

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun

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In the contemporary world of art and culture, few artists have managed to captivate audiences and critics alike quite like Kodwo Eshun. Known for his groundbreaking work that blends music, philosophy, and cultural criticism, Eshun has established himself as a visionary thinker whose influence extends beyond traditional boundaries. His contributions to music theory, media studies, and African diaspora culture have earned him a reputation as one of the most innovative minds of his generation. The phrase “more brilliant than the sun” aptly describes the luminous brilliance of Eshun's intellectual pursuits and creative output, illuminating pathways for future artists, scholars, and thinkers.

Who Is Kodwo Eshun?

Early Life and Background

Kodwo Eshun was born in London to Ghanaian parents. His multicultural background and exposure to diverse cultural influences significantly shaped his worldview and academic pursuits. Eshun's early interest in music, philosophy, and African history laid the foundation for his multidisciplinary approach to art and cultural critique.

Academic and Professional Journey

Eshun is a renowned scholar, writer, and DJ. He studied at prestigious institutions where he specialized in media studies and cultural theory. His academic work often explores the intersections between sound, technology, and cultural identity. As a founding figure behind the concept of “Afrofuturism,” Eshun has played a pivotal role in shaping contemporary discussions around black identity and technological innovation.

The Significance of “More Brilliant Than the Sun”

Origin of the Phrase

The phrase “more brilliant than the sun” originates from Eshun's influential book *More Brilliant Than the Sun: Adventures in Sonic Fiction*. Published in 1998, the book explores the relationship between music, science fiction, and the African diaspora, proposing new ways of understanding black culture through a futuristic lens.

Central Themes

Eshun's work delves into themes such as:

- The futurism of African and African-American culture
- The role of sound and music in shaping identity
- The impact of technology on cultural expression
- The interconnectedness of science fiction and reality

Why It Matters

The phrase encapsulates the idea that black culture, innovation, and creativity shine with a brilliance that surpasses conventional expectations—like the sun's radiance, which illuminates everything around it. Eshun's work encourages us to see black cultural production as a powerful, luminous force capable of transforming perceptions and inspiring new possibilities.

Analyzing *More Brilliant Than the Sun: Adventures in Sonic Fiction*

Overview of the Book

More Brilliant Than the Sun is a seminal text that challenges traditional narratives about music and culture. Eshun combines theoretical insights with vibrant descriptions of artists, genres, and movements to craft a compelling narrative about sonic futurism.

Key Concepts in the Book

Sonic Fiction

Eshun introduces the concept of sonic fiction, a term that describes music and sound as a form of speculative storytelling. It's about imagining alternative futures and realities through sonic landscapes.

Afrofuturism

Eshun is credited with popularizing Afrofuturism—a cultural aesthetic that combines science fiction, history, and technology to explore the black experience. His work emphasizes how black artists envision and create futures that challenge stereotypes and envision liberation.

The Role of Technology

Eshun emphasizes the importance of technological innovation in shaping cultural expression. He examines how electronic music, digital media, and science fiction serve as tools for imagining new worlds.

Notable Artists and Movements Discussed

- Sun Ra and his cosmic jazz philosophy
- Flying Lotus and contemporary electronic music
- Sonic experiments in African and Caribbean cultures
- The influence of sci-fi movies and literature on music

Kodwo Eshun's Impact on Culture and Academia

Contributions to Music and Cultural Theory

Eshun's innovative ideas have influenced a broad spectrum of disciplines:

- Music Production and DJ Culture: His insights have shaped the way DJs and producers approach sound design and cultural sampling.
- Media and Cultural Studies: His theories offer new frameworks for understanding how media shapes identity and perception.
- Black Studies and Diaspora: Eshun's focus on Afrofuturism and sonic fiction has expanded conversations about black identity and technological empowerment.

Influence on Art and Creative Industries

Many contemporary artists and creators cite Eshun's work as a source of inspiration. His ideas have contributed to:

- The emergence of Afrofuturist art installations and exhibitions
- Music projects that incorporate science fiction themes
- Film and video art that explore black futurism

Academic Recognition

Eshun's work has been widely studied in universities around the world. His writings are considered essential reading in fields such as:

- Cultural studies
- Media theory
- Musicology
- African diaspora studies

Why "More Brilliant Than the Sun" Remains Relevant Today

Continuing Relevance of Sonic Fiction

In an era dominated by digital media and streaming platforms, the concept of sonic fiction remains

vital. It encourages creators to think beyond conventional narratives and explore new frontiers of sound and story.

Impact on Technology and Innovation

Eshun's emphasis on technology as a tool for cultural expression aligns with current trends in virtual reality, augmented reality, and digital art. His vision of the future continues to inspire technological innovation within creative industries.

