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# Thinking Popular Culture

War, Terrorism and Writing

Tara Brabazon, University of Brighton, UK

*'Tara Brabazon has ushered cultural studies out of the drawing room and prodded it back onto the streets, where it matters more than ever.'* – Justin O'Connor, Queensland University of Technology, Australia

*'Brabazon is a "war writer", grappling not with the culture wars but with war itself, including the wars within. She offers a cultural studies appropriate to the period between 9/11 and the present. Her elegiac essays range widely. Brilliant Brabazon is an antidote to the Bush "war presidency" and its dispiriting denouement. She makes cultural studies matter again.'* – Ben Agger, University of Texas at Arlington, USA

*'Tara Brabazon has written a beautiful, passionate, and political book about popular culture in which the learning of pleasure is matched by the pleasure of learning, critique, and civic engagement. One cannot think about politics without engaging popular culture as a powerful educational force, and Thinking Popular Culture is one of the best books available to confront this crucial question with great insight, enormous courage, and sense of social responsibility.'* – Henry Giroux, McMaster University, Canada

This book is about war and popular culture, and war in popular culture. Tara Brabazon summons, probes, questions and reclaims popular culture, challenging the assumptions of war, whiteness, Christianity, modernity and progress that have dominated our lives since September 11. It is essential reading for any scholar of cultural studies and popular culture, media and journalism, creative writing and terrorism studies.

**Contents:** Introduction: interventions in/denial; Think: Google is white bread for the mind; Stop crying – start thinking. Putting the punch back into pop; Coalition of the guilty; The 8th deadly sin; When Paris became a celebrity, not a city; Free wiki (but what is the cost?); It's only food, dude; Crazy frog capitalism; What are the young people wearing?; You've been Jaded. Design: The last punk; Mad about the boy (London); Handbag nation; A game you play with your brain: philosophy football; Punking yoga; Kindle surprise. Sonic: 2 bars; As cool as the crickets; It's not easy being Johnny Cash; Play 'great leap forward', you bastard; Singing a city; Downloading democracy; I know I won't be leaving here with the Archduke; I'm with stupid. Vision: What have you ever done on the telly?; Pree-sen-na kul-cha; You've got to have a good haircut: Live Forever and an end of spin; I don't believe you. You're a liar; Bad wolf; 28.06.42.12; Life, death and disco; Winds of change; Conclusion: cut Elvis; Selected Bibliography; Notes; Index.

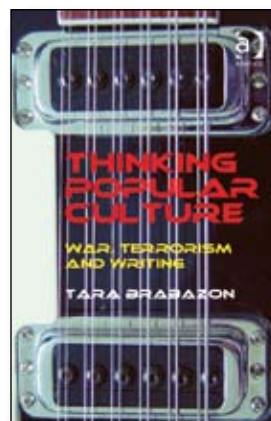
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