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Identity Theft: Cultural Colonisation and Contemporary Art (Liverpool University Press - Tate Liverpool Critical Forum)

By Harris, Jonathan

Liverpool University Press, 2009. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: Identity Theft presents a striking package, starting with its controversial cover design. The colour combination of black, green, red and white in Bashil Makhoul's Al-hejara (1990) mimics the Palestinian flag, the display of which was illegal under the terms of the Israeli occupation, in order to question the sinister rhetoric of nationalism through its use of symbols of blood and land (50). In another work, Zigzag (1992), Makhoul appropriates the logo of Shell oil into an arabesque geometric pattern which also repeats the form of a six-pointed star in reference to the Judaic Star of David: for Makhoul, Economics, religion and politics cannot be separated and our identities are formed within this mesh (40). These issues of identity formation, appropriation and reformation, and their entanglement within art across cultures, are at the crux of the papers in Identity Theft. Gordon Hons' interview with Makhoul is the second chapter of the book, following editor Jonathan Harris' introduction which sets forth the scope of the book, derived from a Critical Forum conference held in the Spring of 2006 between Tate Liverpool and the University of Liverpool. Harris...



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