

The practices of magic and contemporary myth-making in relation to landscape, performance, and writing.

From Magic and Myth-Work to Care and Repair is a two-part book bringing together fourteen essays broadly concerned with the 'fiction of the self' and with practices and explorations beyond that fiction. Each part of the book approaches this theme from a different angle.

The first part, entitled 'On Magic and Myth-Work,' deals with practices of transformation and with contemporary myth-making in relation to landscape, performance, and writing. The second part, 'On Care and Repair,' gathers together essays that are more personal, but that also look to various technologies (or devices) of self-care alongside ideas of collaboration and the collective. Crucial throughout this exploration are questions of agency and self-narration, but also how these connect to larger issues around historical trauma, neoliberalism, and ecological crisis.

The essays reference many other texts and fellow travellers, and also draw on the author's own experiences (and teaching) within various art and theory worlds, as well as with performance, magical practices, gaming, and Buddhism.

'Charting a path between the sophistication of high theory and the nuance of cultural analysis, Simon O'Sullivan has tackled one of the most urgent problems of the twenty-first century: how do we imagine a future beyond the violence of the present, while maintaining a sense of care for the limits of the present.'

Claire Colebrook, Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of English, Pennsylvania State University

'Writing with lightness and compassion, Simon O'Sullivan details practical ways we can work at loosening up the self in order to resist the patterns of power and better enter into salubrious combinations with others.'

Laura U. Marks, Grant Strate University Professor, Simon Fraser University

Simon O'Sullivan is Professor of Art Theory and Practice at Goldsmiths, University of London.



Goldsmiths
Press

Cover design: Maria Lee-Warren

US \$34.95 / \$45.95 CAN
ISBN 978-1-915983-04-6



9 781915 983046

From Magic and Myth-Work to Care and Repair

Simon O'Sullivan

From Magic and Myth-Work to Care and Repair

Simon O'Sullivan

