

Japanese Cybercultures

Company MenStaging Decadence Sean Delehanty Adam Alston
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how an esoteric economic theory and its most devout believers changed the world forever in the modern economy stock price is king the value of a corporation is measured in how it enriches its shareholders even when doing so subtracts from long term growth or social good greed in the last half century of corporate practice has become very good company men is a sweeping intellectual history of how shareholder value rose from the lesser known edges of academic theory to the vanguard of corporate practice historian sean delehanty marshals archival resources to reveal how a group of motivated consultants activist investors and academic economists successfully branded shareholder value as the antidote to problems of management and economic stagnation in the 1970s in their success they created a class of well heeled managers who executed shareholder value theory as an everyday practice and at the expense of most everything else delehanty s history of the modern american corporation is a sobering account of the business regime that would rule the world and produce no shortage of regrets even amongst those who championed it company men is intellectual history at its most vital offering a surprising origin story of our economy s discontents

winner of the 2024 tapra david bradby monograph prize how is decadence being staged today as a practice issue pejorative and as a site of pleasure where might we find it why might we look for it and who is decadence for this book is the first monographic study of decadence in theatre and performance adam alston makes a passionate case for the contemporary relevance of decadence in the thick of a resurgent culture war by focusing on its antithetical relationship to capitalist led growth progress and intensified productivity he argues that the qualities used to disparage the study and practice of theatre and performance are the very things we should embrace in celebrating their value namely their spectacular uselessness wastefulness outmodedness and abundant potential for producing forms of creativity that flow away from the ends and excesses of capitalism alston covers an eclectic range of examples by julia bardsley uk hasard le sin finland jaamil olawale kosoko usa toco nikaido japan martin o brien uk toshiki okada japan marcel lí antúnez roca spain normandy sherwood usa the uhuruverse usa nia o witherspoon usa and wunderbaum netherlands expect ruminations on monstrous scenographies catatonic choreographies turbo charged freneticism visions of the apocalypse and what might lie in its wake

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