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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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EDITED BY

STEVEN CONNOR

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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 Other unpublished works and works in progress are to be found on his website at 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.

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Narrative and Postmodernism, as well as many essays on literature, science, and postmodernism. She is currently working on a book project entitled *Ecology, Technology, and the Posthuman: Postmodern Literature and the Challenge of the Environment*.

STEPHEN MELVILLE is Professor of the History of Art at Ohio State University and was Leverhulme Visiting Professor in the Department of Art History and Theory at the University of Essex during 2002–3. He is the author of *Philosophy Beside Itself: On Deconstruction and Modernism* and *Seams: Art as a Philosophical Context*; co-author, with Philip Armstrong and Laura Lisbon, of *As Painting: Division and Displacement*; and co-editor, with Bill Readings, of *Vision and Textuality*. He has written widely on contemporary art and theory.

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*.

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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*

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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

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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 Hermenutics 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

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