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Given -- 1- Art 2- Crime: Modernity, Murder and Mass Culture

By Jean-Michel Rabate

Sussex Academic Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Given -- 1- Art 2- Crime: Modernity, Murder and Mass Culture, Jean-Michel Rabate, Investigates links between avant-garde art and the aesthetics of crime in order to bridge the gap between high modernism and mass culture, as emblematised by tabloid reports of unsolved crimes. Throughout Jean-Michel Rabate is concerned with two key questions: what is it that we enjoy when we read murder stories? and what has modern art to say about murder? Indeed, Rabate compels us to consider whether art itself is a form of murder. The book begins with Marcel Duchamps fascination for trivia and found objects conjoined with his iconoclasm as an anti-artist. The visual parallels between the naked woman at the centre of his final work, Etant Donnes, and a young woman who had been murdered in Los Angeles in January 1947, provides the specific point of departure. The text moves onward to Steven Hodel, the 'Black Dahlia' murder; Walter Benjamins description of Eugene Atgets famous photographs of deserted Paris streets as presenting the scene of the crime; and Ralph Roffs 1997 exhibition, which implied that modern art is indissociable from forensic gaze and a detectives outlook, a...



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Reviews

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