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Interrogating Popular Culture: Key Questions

Stacy Takacs

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INTERROGATING POPULAR CULTURE KEY QUESTIONS



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Stacy Takacs : Interrogating Popular Culture: Key Questions before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Interrogating Popular Culture: Key Questions:

Interrogating Popular Culture: Key Questions offers an accessible introduction to the study of popular culture, both historical and contemporary. Beginning from the assumption that cultural systems are dynamic, contradictory, and hard to pin down, Stacy Takacs explores the field through a survey of important questions, addressing: Definitions: What is popular culture? How has it developed over time? What functions does it serve? Method: What is a proper object of study? How should we analyze and interpret popular texts and practices? Influence: How does popular culture relate to social power and control? Identity and disposition: How do we relate to popular culture? How does it move and connect us? Environment: How does popular culture shape the ways we think, feel and act in the world? Illustrated with a wide variety of case studies, covering everything from medieval spectacle to reality TV, sports

fandom and Youtube, *Interrogating Popular Culture* gives students a theoretically rich analytical toolkit for understanding the complex relationship between popular culture, identity and society.

"This is the Introduction to Pop Culture text that I've been waiting for! A great blending of theory and practice organized around essential questions rather than genres, it offers thought-provoking interrogation of contemporary examples from across the pop culture spectrum. I look forward to using it in my intro Pop Culture class." Dr. Tony Harkins, Director, Popular Culture Studies program, Western Kentucky University "Stacy Takacs' new book teaches in the best way, by asking questions and encouraging readers to ask their own questions of popular culture. *Interrogating Popular Culture* ranges confidently far and wide in its historical and geographical scope, from Ancient Roman spectacles to *The Hunger Games* trilogy. Takacs' tonelively, convincing and realwill engage and inform student readers, inviting them to become critical scholars of their own popular culture." Will Brooker, Kingston University
About the Author Stacy Takacs is Associate Professor and Director of American Studies at Oklahoma State University. She is also the author of *Terrorism TV: Popular Entertainment in Post-9/11 America*.