

TechGnosis



ERIK DAVIS

MYTH, MAGIC AND MYSTICISM IN THE AGE OF INFORMATION

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Techgnosis Myth Magic Mysticism In The Age Of Information

Daniel Downes



Techgnosis Myth Magic Mysticism In The Age Of Information:

TechGnosis Erik Davis, 2015-03-17 TechGnosis is a cult classic of media studies that straddles the line between academic discourse and popular culture it appeals to both those secular and spiritual to fans of cyberpunk and hacker literature and culture as much as new thought adherents and spiritual seekers How does our fascination with technology intersect with the religious imagination In TechGnosis a cult classic now updated and reissued with a new afterword Erik Davis argues that while the realms of the digital and the spiritual may seem worlds apart esoteric and religious impulses have in fact always permeated and sometimes inspired technological communication Davis uncovers startling connections between such seemingly disparate topics as electricity and alchemy online roleplaying games and religious and occult practices virtual reality and gnostic mythology programming languages and Kabbalah The final chapters address the apocalyptic dreams that haunt technology providing vital historical context as well as new ways to think about a future defined by the mutant intermingling of mind and machine nightmare and fantasy **TechGnosis** Erik Davis, 2004 Techgnosis uncovers the hidden mystical and religious impulses that animate our contemporary obsessions with media and technology It is a wild ride chock full of curious characters esoteric information and visionary insights The book tells the story of the alchemical origins of electricity the occult dimension of computer games and the Zen of cybernetics It reminds us of the irrational even dreamlike underside of our supposedly rational machines Techgnosis was first published in 1998 and it is now a cult classic one of the key texts of the media underground It has been translated into five languages This updated edition will feature a new afterword placing the book in our moment *Key Words in Religion, Media and Culture* David Morgan, 2008-06-30 From The Passion of the Christ to the presumed clash of civilizations religion's role in culture is increasingly contested and mediated *Key Words in Religion Media and Culture* is a welcome and interdisciplinary contribution that maps the territory for those who aim to make sense of it all Highlighting the important concepts guiding state of the art research into religion media and culture this book is bound to become an important and frequently consulted resource among scholars both seasoned and new to the field Lynn Schofield Clark David Morgan has assembled here a fine team of scholars to prove beyond a doubt that the intersections of religion media and culture constitute one of the most stimulating fields of inquiry around today This highly useful and theoretically sophisticated text will likely assume ritual status in this emergent field Rosalind I J Hackett University of Tennessee US This volume is a major intervention in the literature on religion media and culture Drawing together leading international scholars it offers a conceptual map of the field to which students teachers and researchers will refer for many years to come The publication of *Key Words in Religion Media and Culture* is a significant moment in the formation of this area of study and sets a standard for cross disciplinary collaboration and theoretical and methodological sophistication for future work in this area to follow Gordon Lynch Birkbeck College University of London UK This book offers a range of refreshing essays on the relationships between media and

