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David T. Fortin

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ARCHITECTURE AND SCIENCE-FICTION FILM

PHILIP K. DICK AND THE SPECTACLE OF HOME

DAVID T. FORTIN

Studies in Architecture

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David T. Fortin : Architecture and Science-Fiction Film: Philip K. Dick and the Spectacle of Home (Ashgate Studies in Architecture) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Architecture and Science-Fiction Film: Philip K. Dick and the Spectacle of Home (Ashgate Studies in Architecture):

The home is one of our most enduring human paradoxes and is brought to light tellingly in science-fiction (SF) writing

and film. However, while similarities and crossovers between architecture and SF have proliferated throughout the past century, the home is often overshadowed by the spectacle of 'otherness'. The study of the familiar (home) within the alien (SF) creates a unique cultural lens through which to reflect on our current architectural condition. SF has always been linked with alienation; however, the conditions of such alienation, and hence notions of home, have evidently changed. There is often a perceived comprehension of the familiar that atrophies the inquisitive and interpretive processes commonly activated when confronting the unfamiliar. Thus, by utilizing the estranging qualities of SF to look at a concept inherently linked to its perceived opposite - the home - a unique critical analysis with particular relevance for contemporary architecture is made possible.

David Fortin's *Architecture and Science-Fiction Film* boldly takes us where no commentary has gone before. It deftly draws on architectural theory to illuminate not only the larger tradition of science-fiction film and its efforts at envisioning new ways of living, but also the specific fascination with the home and with habitation that has figured centrally in cinematic adaptations of one of the most important science-fiction writers, Philip K. Dick. The result is a smart and challenging book, one that should become essential reading in science-fiction studies. --J. P. Telotte, Georgia Institute of Technology

About the Author
Dr David T. Fortin is an Assistant Professor at Montana State University School of Architecture, USA.