Inspiration for Black Futurism

The ongoing development of black futurism as a cultural movement owes much to Eshun's pioneering ideas. His work provides a blueprint for envisioning a future where black voices are central to technological and cultural narratives.

How to Engage with Kodwo Eshun's Work

Recommended Reading and Resources

- *More Brilliant Than the Sun: Adventures in Sonic Fiction* — the seminal book that introduced his revolutionary ideas
- Articles and essays on Afrofuturism and sonic fiction
- Interviews and lectures available online for deeper insights

Attending Exhibitions and Events

Many art festivals and academic conferences feature discussions on Eshun's concepts. Participating in these events can enrich understanding and foster connection with like-minded creatives.

Incorporating Eshun's Ideas into Creative Projects

Artists and creators can draw inspiration from Eshun's work by:

- Experimenting with sci-fi themes in music and visual arts
- Exploring technological tools for storytelling
- Creating works that embody black futurism and sonic innovation

Conclusion: The Luminosity of Kodwo Eshun

Kodwo Eshun's work continues to shine brightly, illuminating new pathways for understanding culture, technology, and identity. His concept of “more brilliant than the sun” captures the radiant influence of his ideas—bright enough to inspire generations. Whether through his writings, teachings, or artistic collaborations, Eshun exemplifies the power of creative brilliance to challenge norms and envision a luminous future rooted in innovation and cultural resilience. As we navigate an increasingly digital and interconnected world, his contributions remind us that the brightest sparks often come from the most unexpected places—like the mind of a visionary artist whose brilliance surpasses the sun itself.

Keywords: Kodwo Eshun, more brilliant than the sun, sonic fiction, Afrofuturism, black futurism, cultural theory, music innovation, digital media, African diaspora, science fiction, artistic inspiration

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'More Brilliant Than the Sun' by Kodwo Eshun?

The book explores the intersection of music, science fiction, and Afrofuturism, examining how black culture and technology influence futuristic visions and sonic innovation.

How does Kodwo Eshun define 'Afrofuturism' in 'More Brilliant Than the Sun'?

Eshun describes Afrofuturism as a cultural aesthetic that combines science fiction, history, and fantasy to explore the Black experience and envision future worlds through technology and imagination.

Why has 'More Brilliant Than the Sun' gained popularity in contemporary discussions on music and culture?

The book's insights into the relationship between sound, identity, and technology, along with its analysis of influential artists like Sun Ra and Jimi Hendrix, have made it a key text in understanding modern cultural innovation.

In what ways does Kodwo Eshun connect science fiction to music in 'More Brilliant Than the Sun'?

Eshun argues that science fiction serves as a blueprint for radical musical experimentation and cultural resistance, highlighting how futuristic narratives inspire innovative sounds and identities.

What influence has 'More Brilliant Than the Sun' had on contemporary art and music criticism?

The book has inspired a new wave of critical thinking around Afrofuturism, encouraging artists, musicians, and scholars to consider the role of technology and speculative narratives in shaping cultural expression.

Can you explain the concept of 'technoculture' as discussed in 'More Brilliant Than the Sun'?

Technoculture refers to the ways in which technology influences and transforms cultural practices, identities, and artistic expression, a central focus of Eshun's analysis of futuristic black aesthetics.

How does 'More Brilliant Than the Sun' relate to current discussions on racial identity and technology?

The book highlights how technology and science fiction can serve as tools for imagining new racial identities and resisting systemic oppression, making it highly relevant in contemporary debates on race and digital culture.

What is the significance of the title 'More Brilliant Than the Sun' in the context of the book?

The title symbolizes the luminous, transformative power of black culture and innovation, emphasizing its capacity to outshine and redefine dominant narratives through creativity and futurism.

Additional Resources

Kodwo Eshun *More Brilliant Than the Sun* is a seminal work that has profoundly influenced contemporary discussions around music, culture, and the intersections of technology and identity. As a pioneering text within the realm of cultural theory, it offers a compelling, layered analysis that challenges conventional narratives and invites readers into a complex universe where sonic experimentation, Afrofuturism, and speculative thought converge. Eshun's work is not merely an academic treatise; it's a vibrant, provocative exploration that pushes the boundaries of how we perceive sound and its cultural implications. This review aims to unpack the various facets of *More Brilliant Than the Sun*, examining its core themes, stylistic features, and its enduring impact on scholarly and artistic communities alike.

Introduction to More Brilliant Than the Sun

Context and Background

More Brilliant Than the Sun was published in 1998 as part of the Guide to Supersonic Antidote series and has since become a foundational text in the fields of musicology, cultural studies, and media theory. Written by Kodwo Eshun, a British-Ghanaian theorist, filmmaker, and critic, the book is a dense, richly layered meditation on the nature of sonic culture, race, and futurism. Eshun's background—spanning disciplines from jazz and electronic music to Afrofuturism—shapes the book's eclectic, interdisciplinary approach.

