

Strange Spaces

Explorations into Mediated Obscurity

Edited by

ANDRÉ JANSSON, Karlstad University, Sweden

AMANDA LAGERKVIST, Uppsala University, Sweden

Certain bizarre spaces, where disruption or disarray rule, leave us estranged and 'out of place'. This book examines such spaces, highlighting the emotional and mediated geographies of uncertainty and in-betweenness; of cognitive displacement, loss, fear, or exhilaration. It expands on why space is sometimes estranging and for whom it is strange.

Overlapping with affections evoked by otherness, such as the 'exile', the 'obscene', the 'deviant', or the 'queer', strange spaces also call for a separate discussion ranging from decadence or disorder to spaces glowing with celebrification and wonder. Strange spaces in this book are conceived of in terms of change; involving processes when the consciousness registers a form of loss or difference as the habitual suddenly, or by degrees, is transformed into the site of exile, discomfort and sometimes novelty, astonishment and awe.

While literature exists which covers both strangeness and spatial production, as well as empirical explorations of strange spaces, these have previously been dispersed and most often non-explicit. This book is the first to link such work within a profound theoretical discussion of 'what is strange about strange spaces' and how they evolve in a modern media age.

Strange Spaces splendidly shows why and for whom specific places and situations can be alienating. It is essential reading for those concerned with making and understanding inclusive public places and urban developments.

Rob Shields, University of Alberta, Canada

The order of space is always at odds with myths of social order. In this courageous book, an interdisciplinary range of authors formulate a richer language for understanding the culture of space and the space of culture. This important contribution to communication studies and cultural geography should be widely read.

Nick Couldry, University of London, UK

an informa business

 **Routledge**
Taylor & Francis Group
www.routledge.com



<i>List of Figures</i>	vii
<i>Notes on Contributors</i>	ix
1 What is Strange about Strange Spaces? <i>André Jansson and Amanda Lagerkvist</i>	1
PART 1: SCALES OF OPACITY	
Introduction to Part 1 <i>André Jansson and Amanda Lagerkvist</i>	29
2 Vague Spaces <i>Phil Carney and Vincent Miller</i>	33
3 Domesticated Media: Hiding, Dying or Haunting <i>Orvar Löfgren</i>	57
4 The Strange Space of the Body: Two Dialogues <i>Eva Åhrén and Michael Sappol</i>	73
5 Obscure Objects of Media Studies: Echo, Hotbird and Ikonos <i>Lisa Parks</i>	101
PART 2: DISLOCATION, DISRUPTION, DISOBEDIENCE	
Introduction to Part 2 <i>André Jansson and Amanda Lagerkvist</i>	119
6 Beside Myself with Looking: The Provincial, Female Spectator as Out of Place at the Stockholm Exhibition 1897 <i>Ylva Habel</i>	123
7 La Villa Rouge: Replaying Decadence in Shanghai <i>Amanda Lagerkvist</i>	149
8 Cities of Sin, Backroads of Crime <i>Will Straw</i>	169

9	Walks in Spectral Space: East London Crime Scene Tourism <i>Chris Wilbert and Rikke Hansen</i>	187
10	The Soul of the City: Heritage Architecture, Vandalism and the New Bath Spa <i>Cynthia Imogen Hammond</i>	205
PART 3: SECRETS AND WONDERS OF MEDIA SPACES		
	Introduction to Part 3 <i>André Jansson and Amanda Lagerkvist</i>	229
11	Death at Broadcasting House <i>Staffan Ericson</i>	233
12	Communication Clinics: Expo 67 and the Symbolic Power of Fixing Flows <i>André Jansson</i>	257
13	Modern Moon Rising: Imagining Aerospace in Early Picture Postcards <i>Johanne Sloan</i>	279
14	Strange Exhibitions: Museums and Art Galleries in Film <i>Steven Jacobs</i>	297
15	Hiding in Plain Sight: Cinematic Undergrounds <i>David L. Pike</i>	317
	Name Index	337
	Subject Index	341