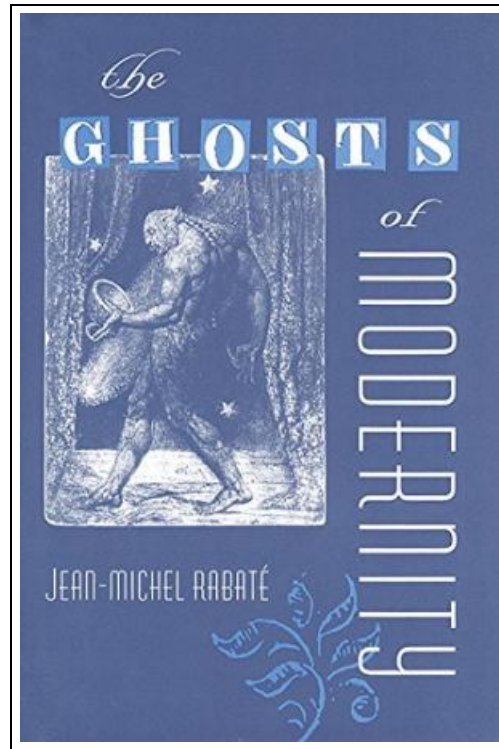


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University Press of Florida, United States, 1996. Hardback. Condition: New. New.. Language: English . Brand New Book. Rabate's strength is that he does not treat modernism as a monolith. The study's originality is in its close examination of several key themes in several key texts, almost all of which he reads autobiographically. . . . It is the pattern of these themes as well as the psychoanalytic method that holds these essays together. The result is a fresh look not at modernism as a whole, but at some central themes and images of the modernists. --S. E. Gontarski, Crosscurrents Series Editor Jean-Michel Rabate, the eminent French Joycean, combines psychoanalytical and philosophical concepts in rereading the history of modernity to give a more precise meaning to the term modernism. Rabate focuses throughout on a single theme, the ghostly nature of modernity. In writing a history of the concept of modernity with the awareness that the radically new has often been subject to the effects of the return of the repressed, Rabate analyzes the notion of loss in various fields: in Freudian aesthetics of color, in literary history, and in philosophy. The postmodernist fascination with a lost object allows a reconsideration of the boundaries of such terms as modernism and postmodernism. The conclusion ties together all these motifs, from Joyce to Barthes, together and shows their theoretical basis in Marx's criticism of ideology and in Freud's consideration of mourning. From the analysis of color as an unthinkable object of discourse to an aesthetics of the unrepresentable, Rabate points to the possibility of an ethics of mourning, which would seem capable of overcoming the dead end of history whose ending condemns it to eternal repetition. This work will appeal to a wide community of scholars. Its strong French and...



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