Set against the backdrop of the 1990s, a period marked by rapid technological change and cultural flux, *More Brilliant Than the Sun* explores how sound functions as a site of resistance, identity formation, and speculative futures. Its title itself alludes to Sun Ra, the jazz pioneer and Afrofuturist icon, positioning the work within a lineage that seeks to reimagine black cultural history through a sonic lens.

Core Thesis and Objectives

At its core, the book argues that sound—particularly electronic, experimental, and Afrocentric music—serves as a portal to alternative realities and future worlds. Eshun posits that sonic practices are inherently political, capable of transcending racial and cultural boundaries to forge new modes of consciousness. The work champions the idea that music and sound are not passive entertainment but active forces shaping societal imaginaries and technological imaginaries.

Eshun's goal is to uncover the ways in which sonic culture, especially within black diasporic contexts, pushes forward a form of futurism that is both speculative and radical. He seeks to challenge dominant narratives that marginalize or dismiss non-Western or experimental music, positioning these sonic practices as vital to understanding contemporary and future cultural landscapes.

Thematic Breakdown

Afrofuturism and Sonic Imaginary

One of the central themes of *More Brilliant Than the Sun* is Afrofuturism, a cultural aesthetic and philosophy that combines science fiction, technology, and black cultural expression. Eshun explores how artists like Sun Ra, George Clinton, and later, electronic musicians, craft sonic worlds that envision a future rooted in black identity and cosmic consciousness.

Through detailed analyses, Eshun shows how these artists use sound as a tool for imagining alternate futures—spaces where black people can reclaim agency, rewrite history, and transcend oppressive structures. The book positions Afrofuturism not just as a visual or literary movement but as a sonic phenomenon that challenges linear notions of time and history.

Pros:

- Provides a nuanced understanding of Afrofuturism's sonic dimension
- Connects musical practices with broader cultural and political agendas
- Highlights lesser-known artists and practices that contribute to the futurist narrative

Cons:

- Dense theoretical language may be challenging for lay readers
- Assumes familiarity with specific musical genres and cultural references

Technology, Sound, and the Future

Eshun delves into how technological innovations—such as electronic music production, sampling, and digital media—alter perceptions of sound and open up new creative possibilities. He examines how

these tools serve as extensions of black cultural innovation, emphasizing the importance of technological agency in shaping future sonic landscapes.

He also discusses the concept of “sonic architecture,” where soundscapes are constructed to evoke particular states of consciousness or imaginaries. This concept underscores the transformative potential of sound in shaping not only artistic expression but also societal futures.

Features:

- Analysis of electronic music and its cultural significance
- Theoretical insights into the relationship between technology and sonic futurism
- Emphasis on the agency of marginalized communities in technological spaces

Pros:

- Illuminates complex relationships between sound and technological progress
- Encourages a forward-looking, innovative perspective on music and media

Cons:

- Heavy focus on abstract concepts may obscure practical applications
- Some readers may find technical jargon challenging

Race, Identity, and Cultural Resistance

Eshun’s work critically examines how sound functions as a medium for racial identity and resistance. He discusses how black musical practices subvert dominant cultural narratives and create space for alternative realities. The narrative underscores the importance of sonic innovation as a form of cultural resilience.

He emphasizes that black sonic practices often operate in opposition to mainstream commercial and cultural paradigms, creating a “sonic resistance” that is both political and spiritual.

Features:

- Critical analysis of racial dynamics in music production and consumption
- Exploration of sonic codes as markers of identity and resistance
- Connection between sound and diasporic cultural memory

Pros:

- Provides a compelling argument for the political power of sound
- Offers insights into the cultural significance of specific musical styles and practices

Cons:

- May require familiarity with racial theory and cultural critique
- Some arguments can be abstract without concrete case studies

Stylistic Features and Methodology

Interdisciplinary Approach

Eshun's methodology combines musicology, cultural theory, philosophy, and media studies. His writing is characterized by its poetic, almost lyrical style, weaving together dense theoretical concepts with vivid descriptive passages. This approach allows for a rich, multi-layered reading experience but can also pose accessibility challenges.

Features:

- Use of poetic language and metaphor
- Integration of diverse disciplinary perspectives
- Frequent referencing of cultural icons and theoretical texts

Pros:

- Creates an immersive reading experience

- Encourages readers to think across disciplines
- Fosters innovative interpretations of sound and culture

Cons:

- May be difficult for readers unfamiliar with theoretical jargon
- Some sections can be abstract or opaque

Influence and Legacy

More Brilliant Than the Sun has had a lasting impact on fields such as Afrofuturism, electronic music criticism, and media theory. It has inspired scholars, artists, and activists to reconsider the role of sound in shaping future imaginaries and resisting cultural marginalization.

