

Ben Davis

Jul 6, 2022

Art in the After-Culture

Capitalist Crisis and Cultural Strategy

HAYMARKET BOOKS 2022



It is a scary and disorienting time for art, as it is a scary and disorienting time in general. Aesthetic experience is both overshadowed by the spectacle of current events and pressed into new connection with them. The self-image of art as a social good is collapsing under the weight of capitalism's dysfunction.

Art in the *After-Culture: Capitalist Crisis and Cultural Strategy* (Haymarket Books, 2022), art critic Ben Davis makes sense of our extreme present as an emerging "after-culture"—a culture whose forms and functions are being radically reshaped by cataclysmic events. In the face of catastrophe, he holds out hope that reckoning

with the new realities of art, technology, activism, and the media, can help us weather the super-storms of the future.

Louisa Hann recently attained a PhD in English and American studies from the University of Manchester, specialising in the political economy of HIV/AIDS theatres. She has published work on the memorialisation of HIV/AIDS on the contemporary stage and the use of documentary theatre as a neoliberal harm reduction tool. She is currently working on a monograph based on her doctoral thesis. You can get in touch with her at louisahann92@gmail.com.

CRITICAL THEORY

New Books in Critical Theory

Ben Davis, "Art in the After-Culture: Capitalist Crisis and Cultural..."

An interview with Ben Davis

00:00:00

SHARE SUBSCRIBE COOKIE POLICY DESCRIPTION

Megaphone

<https://newbooksnetwork.com/making-art-in-terrible-times>