



Paul Virilio: Theorist for an Accelerated Culture

By Steve Redhead



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Paul Virilio is known as the high priest of speed. His discourses on speed, military technology, and modernity are highly influential among urban and cultural theorists, but he has influenced the work of many in other fields as well, including media theory, international relations, art history, cultural politics, architecture, and peace studies, to name a few.

The first authoritative study of the life and work of Virilio, Steve Redhead's *Paul Virilio: Theorist for an Accelerated Culture* explains and analyses Virilio's work, correcting many mistaken interpretations that have surfaced in the literature over the years. Although now retired from his position at the École Spéciale d'Architecture in Paris, Virilio remains an active political and cultural thinker and commentator with a significant catalogue of work stretching back to the 1950s. Redhead reviews Virilio's intellectual career, from his days hanging out in an architect's office in the 1960s to his recent creation of a major art foundation exhibition on 'the accident' in the wake of 11 September 2001. *Paul Virilio: Theorist for an Accelerated Culture* is a rigorous and accessible introduction to Virilio that places him in the pantheon of critical thinkers in today's accelerated culture.

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About the Author

Steve Redhead is a specialist adviser on city cultures and creative industries to the Government of Western Australia.

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