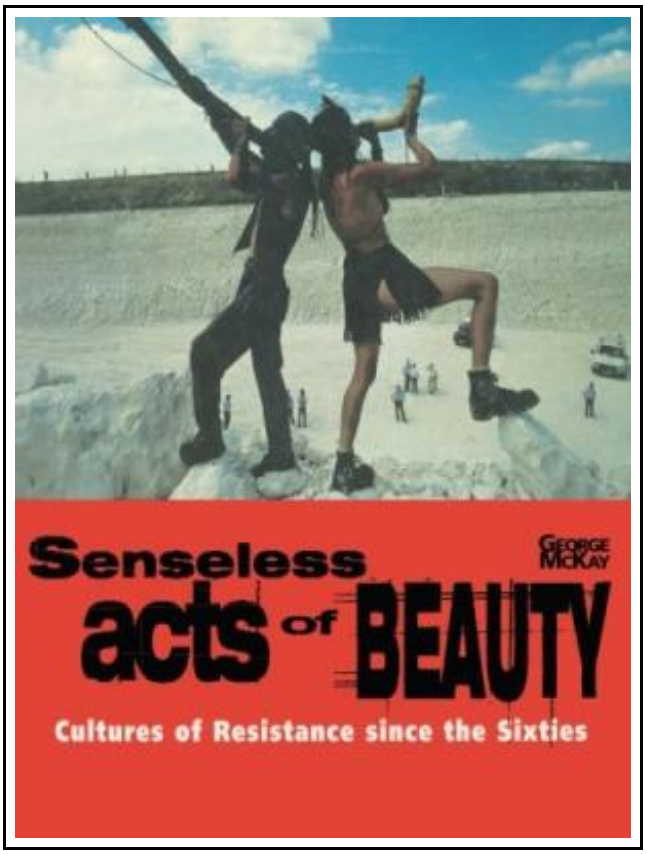
Senseless Acts of Beauty: Cultures of Resistence Since the Sixties



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SENSELESS ACTS OF BEAUTY: CULTURES OF RESISTENCE SINCE THE SIXTIES

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Verso. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 224 pages. Dimensions: 10.9in. x 8.1in. x 0.6in.Welcome to the social and environmental devastation that is Britain in 1996. Welcome to interchangeable political parties and their chattering media jesters pulling together to make Johnny Rottens dream come true: no future. But despite their best efforts, fear, cynicism and the National Lottery arent the whole story. Protest hasnt disappeared during the last twenty years, and nor have solidarity and imagination. They have simply taken new forms; they have moved out and moved on. More and more people, young people especially, are making a virtue of necessity and living outside Britains rotting institutional fabric. Travelers, tribes, ravers or squatters, direct-action protesters of every kind, DIYers. This book is the first attempt to write their history, to explore and to celebrate their endlessly creative senselessness. George McKay looks back at the hippies of the sixties and punks of the seventies, and shows how their legacies have been transformed into what he calls cultures of resistance. His journey through the undergrounds of the last two decades take us from the Windsor Free Festival of 1972 to the Castlemorton Free Rave Megaparty exactly twenty years later, from the anarchopunk band Crass via Teepee Valley and Glastonbury to todays ever-intensifying anti-road protests, and to the widespread opposition to the Criminal Justice Act. Drawing on fanzines and free papers, record lyrics, interviews and diaries, Senseless Acts of Beautygives a vivid, insider account of countercultures, networks and movements that until now have remained largely unrecorded. At the same time, George McKay analyzes their effects, and gives his own answers to the questions they pose: what are their politics, their aspirations, their consequences One thing is certain, he argues: if there is resistance anywhere in Britain today, then it is here, in the...

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