

## Visuality in the Theatre The Locus of Looking

Maaïke Bleeker

'This new study by Dutch theatre and performance scholar Maaïke Bleeker is an important work. Its subject - *visuality* within theatre and performance studies – is new and in many respects Bleeker is quite literally defining a field. Her book provides critical and theoretical tools with which to analyse and better understand postdramatic theatre as part of today's visual culture.' - Professor Christopher Balme, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany

*Visuality in the Theatre* proposes a new theoretical approach to the dynamics of looking engendered in the theatre. *Visuality*, this book argues, is not something we look at but something that we create by looking. *Visuality* is an embodied experience involving more than just the optical senses. The relationship between someone looking and something seen is fundamental to the experiences theatre and performance can evoke, while at the same time this relationship remains, to a large extent, invisible in the act of seeing. Bleeker offers a 'dissection of *visuality*', pointing to the close relationship between the mediations of the theatre and performance and apparatuses of vision (in both the dramatic theatre and its deconstruction on the contemporary stage).

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Visions of Cultural Difference

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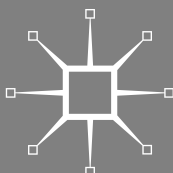
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