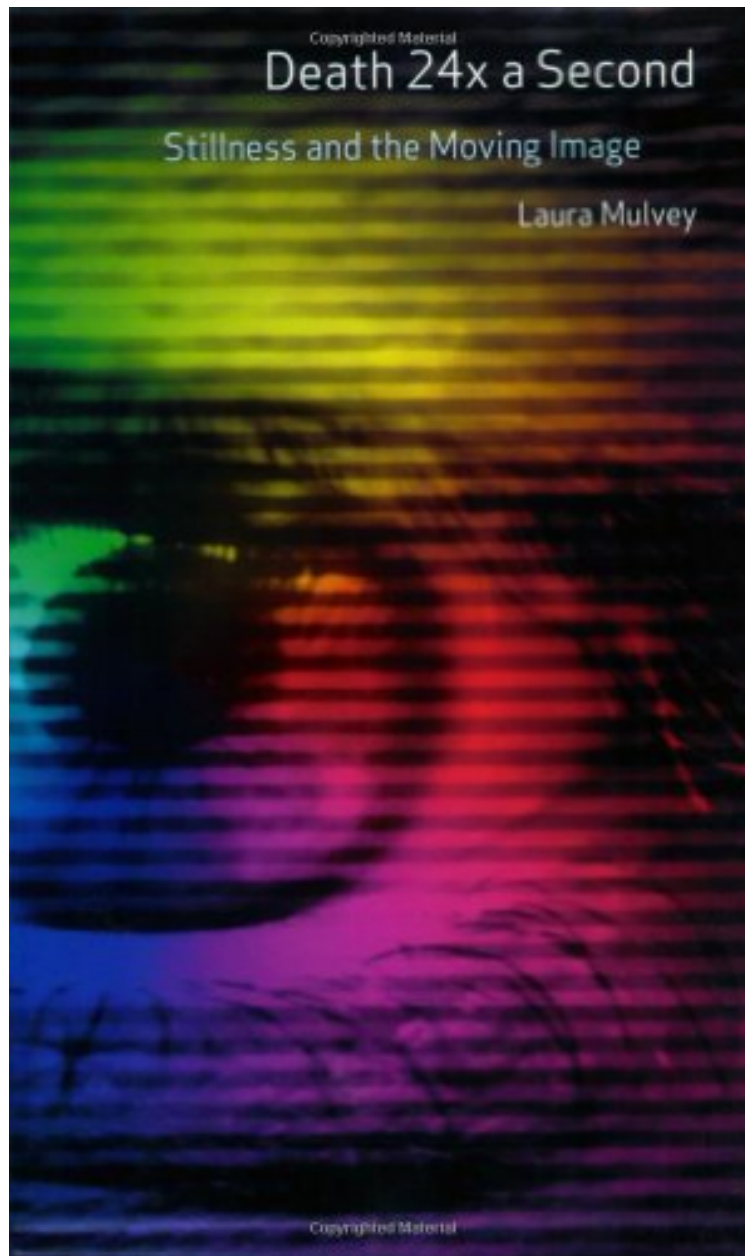


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Death 24x a Second: Stillness and the Moving Image

Laura Mulvey

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Death 24x a Second is a fascinating exploration of the role new media technologies play in our experience of film. Addressing some of the key questions of film theory, spectatorship, and narrative, Laura Mulvey here argues that such technologies, including home DVD players, have fundamentally altered our relationship to the movies. According to Mulvey, new media technologies give viewers the ability to control both image and story, so that movies meant to be seen collectively and followed in a linear fashion may be manipulated to contain unexpected and even unintended pleasures. The individual frame, the projected films best-kept secret, can now be revealed by anyone who hits pause. Easy access to repetition, slow motion, and the freeze-frame, Mulvey argues, may shift the spectators pleasure to a fetishistic rather than a voyeuristic investment in film. By exploring how technology can give new life to old cinema, Death 24x a Second offers an original reevaluation of films history and its historical usefulness.

"Death 24x a Second whispers rather than shouts, gently leading readers through a series of reflections on stasis, life, and death. In reference to stillness and the photograph, Mulvey elegantly aligns the divergent discussions of Andre Bazin and Roland Barthes, offering a productive assessment of each writer's attempt to grapple with the paradox of a time that was, in the past, a 'now.' . . . Mulvey. . . continues to provoke new ways of seeing--or reseeing--the cinema we think we know."