religion Its selected keywords open doors to understanding contemporary society The cultural perspectives on mediation and religious practices give some illuminating and surprising analyses Knut Lundby University of Oslo Norway *Digital Matters* Jan L Harris,Paul A. Taylor,2005 Analyzing the complex interaction between aspects of new digital technologies this book draws upon a mix of theoretical approaches to give fresh insight into the roots of the social matrix behind the digital Matrix of popular imagination **Digital Matters** Jan Harris,Paul Taylor,2007-05-07 Analyzing the complex interaction between the material and immaterial aspects of new digital technologies this book draws upon a mix of theoretical approaches including sociology media theory cultural studies and technological philosophy to suggest that the Matrix of science fiction and Hollywood is simply an extreme example of how contemporary technological society enframes and conditions its citizens Arranged in two parts the book covers theorizing the Im Material Matrix living in the Digital Matrix Providing a novel perspective on on going digital developments by using both the work of current thinkers and that of past theorists not normally associated with digital issues it gives a fresh insight into the roots and causes of the social matrix behind the digital one of popular imagination The authors highlight the way we should be concerned by the power of the digital to undermine physical reality but also explore the potential the digital has for alternative empowering social uses The book s central point is to impress upon the reader that the digital does indeed matter It includes a pessimistic interpretation of technological change and adds a substantial historical perspective to the often excessively topical focus of much existing cyberstudies literature making it an important volume for students and researchers in this field **A Companion to Digital Humanities** Susan Schreibman,Ray Siemens,John Unsworth,2008-04-15 This Companion offers a thorough concise overview of the emerging field of humanities computing Contains 37 original articles written by leaders in the field Addresses the central concerns shared by those interested in the subject Major sections focus on the experience of particular disciplines in applying computational methods to research problems the basic principles of humanities computing specific applications and methods and production dissemination and archiving Accompanied by a website featuring supplementary materials standard readings in the field and essays to be included in future editions of the Companion **The Play Ethic** Pat Kane,2011-08-19 Fizzes with intellectual curiosity Kane writes engagingly and with a humility difficult to find among idea entrepreneurs James Harkin Independent We all think we know what play is Play is what we do as children what we do outside of work what we do for no other reason than for pleasure But this is only half of the truth The Play Ethic explores the real meaning of play and shows how a more playful society would revolutionize and liberate our daily lives Using wide and varied sources from the Enlightenment to Eminem Socrates to Chaos theory Kierkegaard to Karaoke The Play Ethic shows how play is fundamental to both society and to the individual and how the work ethic that has dominated the last three centuries is ill equipped to deal with the modern world With verve wit and intelligence Pat Kane takes us on a tour of the playful world arguing that without it business the arts politics education even our family and spiritual lives are fundamentally impoverished The Play Ethic seeks

to change the way you look at your daily life how you interact with others how you view the world It is a guidebook to new exciting and unsettling times Shocking controversial yet magnificently argued The Play Ethic is a book no one who works or has ever worked can afford to be without Kane s Manifesto for a Different Way of Living is a brave attempt to inject a little playfulness into the dull grind of the working stiff Iain Finlayson The Times **The Secret Life of Puppets** Victoria Nelson,2003-11-01 In a tour of Western culture that is at once exhilarating and alarming Nelson shows us the distorted forms in which the spiritual resurfaced in high art but also strikingly in the mass culture of puppets horror fantasy literature and cyborgs from the works of Kleist Poe Musil and Lovecraft to Philip K Dick and virtual reality simulations Deus in Machina:Religion, Technology, and the Things in Between Jeremy Stolow,2013 This interdisciplinary volume explores how two domains of human experience and action religion and technology are implicated in one another Combining rich historical and ethnographic detail with extended theoretical reflection Deus in Machina challenges longstanding assumptions about religion and as technology and outlines new directions of inquiry at the crossroads of religious studies science and technology studies communication studies history anthropology and philosophy Interactive Realism Daniel Downes,2005-03-03 Distinguishing between the Internet a communication system and cyberspace an environment for human exchange the author provides a framework for exploring the metaphors and images used in cyberspace to represent and model social reality He clarifies how these symbolic interactions are linked to the technologies used to create store and transmit them and to their social context

Decoding **Techgnosis Myth Magic Mysticism In The Age Of Information**: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

In a period characterized by interconnectedness and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, the captivating potential of verbal expression has emerged as a formidable force. Its capability to evoke sentiments, stimulate introspection, and incite profound transformations is genuinely awe-inspiring. Within the pages of "**Techgnosis Myth Magic Mysticism In The Age Of Information**," a mesmerizing literary creation penned with a celebrated wordsmith, readers embark on an enlightening odyssey, unraveling the intricate significance of language and its enduring effect on our lives. In this appraisal, we shall explore the book's central themes, evaluate its distinctive writing style, and gauge its pervasive influence on the hearts and minds of its readership.

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