



Material Culture

Victor Buchli

Material Culture:

Handbook of Material Culture Chris Tilley, Webb Keane, Susanne Kuechler, Mike Rowlands, Patricia Spyer, 2006-01-05 The study of material culture is concerned with the relationship between persons and things in the past and in the present in urban and industrialized and in small scale societies across the globe The Handbook of Material Culture provides a critical survey of the theories concepts intellectual debates substantive domains and traditions of study characterizing the analysis of things It is cutting edge rather than simply reviewing the field as it currently exists It also attempts to chart the future the manner in which material culture studies may be extended and developed The Handbook of Material Culture is divided into five sections Section I maps material culture studies as a theoretical and conceptual field Section II examines the relationship between material forms the human body and the senses Section III focuses on subject object relations Section IV considers things in terms of processes and transformations in terms of production exchange and consumption performance and the significance of things over the long term Section V considers the contemporary politics and poetics of displaying representing and conserving material and the manner in which this impacts on notions of heritage tradition and identity The Handbook charts an interdisciplinary field of studies that makes an unique and fundamental contribution to an understanding of what it means to be human It will be of interest to all who work in the social and historical sciences from anthropologists and archaeologists to human geographers to scholars working in heritage design and cultural studies

Material Culture Victor Buchli, 2004 Publisher description

History from Things Stephen Lubar, David W. Kingery, 1995-09-17 History from Things explores the many ways objects defined broadly to range from Chippendale tables and Italian Renaissance pottery to seventeenth century parks and a New England cemetery can reconstruct and help reinterpret the past Eighteen essays describe how to read artifacts how to listen to landscapes and locations and how to apply methods and theories to historical inquiry that have previously belonged solely to archaeologists anthropologists art historians and conservation scientists Spanning vast time periods geographical locations and academic disciplines History from Things leaps the boundaries between fields that use material evidence to understand the past The book expands and redirects the study of material culture an emerging field now building a common base of theory and a shared intellectual agenda

Material Culture and Mass Consumerism Daniel Miller, 1997-12-08 Exploring materialism and social relationships in modern culture Material Culture and Mass Consumption offers an in depth exploration of objects objectification ideology and materialism in modern society Drawing from Hegel Marx Munn and Simmel the discussion delves into the physicality of the material world and attempts to understand materialism as a form of cultural expression Targeting mass production as the root of mass consumption rather than the result this book positions material goods at odds with genuine social interaction and questions these relationships from the abstract to the intensely specific

American Material Culture Edith Mayo, 1984 The use of objects as source materials for scholarship has been increasingly legitimized by the growth of American Studies programs

which are now in the forefront in their work with objects The use of the museum as a primary resource is currently being given a position of increasing importance in American Studies scholarship Cultural History and Material Culture Thomas J. Schlereth,1990 This profusely illustrated collection of essays winner of the Elsie Clews Parsons Prize as the best folklore book of 1990 should engage anyone with an interest in how the humble devices and relics of everyday American life have influenced and will continue to influence our cultural history **Material Culture** Henry Glassie,1999 Material culture records human intrusion in the environment It is the way we imagine a distinction between nature and culture and then rebuild nature to our own desire by shaping reshaping and arranging things during our lifetimes We live in material culture depend upon it take it for granted and realize through it our grandest aspirations *Material Culture in the Social World*

Tim Dant,1999-08-16 This should become a core text for second year courses in sociology and cultural studies it synthesizes a vast body of literature and a complex range of debates into a text which is at once accessible engaging and stimulating it will lead to students seeing and thinking about the material world in a totally new light and can be used as a way into key theoretical debates Keith Tester Professor of Social Theory University of Portsmouth In what ways do we interact with material things How do material objects affect the way we relate to each other What are the connections between material things and social processes like fashion discourse art and design Through wearing clothes keeping furniture responding to the ring of the telephone noticing the signature on a painting holding a paperweight and in many other ways we interact with objects in our everyday lives These are not merely functional relationships with things but are connected to the way we relate to other people and the culture of the particular society we live in they are social relations This engaging book draws on established theoretical work including that of Simmel Marx McLuhan Barthes and Baudrillard as well as a range of contemporary empirical work from many humanities disciplines It uses ideas drawn from this work to explore a variety of things from stone cairns to denim jeans televisions to penis rings houses to works of art to understand something of how we live with them

