

# **Virtual Realities And Their Discontents**

**Eleonore Kofman, Gillian Youngs** 

#### **Virtual Realities And Their Discontents:**

Virtual Realities and Their Discontents Robert Markley, 1996 The recognition that cyberspace is a fiction a narrative that creates a coherence it would like to imagine really exists is crucial to any theoretically sophisticated critique of the limitations of this consensual hallucination and the discontents it imperfectly masks In this groundbreaking volume Robert Markley and his co authors set out to discover why cyberspace provokes often rapturous rhetoric but resists critical analysis Taking a variety of approaches the authors explore the ways in which virtual realities conserve and incorporate rather than overthrow the assumptions and values of a traditional logocentric humanism the Platonist division of the world into the physical and metaphysical in which ideal forms are valued over material content Cyberspace David Porush suggests represents not a break with our metaphysical past but an extension of its basic theistic postulates Richard Grusin argues that the claims for new forms of electronic communication depend upon the very notions of authorship and subjectivity they claim to transcend N Katherine Hayles examines debates about cybernetics in the 1950s to demonstrate that the history of mind body ideas in the age of computers and feedback loops is itself conflicted David Brande analyzes cyberspace as an extension of the logic of late twentieth century capitalism And Robert Markley explores the entangled roots of cyberspace in the philosophy of mathematics One of the ironies of our culture s fascination with cyberspace is that our material and psychic investments in Virtual Reality suggest that the death of print culture or its disappearance into the matrix has been greatly exaggerated Cyberspace is unthinkable literally inconceivable without the print culture it claims to transcend It is in part a by product of a tradition of metaphysics that boats against the current bears us back relentlessly to our past Robert Markley from the introduction Virtual Realities and Their Discontents Robert Markley, 1996 The recognition that cyberspace is a fiction a narrative that creates a coherence it would like to imagine really exists is crucial to any theoretically sophisticated critique of the limitations of this consensual hallucination and the discontents it imperfectly masks In this groundbreaking volume Robert Markley and his co authors set out to discover why cyberspace provokes often rapturous rhetoric but resists critical analysis Taking a variety of approaches the authors explore the ways in which virtual realities conserve and incorporate rather than overthrow the assumptions and values of a traditional logocentric humanism the Platonist division of the world into the physical and metaphysical in which ideal forms are valued over material content Cyberspace David Porush suggests represents not a break with our metaphysical past but an extension of its basic theistic postulates Richard Grusin argues that the claims for new forms of electronic communication depend upon the very notions of authorship and subjectivity they claim to transcend N Katherine Hayles examines debates about cybernetics in the 1950s to demonstrate that the history of mind body ideas in the age of computers and feedback loops is itself conflicted David Brande analyzes cyberspace as an extension of the logic of late twentieth century capitalism And Robert Markley explores the entangled roots of cyberspace in the philosophy of mathematics One of the ironies of our culture's fascination with cyberspace is that our

