a chronology. This is an essential aid for students and teachers from a range of disciplines interested in postmodernism in all its incarnations. Accessible and comprehensive, this *Companion* addresses the many issues surrounding this elusive, enigmatic, and often controversial topic.

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He is the author of books on Dickens, Joyce, Beckett, and postwar fiction, as well as of *Postmodernist Culture: An Introduction to Theories of the Contemporary*; *Theory and Cultural Value*; *Dumbstruck: A Cultural History of Ventriloquism*; and *The Book of Skin*. Other unpublished works and works in progress are to be found on his website at <www.bbk.ac.uk/eh/skc>

CATHERINE CONSTABLE is a senior lecturer in Film Studies at Sheffield Hallam University, where she specializes in philosophy and film theory. She has written articles on postmodernism, philosophy, and film and has co-edited a special issue of *Hypatia* (vol. 15, no. 2) on Australian feminist philosophy, which was published in Spring 2000. She is currently completing a book for the British Film Institute that is provisionally entitled *Thinking in Images: Feminist Philosophy, Film Theory and Marlene Dietrich* and due to be published in 2004.

COSTAS DOUZINAS is Professor of Law at Birkbeck College, London, and a Visiting Professor at the University of Athens. Educated in Athens, London, and Strasbourg, he has taught at the Universities of Middlesex, Lancaster, Prague, Thessaloniki, Griffith, Cardozo, Nanjing, and Beijing. He is the managing editor of *Law and Critique: The International Journal of Critical Legal Thought* and of the Birkbeck Law Press. He specializes in jurisprudence, human rights, and critical thought. His books include (with Ronnie Warrington) *Postmodern Jurisprudence: The Law of Text in the Texts of Law*; (with Ronnie Warrington) *Justice Miscarried: Ethics and Aesthetics in Law*; (with Ronnie Warrington) *The Logos of Nomos: Interpretation, Ethics and Aesthetics in the Law*; *The End of Human Rights: Critical Legal Thought at the Turn of the Century*; (with Lynda Nead) *Law and the Image: The Authority of Art and the Aesthetics of Law*; and *Critical Jurisprudence*; and *Postmodern Just Wars* (forthcoming). His work has been translated into five languages.

ROBERT EAGLESTONE works on contemporary and twentieth-century literature, literary theory, and philosophy and teaches at Royal Holloway, University of London. His publications include *Ethical Criticism: Reading after Levinas*; *Doing English: A Guide for Literature Students*; *Postmodernism and Holocaust Denial*; and articles on contemporary European philosophy, Samuel Beckett, Angela Carter, ethics, science, the Holocaust, archaeology, and historiography. He is a Literary Advisor to the British Council and on the Executive of the Forum for European Philosophy. He is the academic series editor of Routledge Critical Thinkers.

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JULIAN MURPHET has taught at the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford, and California at Berkeley, and presently is a lecturer in the Department of English, University of Sydney. He has published widely in the field of postmodernism, most substantially in his book *Literature and Race in Los Angeles*. He is also the author of *Bret Easton Ellis's "American Psycho": A Reader's Guide*. Currently he is preparing a book on the impact of cinema on literary production in America.

PAUL SHEEHAN is a Research Fellow at Macquarie University, Sydney. He has published in the areas of narrative poetics and the philosophy of literature, including articles on Dickens and Beckett. He is also the author of *Modernism, Narrative and Humanism* and the editor of *Becoming Human: New Perspectives on the Inhuman Condition*.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1947 India gains independence
- 1950 Pop art
- 1954 Jasper Johns, *Flag*
- 1954–62 Algerian War of Independence
- 1956 UK intervenes in Suez Canal, withdraws after US pressure
- 1957 Launch of *Sputnik* Earth satellite by USSR
- 1960 Andy Warhol, *Campbell's Soup Can*
 Founding of *Tel Quel* journal
- 1961 *Space War*, the first computer game, begins to circulate
- 1964 Terry Riley, *In C*, foundational work of minimalist music
- 1963 Martin Luther King gives “I Have a Dream” speech
 President Kennedy assassinated in Dallas
- 1965 Steve Reich, *Come Out*
- 1966 Thomas Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49*
 National Organization for Women founded in USA
 Jacques Derrida gives “Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse
 of the Human Sciences” at Johns Hopkins University
- 1967 Detroit race riots
 Six-Day (Arab–Israeli) War
 The Beatles, *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*
 Decriminalization of homosexuality between male adults in UK
Flash Art journal founded
- 1968 Nationwide riots and protests in France
 USSR invades Czechoslovakia
- 1968–72 Student protests across US
- 1969 Neil Armstrong takes first steps on the Moon
 Gay Liberation Front established in New York
- 1970 *boundary 2: a journal of postmodern culture* founded
 Germaine Greer, *The Female Eunuch*
- 1971 Ihab Hassan, *POSTmodernISM: A Paracritical Bibliography*

Chronology

- 1972 Robert Venturi and Denise Scott-Brown, *Learning From La Vegas*
 Demolition of Pruitt-Igoe, failed modernist housing project in St Louis
- 1973 Establishment of ARPANET (Advanced Research and Projects Network), forerunner of the internet, linking together universities of Stanford, UCSB, UCLA, and Utah
- 1973 Thomas Pynchon, *Gravity's Rainbow*
- 1974 President Nixon resigns over Watergate scandal after break-in at Democratic Party headquarters
- 1975 Appearance of first personal computer
 Philip Glass, *Einstein on the Beach*
- 1976 *October* begins publication
- 1977 Charles Jencks, *The Language of Post-Modern Architecture*
 Punk rock
- 1979 First cellular phone released in Tokyo
- 1979 Jean-François Lyotard, *La condition postmoderne*
- 1980 Michael Graves, Portland Building, Portland, Oregon
 Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children*
 Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, *Milles plateaux*
- 1981 Richard Serra, *Tilted Arc*
New York Times reports on appearance of AIDS
- 1982 Ridley Scott, *Blade Runner*
- 1983 Jean Baudrillard, *Simulations*
- 1984 English translation of Lyotard's *The Postmodern Condition*
- 1984 William Gibson, *Neuromancer*
 Fredric Jameson, *Postmodernism, or, The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism*
 Michel Foucault dies
- 1985 Donna Haraway, "A Cyborg Manifesto"
 Don DeLillo, *White Noise*
 David Lynch, *Blue Velvet*
Live Aid, world's first global concert, held simultaneously in London and Philadelphia
- 1986 Space shuttle *Challenger* explodes shortly after take-off, killing all seven crew members
- 1988 Dennis Potter, *The Singing Detective* broadcast
- 1989 Tiananmen Square protest and massacre in Beijing. Fall of Berlin Wall
 Tim Berners-Lee develops concept of World Wide Web
 David Lynch's *Twin Peaks* begins broadcasting
- 1990 *Postmodern Culture*, an online journal, founded

Chronology

- 1990–1 Iraq invades Kuwait: first Gulf War
1991 Michael Joyce, *Afternoon: A Story*
Los Angeles riots sparked by beating of Rodney King
1994 South Africa rejoins Commonwealth following end of apartheid
1995 Gilles Deleuze commits suicide
1996 Alan Sokal publishes his hoax essay “Transgressing the
Boundaries: Towards a Transformative Hermeneutics of Quantum
Theory” in *Social Text*
1997 Dolly the sheep, the first successful cloning
1998 Jean-François Lyotard dies
1999 Daniel Libeskind’s Jewish Museum in Berlin opens
2001 Terrorist attack destroys World Trade Center in New York