Thinking Through Material Culture Carl Knappett,2010-11-24 Material culture surrounds us and yet is habitually overlooked So integral is it to our everyday lives that we take it for granted This attitude has also afflicted the academic analysis of material culture although this is now beginning to change with material culture recently emerging as a topic in its own right within the social sciences Carl Knappett seeks to contribute to this emergent field by adopting a wide ranging interdisciplinary approach that is rooted in archaeology and integrates anthropology sociology art history semiotics psychology and cognitive science His thesis is that humans both act and think through material culture ways of knowing and ways of doing are ingrained within even the most mundane of objects This requires that we adopt a relational perspective on material artifacts and human agents as a means of characterizing their complex interdependencies In order to illustrate the networks of meaning that result Knappett discusses examples ranging from prehistoric Aegean ceramics to Zande hunting nets and contemporary art Thinking Through Material Culture argues that although material culture forms the bedrock of

archaeology the discipline has barely begun to address how fundamental artifacts are to human cognition and perception This idea of codependency among mind action and matter opens the way for a novel and dynamic approach to all of material culture both past and present *Material Culture and Technology in Everyday Life* Phillip Vannini,2009 Focusing on the technoculture of everyday life this book attempts to zero in on the simplicity and the habitual character of the interaction between humans and material objects which is often assumed or taken for granted Because objects are always meaningful in the pragmatic use to which they are directed the material world of everyday life can be seen as a technoculture of its own one made of behaviors as simple and yet as significant as using a lawnmower or decorating one's body In discussing the unique methodological components of the ethnography of the technoculture of everyday life this book begins a dialogue on how we can examine from the participants perspective the interconnections between social agents their technological material practices their material objects or technics and their social and material environment **Learning Things** Doug Blandy,Paul E. Bolin,2018 Through activities approaches and examples this resource highlights concrete strategies for incorporating material culture into K 16 art classrooms as well as museum and community settings Chapters are written by luminaries in the field and organized around various aspects of material culture including object study the role of technology and multisensory art Learning Things is a resource abounding in lucid insights into how everyday objects impact teaching and learning in art I am certain this book will quickly become a foundational text in our field Juan Carlos Castro chair NAEA Research Commission Filled with excellent examples and teaching strategies this book brings to life the interdisciplinary stories objects hold and the ways we can use them in research and teaching Deborah L Smith Shank The Ohio State University In this intimate and educative book Doug Blandy and Paul Bolin invite us to consider how things come into appearance and take form in the uses to which they are put If you have ever wondered how we find and lose ourselves in the things that we create collect or carry with us then this book is for you Daniel O Donoghue The University of British Columbia

The Material Culture Reader Victor Buchli,2020-05-31 Material culture has finally earned a central place within anthropology Emerging from the pioneering work done at University College London this reader brings together for the first time seminal articles that have helped shape the anthropological study of material culture With topics ranging from the anthropology of art to architecture landscape studies archaeology consumption studies and heritage management this key text reflects the breadth of material culture studies today The authors who discuss field sites as distant as Vanuatu New Ireland Trinidad and Soviet Russia show how material culture provides a new lens for viewing the world around us and effectively bridges the gap between theory and data Providing the first ever synthesis of these ground breaking essays in an easily accessible volume this book will serve as a comprehensive introduction to the subject and a valuable reference guide for anyone interested in material culture anthropology art and museum studies **Material Culture of the Menomini** Alanson Skinner,1921 *Home Possessions* Daniel Miller,2021-07-30 Although so much of the life we care about takes place

