



Two Bicycles

The Work of Jean-Luc Godard and Anne-Marie Miéville

Jerry White

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This is a thoughtful, insightful, and revelatory study on a neglected subject that had new things to teach me on almost every page.

– Jonathan Rosenbaum, author, *Goodbye Cinema, Hello Cinephilia* (2010), former film critic, *Chicago Reader*

Jean-Luc Godard and Anne-Marie Miéville are among the most important postwar filmmakers; they have worked across forms, across media, and across countries. This book, the first to be devoted specifically to the work they did together, examines the way they expanded the possibilities of cinema by using cutting-edge video equipment in their search for a new kind of filmmaking.

Two Bicycles examines all of the films, videos, and television works that the two did together, and moves across France and Switzerland, with detours in Quebec, Mozambique, and Palestine. Their amazingly varied body of work includes a twelve-hour television series, some experimental videos, an acclaimed feature film with Isabelle Huppert, a cigarette commercial, and much else. The book shows the degree to which their collaborations depart radically from the legacy of the French New Wave and in many ways show signs of having been formed by the distinct culture of Switzerland, to which Godard and Miéville returned in the 1970s to set up their atelier, Sonimage.

Two Bicycles offers a chance to explore a body of work that is as unique and demanding as it is rich and revelatory. Godard and Miéville have worked together for four decades but have never seemed more relevant.

Jerry White is Canada Research Chair in European Studies at Dalhousie University. He is the author of *Revisioning Europe: The Films of John Berger and Alain Tanner* (2011), *The Radio Eye: Cinema in the North Atlantic, 1958–1988* (WLU Press, 2009), and *Of This Place and Elsewhere: The Films and Photography of Peter Mettler* (2006).

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