Goth: Undead Subculture

Lauren M. E Goodlad (Editor), Michael Bibby (Editor)

English, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory

Research output Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Book

Abstract

Since it first emerged from Britain’s punk-rock scene in the late 1970s, goth subculture has haunted postmodern culture and society, reinventing itself inside and against the mainstream. Goth: Undead Subculture is the first collection of scholarly essays devoted to this enduring yet little examined cultural phenomenon. Twenty-three essays from various disciplines explore the music, cinema, television, fashion, literature, aesthetics, and fandoms associated with the subculture. They examine goth’s many dimensions—including its melancholy, androgyny, spirituality, and perversity—and take readers inside locations in Los Angeles, Austin, Leeds, London, Buffalo, New York City, and Sydney. A number of the contributors are or have been participants in the subculture, and several draw on their own experiences.

The volume’s editors provide a rich history of goth, describing its play of resistance and consumerism; its impact on class, race, and gender; and its distinctive features as an “undead” subculture in light of post-subculture studies and other critical approaches. The essays include an interview with the distinguished fashion historian Valerie Steele; analyses of novels by Anne Rice, Poppy Z. Brite, and Nick Cave; discussions of goths on the Internet; and readings of iconic goth texts from Bram Stoker’s Dracula to James O’Barr’s graphic novel The Crow. Other essays focus on gothic music, including seminal precursors such as Joy Division and David Bowie, and goth-influenced performers such as the Cure, Nine Inch Nails, and Marilyn Manson.

Gothic sexuality is explored in multiple ways, the subjects ranging from the San Francisco queercore scene of the 1980s to the increasing influence of fetishism and fetish play. Together these essays demonstrate that while its participants are often middle-class suburbanites, goth blurs normalizing boundaries even as it appears as an everlasting shadow of late capitalism.
Research Output

Research Output per year

2007 – 2007

**Geek/Goth: Remediation and Nostalgia in Tim Burton's *Edward Scissorhands***


*Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding* • Chapter

**Introduction**


*Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding* • Chapter

**Men in Black: Androgyny and Ethics in *The Crow* and *Fight Club***


*Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding* • Chapter

Cite this

...
psychopaths, undead, mad experiments and paranormal - no matter what makes your heart race, you're guaranteed Goths: A Guide to an American Subculture (Guides to Subcultures and Countercultures). 184 Pages·2011·1.26 MB·223 Downloads·New! aesthetics. of the Goth Subculture: Postmodernism and Aesthetics The Music of the Goth Subculture: Post Goths: A Guide to an American Subculture. 184 Pages·2011·3.28 MB·8 Downloads·New! aesthetics. Goth is a subculture that began in the United Kingdom during the early 1980s. It was developed by fans of gothic rock, an offshoot of the post-punk music genre. The name goth was derived directly from the genre. Notable post-punk artists who presaged the gothic rock genre and helped develop and shape the subculture include Siouxsie and the Banshees, Bauhaus, the Cure, and Joy Division. History of the Gothic Subculture. by Alicia Porter Smith. advertisement. The date of origin is usually placed in 1979 when Bauhaus released the song "Bela Lugosi's Dead." The band originally intended the song to be tongue-in-cheek; however, many young fans latched onto this mysterious, eerie sound as inspiration for the budding gothic subculture. Undead Undead Undead. "The virginal brides file past his tomb, strewn with time's dead flowers, bereft in deathly bloom, alone in a darkened room the count. Bela Lugosi's dead. Goth: Undead Subculture is the first to break the trend and, even more admirably, actually tries to do so from the viewpoint of the Goth-on-the-dancefloor. Of course, what you end up with is academics - mostly, there is the occasional exception - discussing their favoured topics, but a good few of them