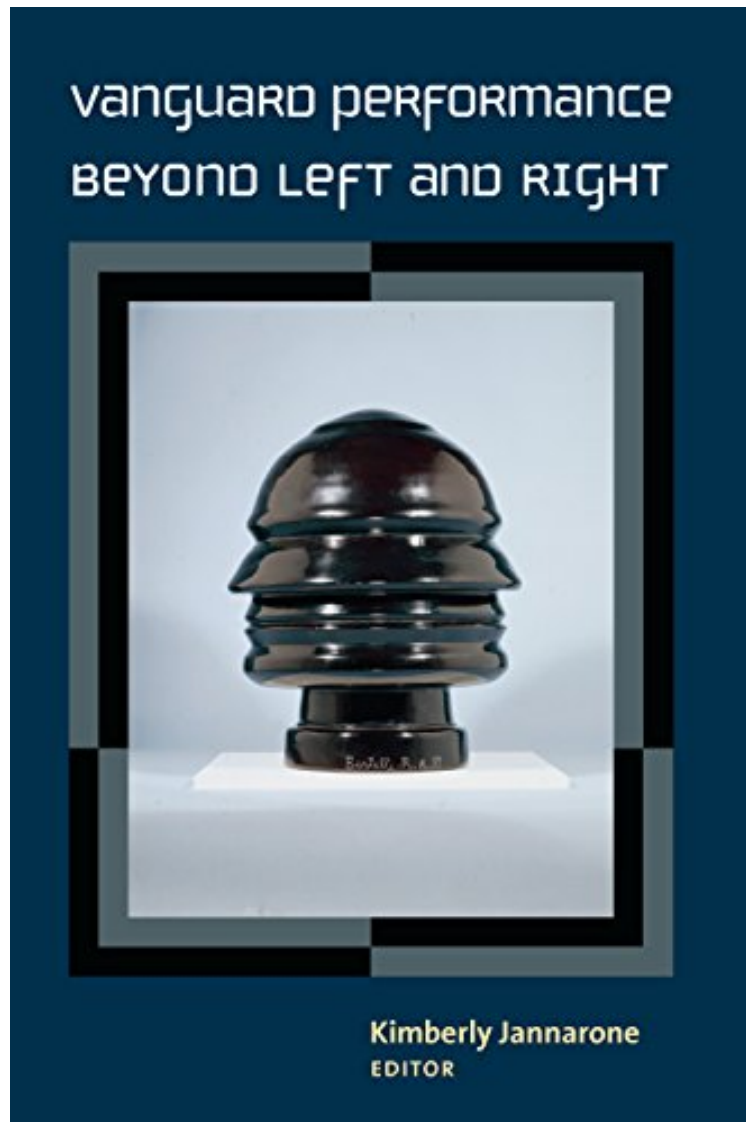


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Vanguard Performance Beyond Left and Right

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From University of Michigan Press : Vanguard Performance Beyond Left and Right before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vanguard Performance Beyond Left and Right:

Vanguard Performance Beyond Left and Right challenges assumptions regarding "radical" and "experimental" performance that have long dominated thinking about the avant-garde. The book brings to

light vanguard performances rarely discussed: those that support totalitarian regimes, promote conservative values, or have been effectively snapped up by right-wing regimes the performances intended to oppose. In so doing, the volume explores a central paradox: how innovative performances that challenge oppressive power structures can also be deployed in deliberate, passionate support of oppressive power. Essays by leading international scholars pose engaging questions about the historical avant-garde, vanguard acts, and the complex role of artistic innovation and live performance in global politics. Focusing on performances that work against progressive and democratic ideas (including scripted drama, staged suicide, choral dance, terrorism, rallies, and espionage), the book demonstrates how many compelling performance ideals—unification, exaltation, immersion—are, in themselves, neither moral nor immoral; they are only emotional and aesthetic urges that can be powerfully channeled into a variety of social and political outlets.

About the Author Kimberly Jannaronen is Professor of Theater Arts and Digital Arts and New Media at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She is author of *Artaud and His Doubles*.