material and psychic investments in Virtual Reality suggest that the death of print culture or its disappearance into the matrix has been greatly exaggerated Cyberspace is unthinkable literally inconceivable without the print culture it claims to transcend It is in part a by product of a tradition of metaphysics that boats against the current bears us back relentlessly to our past Robert Markley from the introduction Welcome to Cyberschool David Trend, 2001 Joey is a little fish Joey never stays in Mother Mam s mouth where it s safe He d much rather swim around outside and explore Mam wants to make sure he s safe but when she gets into trouble will Joey be the one to save her A wonderful anytime book for parents to read to children and also a great book forlearner to read alone A fun bedtime story and a few moment of fun with your kids ages 3 10 **Digital Performance** Steve Dixon, 2015-01-30 The historical roots key practitioners and artistic theoretical and technological trends in the incorporation of new media into the performing arts. The past decade has seen an extraordinarily intense period of experimentation with computer technology within the performing arts Digital media has been increasingly incorporated into live theater and dance and new forms of interactive performance have emerged in participatory installations on CD ROM and on the Web In Digital Performance Steve Dixon traces the evolution of these practices presents detailed accounts of key practitioners and performances and analyzes the theoretical artistic and technological contexts of this form of new media art Dixon finds precursors to today s digital performances in past forms of theatrical technology that range from the deus ex machina of classical Greek drama to Wagner's Gesamtkunstwerk concept of the total artwork and draws parallels between contemporary work and the theories and practices of Constructivism Dada Surrealism Expressionism Futurism and multimedia pioneers of the twentieth century For a theoretical perspective on digital performance Dixon draws on the work of Philip Auslander Walter Benjamin Roland Barthes Jean Baudrillard and others To document and analyze contemporary digital performance practice Dixon considers changes in the representation of the body space and time He considers virtual bodies avatars and digital doubles as well as performances by artists including Stelarc Robert Lepage Merce Cunningham Laurie Anderson Blast Theory and Eduardo Kac He investigates new media s novel approaches to creating theatrical spectacle including virtual reality and robot performance work telematic performances in which remote locations are linked in real time Webcams and online drama communities and considers the extratemporal illusion created by some technological theater works Finally he defines categories of interactivity from navigational to participatory and collaborative Dixon challenges dominant theoretical approaches to digital performance including what he calls postmodernism s denial of the new and offers a series of boldly original arguments in their place The Politics of Cyberspace Chris Toulouse, Timothy W. Luke, 2013-12-16 The Politics of Cyberspace provides an overview of the impact of the world wide web on the political process Chris Toulouse organizes the articles according to their theoretical approach those who take up Habermas's concern with civil society and those who take up the postmodern critique of popular culture The book covers key issues such as the potential for electronic democracy the use of the web by mainstream political parties

challenges to the First Amendment inequalities of access and new understanding of gender It also calls for progressive intellectuals to embrace the Internet in their political struggles 

The Theory and Criticism of Virtual Texts Lory Hawkes, Joe Law, Christina Murphy, 2000-11-30 Virtual texts have emerged within the realm of the Internet as the predominant means of global communication As both technological and cultural artifacts they embody and challenge cultural assumptions and invite new ways of conceptualizing knowledge community identity and meaning But despite the pervasiveness of the Internet in nearly all aspects of contemporary life no single resource has cataloged the ways in which numerous disciplines have investigated and critiqued virtual texts This bibliography includes more than 1500 annotated entries for books articles dissertations and electronic resources on virtual texts published between 1988 and 1999 Because of the multiple contexts in which virtual texts are studied the bibliography addresses virtual communication across a broad range of disciplines and philosophies It encompasses studies of the historical development of virtual texts investigations of the many interdisciplinary applications of virtual texts and discussions of such legal issues as privacy and intellectual property Entries are arranged alphabetically within topical chapters and extensive indexes facilitate easy access

Cyberfeminism Susan Hawthorne, Renate Klein, 1999 This collection explores the possibilities for feminism in cyberspace It also looks at the pitfalls of the medium with theorists examining trafficking of women perception of the body and the problems of global and homogenised culture The Self Wired Lisa Yaszek, 2013-12-16 First Published in 2002 Advanced technologies challenge conventional understandings of the human subject by transforming the body into a conduit between external forces and the internal psyche This title discusses the intense controversy about how to best understand and represent human subjectivity in a technology intensive era Yaszek provides an overview by linking specific modes of identity and agency to engagement with specific manifestations of technology itself **Tomorrow through the Past** Jon Lewis, 2008-12-18 Tomorrow Through the Past Neal Stephenson and the Project of Global Modernization is the first collection of scholarly essays dedicated exclusively to this important voice in contemporary American fiction The collection grew from five essays originally presented at the 2006 XXth Century Literature Conference at the University of Louisville and the contributors are made up of graduate students independent scholars and university professors who hope the collection will aid general readers as well as instructors teaching Stephenson and professionals building the critical response to his work Reading through the lenses of history and linguistic cultural and science fiction studies the essays in the collection examine each of Stephenson's novels from The Big U to The Baroque Cycle as well as his long non fiction work on computer operating systems In the Beginning Was the Command Line Included in this collection is a new interview conducted with Stephenson during the summer of 2006 Globalization Eleonore Kofman, Gillian Youngs, 2003-03-20 2nd ed

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