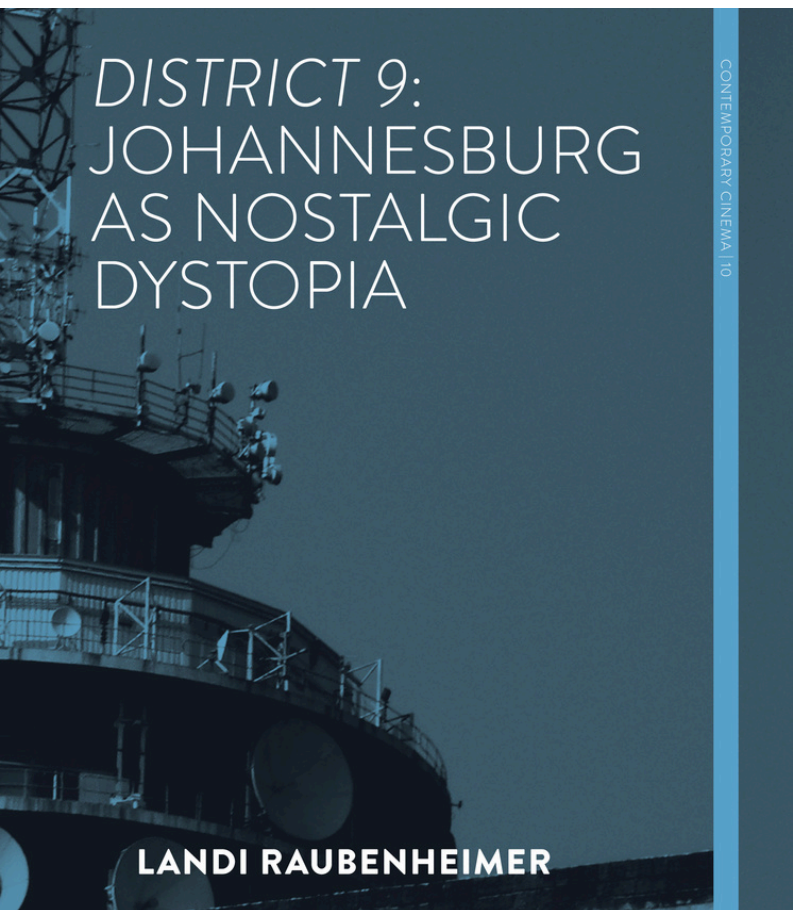


New Book Release: District 9: Johannesburg as Nostalgic Dystopia



The recently published book “*District 9: Johannesburg as Nostalgic Dystopia*” by Landi Raubenheimer offers a fresh academic perspective on the critically acclaimed film *District 9*. Published by De Gruyter Brill earlier this year, this monograph situates the film within broader visual cultural studies of Johannesburg and cities in the Global South.

Raubenheimer explores *District 9* as a cinematic allegory of apartheid and positions it within a unique visual ‘idiom’ of Johannesburg as a post-apartheid nostalgic dystopia. The book also examines other lens-based depictions of Johannesburg, including works by notable documentary photographers such as David Goldblatt and Santu Mofokeng, as well as films like Ralph Ziman’s *Gangster’s Paradise: Jerusalema* (2008), Rehad Desai’s *The Battle for Johannesburg* (2010), and Vincent Moloi’s short film *Berea* (2013). Together, these representations shape a complex image of Johannesburg as a site of both attraction and repulsion.

This in-depth study not only interrogates how *District 9* employs media and post-apartheid nostalgia but also illuminates its influence on visual culture. It addresses the fascination the city holds for filmmakers, photographers, and audiences alike.

The book is an essential resource for academics and students in art and film history, media archaeology, and visual cultural studies, as well as those interested in Johannesburg, cities in film, and Global South discourse.

District 9: Johannesburg as Nostalgic Dystopia is now available through De Gruyter Brill and is set to contribute significantly to understanding Johannesburg’s representation in media and the enduring impact of *District 9*.

Media links:

<https://brill.com/display/title/63435>



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