at home this private space often remains behind closed doors and is notoriously difficult for researchers to infiltrate We may think it is just up to us to decorate transform and construct our homes but in this book we discover a new form of estate agency the active participation of the home and its material culture in the construction of our lives What do the possessions people choose to take with them when moving say about who they are and should we emphasize the mobility of a move or the stability of what movers take with them How is the home an active partner in developing relationships Why are our homes sometimes haunted by ghosts This intriguing book is a rare behind the scenes expos of the domestic sphere across a range of cultures Examples come from working class housewives in Norway a tribal society in Taiwan a museum in London tenants in Canada and students from Greece to produce a genuinely comparative perspective based in every case on sustained fieldwork So Japan long thought to be a nation that idealizes uncluttered simplicity is shown behind closed doors to harbour illicit pockets of disorganization while the warmth inside Romanian apartments is used to expel the presence of the state Representing a vital development in the study of material culture this book clearly shows that we may think we possess our homes but our homes are more likely to possess us *A Philosophy of Material Culture* Beth Preston, 2013-01-17 This book focuses on material culture as a subject of philosophical inquiry and promotes the philosophical study of material culture by articulating some of the central and difficult issues raised by this topic and providing innovative solutions to them most notably an account of improvised action and a non intentionalist account of function in material culture Preston argues that material culture essentially involves activities of production and use she therefore adopts an action theoretic foundation for a philosophy of material culture Part 1 illustrates this foundation through a critique revision and extension of existing philosophical theories of action Part 2 investigates a salient feature of material culture itself its functionality A basic account of function in material culture is constructed by revising and extending existing theories of biological function to fit the cultural case Here the adjustments are for the most part necessitated by special features of function in material culture These two parts of the project are held together by a trio of overarching themes the relationship between individual and society the problem of centralized control and creativity *Material Culture* Kenneth L. Ames, 1985 *Grasping Things* Simon J. Bronner, 1986 America stocks its shelves with mass produced goods but fills its imagination with handmade folk objects In Pennsylvania the back to the city housing movement causes a conflict of cultures In Indiana an old tradition of butchering turtles for church picnics evokes both pride and loathing among residents In New York folk art exhibits raise choruses of adoration and protest These are a few of the examples Simon Bronner uses to illustrate the ways Americans physically and mentally grasp things Bronner moves beyond the usual discussions of form and variety in America s folk material culture to explain historical influences on and the social consequences of channeling folk culture into a mass society

Material Cultures Daniel Miller, 1998 A collection of essays which present a balanced survey between theoretical discussions on the one hand and case study research on the other This volume is an ethnographic study of material cultures

Women and the Material Culture of Needlework and Textiles, 1750-1950 Maureen Daly Goggin, Beth Fowkes

Tobin, 2009 Rejecting traditional notions of what constitutes art this book brings together essays on a variety of fiber arts to recoup women's artistic practices by redefining what counts as art. Although scholars over the last twenty years have turned their attention to fiber arts redefining the conditions, practices and products as art there is still much work to be done to deconstruct the stubborn patriarchal art/craft binary. With essays on a range of fiber art practices including embroidery, knitting, crocheting, machine stitching, rug making, weaving and quilting, this collection contributes to the ongoing scholarly redefinition of women's relationship to creative activity. Focusing on women as producers of cultural products and creators of social value the contributors treat women as active subjects and problematize their material practices and artifacts in the complex world of textiles. Each essay also examines the ways in which needlework both performs gender and in turn constructs gender. Moreover in concentrating on and theorizing material practices of textiles these essays reorient the study of fiber arts towards a focus on process—the making of the object including the conditions under which it was made by whom and for what purpose—as a way to rethink the fiber arts as social praxis.

Material Culture in Transit Zainabu

Jallo, 2023-03-31 Material Culture in Transit Theory and Practice constellates curators and scholars actively working with material culture within academic and museal institutions through theory and practice. The rich collection of essays critically addresses the multivalent ways in which mobility reshapes the characteristics of artefacts specifically under prevailing issues of representation and colonial liabilities. The volume attests to material culture as central to understanding the repercussions of problematic histories and proposes novel ways to address them. It offers valuable reading for scholars of anthropology, museum studies, history and others with an interest in material culture.

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