Guy Debord

By Andy Merrifield

Reaktion Books. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Guy Debord, Andy Merrifield, Guy Debord (1931-94) was one of the most important and intriguing intellectual figures of the twentieth century. Filmmaker and poet, urban critic and political theorist, adventurer and activist extraordinaire during Paris’ May 1968 uprisings, Debord was simultaneously behind and ahead of his times. Best-known as guru of the avant-garde revolutionary movement the Situationist International (1957-72), and for a classic indictment of post-war capitalist consumerism The Society of the Spectacle (1967), Debord’s life and work remains fascinating to this day. Yet the man himself remained elusive and enigmatic throughout his life. Master urban tactician in the 1950s, political muckraker, organizer and theorist during the 1960s, vagabond throughout the 1970s, fleeing to Spain and Italy, he lived as a recluse during the 1980s and early 1990s in an isolated farmhouse in Champot (Auvergne), behind a high stone wall. Guy Debord crosses over that Champot wall, pushes Debord’s shutters and peers through his windows. It crosses his threshold, drinks his wine, and listens to him talk. Andrew Merrifield focuses on the particulars of Debord’s life, shedding light on this admirable yet apparently impenetrable figure, a free spirit who was radically...

Reviews

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Guy Louis Debord (28 December 1931, Paris – 30 November 1994, Bellevue-la-Montagne, Haute-Loire) was a French writer, theoretician, filmmaker, poet and revolutionary. He was one of the founders of Lettrist International from 1952 to 1957, then of the Situationist International from 1957 to 1972, of which he edited the French magazine. He is the author of Society of the Spectacle. Hurlements en faveur de Sade [Howls for Sade], 35mm, B&W, 1952, 75 min. Script (en). Guy-Ernest Debord (December 28, 1931 – November 30, 1994) was a French strategist and founding member of the groups Letterist International and Situationist International (SI). He was also briefly a member of Socialisme ou Barbarie. Art need no longer be an account of past sensations. It can become the direct organization of more highly evolved sensations. It is a question of producing ourselves, not things that enslave us. Internationale Situationist (no. 1, Paris, June 1958). Guy Ernest Debord was a French Marxist theorist, writer, filmmaker, hypergraphist and founding member of the groups Lettrist International and Situationist International. In broad terms, Debord's theories attempted to account for the spiritually debilitating modernization of the private and public spheres of everyday life by economic forces during the post-WWII modernization of Europe. Guy Debord was born in Paris in 1931. Guy's father, Martial, was a pharmacist who died due to illness when Guy was young. Guy's mother, Paulette Rossi, sent Guy to live with his grandmother in her family villa in Italy. As a result, Guy attended high school in Cannes, where he began his interest in film and vandalism.[1]. Involvement with the Letterists. Debord joined the Letterist International when he was 19 years old. The Letterists were led dictatorially by Isidore Isou until a widely agreed upon schism ended Isou's authority.