

Thames
&Hudson



London

Patrick Keiller

A photography book of film stills and script from the critically acclaimed, psychogeography film *London*, written and directed by Patrick Keiller, released in 1994

FUEL

225 illustrations

20.0 x 16.0cm

248pp

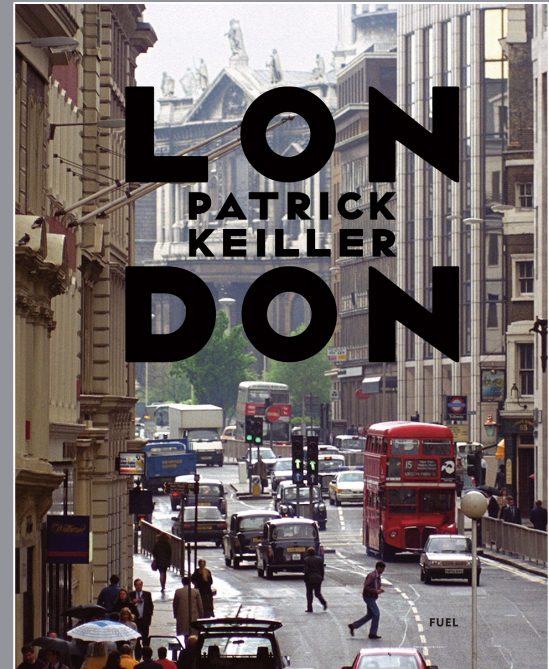
ISBN 9781916218437

BIC AJB

Hardback

£24.95

September 2020



A4

Book

Key Sales Points

- The first book to cover this landmark, critically acclaimed, psychogeography, British art film
- With an introduction from the director, giving insights into his creative process both in writing the script for the film and in shooting it, including a full list of locations
- A landmark in both documentary filmmaking and psychogeography, *London* is a visual counterpart to the work of Ian Sinclair, Peter Ackroyd and Will Self





11 JANUARY 1992

It is a journey to the end of the world...

It is seven years since I last saw Robinson, on the day I left England, when he saw me off at the quayside.

I have heard from him from time to time during my travels, but now he has written that he urgently wishes to see me, that he is on the verge of a breakthrough in his investigations, and that I should come as soon as possible, *before it is too late...*



THE GREAT MALADY - HORROR OF HOME

Dirty Old Blighty -

under-educated, economically backward, bizarre - a catalogue of modern miseries...

with its fake traditions

its Irish war

its militarism and secrecy

its silly old judges

its hatred of intellectuals

its ill-health and bad food

its sexual repression

its hypocrisy and racism

and its indolence

it's so exotic, so home-made!





Robinson reads Montaigne: 'It is good to be born in depraved times; for, by comparison with others, you are reckoned virtuous at little cost.'

It is not *generally agreed* that Montaigne lived for a time in London, in a house in Wardour Street; the first of a number of French writers who found themselves exiled here.

Robinson studies the work of this group...

Mallarmé, who lived nearby; Rimbaud and Verlaine; Marcel Schwob, the translator of Defoe, De Quincey, and Robert Louis Stevenson, and Baudelaire, who translated Edgar Allan Poe.

(Baudelaire, of course, never actually set foot in England, but his mother was born in London and spoke English as a child.)



Apart from his academic work, Robinson hardly ever leaves the flat except to go to the supermarket.

When he used to visit friends abroad, his social life was transformed - he became an enthusiastic flâneur, astonishing his hosts with his stamina and generosity, but for several years he has not left the country, as he wrestles with what he calls the 'problem' of London.

For him, shopping is an experience of overwhelming poignancy, as the labels on imported goods evoke such longing for the journeys abroad that he no longer feels able to make.





Robinson and I lived together for many years, during which we intermittently maintained an uneasy, bickering sexual relationship.

