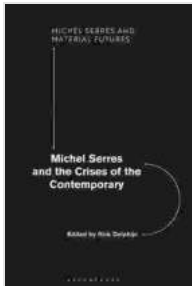


Michel Serres and the Crises of the Contemporary: Michel Serres and Material



Michel Serres and the Crises of the Contemporary (Michel Serres and Material Futures) by Rick Dolphijn

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 314 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 200 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



Michel Serres is one of the most important and influential thinkers of our time. A philosopher, scientist, and literary critic, Serres has written extensively on a wide range of topics, including the nature of time, the evolution of technology, and the relationship between science and society. His work is characterized by its interdisciplinary approach and its focus on the crisis of the contemporary.

The crisis of the contemporary, as Serres argues, is caused by our increasing dependence on digital technologies and our loss of contact with the material world. In his book *Michel Serres and the Crises of the Contemporary*, author explores Serres's work on this crisis, showing how it offers a unique and valuable perspective on the challenges facing our world today.

The Crisis of the Contemporary

Serres argues that the crisis of the contemporary is a crisis of time and space. In the pre-modern world, time was experienced as a linear progression from past to present to future. However, with the advent of digital technologies, time has become increasingly fragmented and non-linear. We are now constantly bombarded with information from all over the world, and we can easily switch between different tasks and activities. This has led to a sense of timelessness and a loss of the ability to focus on the present moment.

Similarly, space has become increasingly fragmented and non-linear. In the pre-modern world, space was experienced as a physical and concrete reality. However, with the advent of digital technologies, space has become increasingly abstract and virtual. We can now communicate with people all over the world in an instant, and we can access information and entertainment from anywhere in the world. This has led to a sense of placelessness and a loss of the ability to experience the physical world.

The Loss of Contact with the Material World

Serres argues that the crisis of the contemporary is also a crisis of the material world. In the pre-modern world, the material world was the primary source of our knowledge and experience. However, with the advent of digital technologies, the material world has become increasingly mediated and abstracted. We now spend more and more of our time interacting with digital representations of the world rather than with the physical world itself. This has led to a loss of contact with the material world and a loss of the ability to appreciate its beauty and complexity.

Serres's Philosophy of Materiality

Serres's philosophy of materiality offers a unique and valuable perspective on the crisis of the contemporary. Serres argues that the material world is not simply a passive backdrop to human activity. Rather, it is an active and dynamic force that shapes our thoughts, our feelings, and our actions. Serres calls this force the "quasi-object." The quasi-object is not a physical object in the traditional sense. Rather, it is a kind of virtual object that exists between the physical world and the digital world. The quasi-object is a mediator between the two worlds, and it plays a crucial role in our experience of reality.

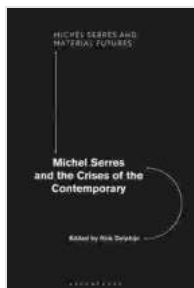
Serres argues that the crisis of the contemporary is caused by our loss of contact with the quasi-object. In the pre-modern world, the quasi-object was a central part of our experience of the world. However, with the advent of digital technologies, the quasi-object has become increasingly marginalized. This has led to a sense of alienation and a loss of the ability to connect with the world around us.

The Way Forward

Serres argues that the way forward out of the crisis of the contemporary is to rediscover the importance of the material world. He calls for a new philosophy of materiality that recognizes the active and dynamic role that the material world plays in our lives. Serres believes that this new philosophy of materiality will help us to reconnect with the world around us and to overcome the challenges facing our world today.

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