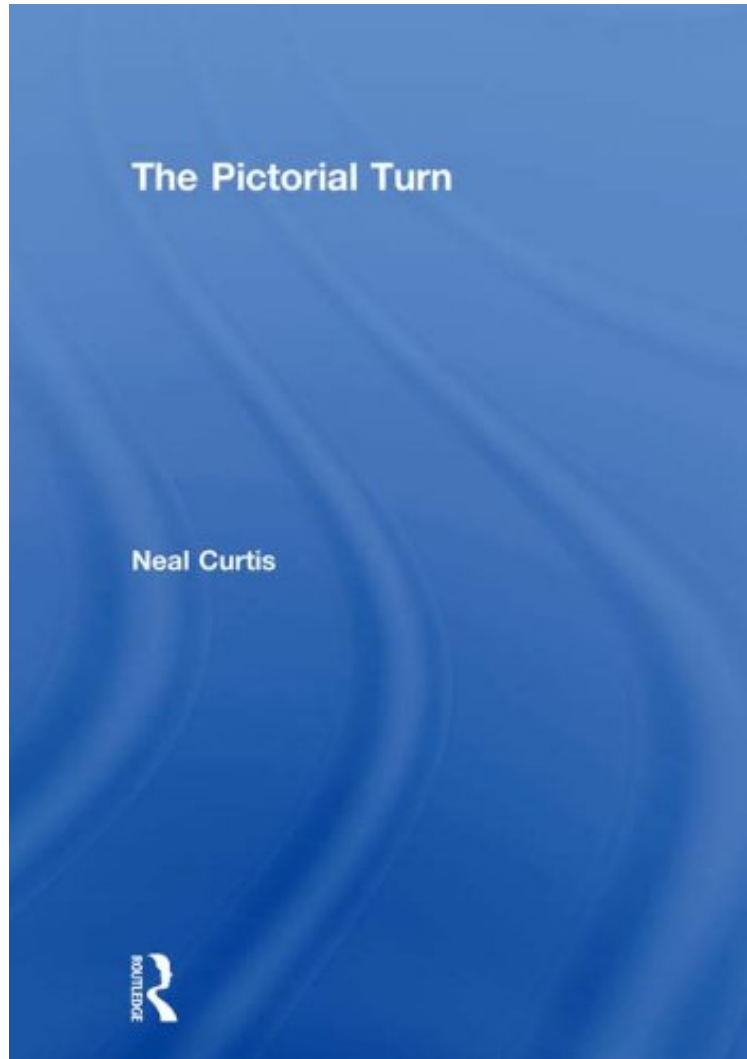


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The Pictorial Turn

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From Routledge : The Pictorial Turn before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Pictorial Turn:

In 1992 W. J. T. Mitchell argued for a "pictorial turn" in the humanities, registering a renewed interest in and prevalence of pictures and images in what had been understood as an age of simulation, or an increasingly extensive and diverse visual culture. However, in what is often characterized as a society of the "spectacle" we still do not know exactly what pictures or images are, what their relation to language is, how they operate on observers and the world, how their history is to be understood, and what is to be done with or about them. In this seminal collection of essays, the first to be devoted to the "pictorial turn", theorists from across the humanities and social sciences, representing the

disciplines of art history, philosophy, geography, media studies, visual studies and anthropology, are brought together with a paleontologist and practising artists to consider amongst other things the relation between pictures and images, the power of landscape, the nature of political images, the status of images in the natural sciences, the "life" of images, and the pictorial uncanny. With these topics in mind, picture theory and iconology exceed in scope the objects of visual culture conventionally understood. This book was published as a special issue of *Culture, Theory and Critique*.

About the Author At the time of writing this book, Neal Curtis was Director of the Centre for Critical Theory, and Lecturer in Cultural Studies at the University of Nottingham, UK. He is now Senior Lecturer in the Department of Film, Television and Media Studies at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He is the author of *Against Autonomy: Lyotard, Judgement and Action* (2001) and *War and Social Theory: World, Value and Identity* (2006).