Its influence extends beyond academia into popular culture, with references in music, film, and art that continue to resonate today. The book's emphasis on futurism, technology, and racial identity remains relevant in contemporary discussions about media and cultural innovation.

Critical Reception

Strengths:

- Groundbreaking in its interdisciplinary scope
- Offers a compelling vision of sonic futurism rooted in black cultural contexts
- Richly poetic, inviting multiple interpretations

Weaknesses:

- Accessibility issues due to dense language
- Can be overwhelming for readers seeking straightforward analysis
- Some critics argue that certain claims could benefit from more empirical evidence

Despite these challenges, the consensus recognizes *More Brilliant Than the Sun* as a vital text that pushes boundaries and expands the conversation about sound and futurism.

Conclusion

Kodwo Eshun's *More Brilliant Than the Sun* remains a monumental work that continues to inspire and challenge audiences. Its visionary exploration of sonic culture as a vehicle for futurism, resistance, and identity makes it essential reading for anyone interested in the transformative power of sound. While its dense and poetic language may require patience, the insights it offers are profound and enduring. As technology advances and cultural dialogues evolve, Eshun's work provides a vital framework for understanding how sonic practices can shape the worlds we inhabit and imagine.

Whether you are a scholar, artist, or curious reader, *More Brilliant Than the Sun* invites you to listen beyond the surface—to explore the cosmic, political, and artistic dimensions of sound that are more brilliant than the sun itself.

[Kodwo Eshun More Brilliant Than The Sun](#)

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: [More Brilliant Than the Sun](#) Kodwo Eshun, 1998 Discusses black musicians like Kool Keith, Sun Ra, Juan Atkins, Public Enemy, John Coltrane, Jeff Mills, Lee Perry, Underground Resistance, Pharoah Sanders, et al.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: [Analysing Darkness and Light: Dystopias and Beyond](#) , 2023-08-28 The book situates itself in the fields of philosophy, political theory, aesthetics and theories of art, linking its discussions of fictional dystopias to debates on ongoing crises. It asks: Are dystopias a useful tool for imagining ways out of sombre situations or do they prevent us from engaging in transformative action? The book consists of a thorough introduction and three major sections: 1. Dystopias of Meaninglessness, 2. Techno-Euphoria vs. Terror of Technology, and 3. Dystopias Come True? The individual chapters discuss, among other things, liberalism and conservatism, "luxury communism", pandemics, technology-induced anxiety, empty speech, ethics, film, literature, architecture and music.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: [Fictioning Burrows](#) David Burrows, 2019-03-14 Fictioning in art is an open-ended, experimental practice that involves performing, diagramming or

assembling to create or anticipate that which does not exist. In this extensively illustrated book containing over 80 diagrams and images of artworks, David Burrows and Simon O'Sullivan explore the technics of fictioning through three focal points: mythopoesis, myth-science and mythotechnesis. These relate to three specific modes of fictioning: performance fictioning, science fictioning and machine fictioning. In this way, Burrows and O'Sullivan explore how fictioning can offer us alternatives to the dominant fictions that construct our reality in an age of 'post-truth' and 'perception management'. Through fictioning, they look forward to the new kinds of human, part-human and non-human bodies and societies to come.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: Sonic Bodies Julian Henriques, 2011-09-08 The reggae sound system has exerted a major influence on music and popular culture. Out on the streets of inner city Kingston, Jamaica, every night, sound systems stage dancehall sessions for the crowd to share the immediate, intensive and immersive visceral pleasures of sonic dominance. *Sonic Bodies* concentrates on the skilled performance of the crewmembers responsible for this signature sound of Jamaican music: the audio engineers designing, building and fine-tuning the hugely powerful sets of equipment; the selectors choosing the music tracks to play; and MCs(DJs) on the mic hyping up the crowd. Julian Henriques proposes that these dancehall vibes are taken literally as the periodic motion of vibrations. He offers an analysis of how a sound system operates - at auditory, corporeal and sociocultural frequencies. *Sonic Bodies* formulates a fascinating critique of visual dominance and the dualities inherent in ideas of image, text or discourse. This innovative book questions the assumptions that reason resides only in a disembodied mind, that communication is an exchange of information, and that meaning is only ever representation.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: Sonic Fiction Holger Schulze, 2020-01-23 Sonic fiction is everywhere: in conversations about vernacular culture, in music videos, sound art compositions and on record sleeves, in everyday encounters with sonic experiences and in every single piece of writing about sound. Where one can find sounds one will also detect bits of fiction. In 1998 music critic, DJ and video essayist Kodwo Eshun proposed this concept in his book "More Brilliant Than The Sun: Adventures in Sonic Fiction". Originally, he did so in order to explicate the manifold connections between Afrofuturism and Techno, connecting them to Jazz, Breakbeat and Electronica. His argument, his narrations and his explorative language operations however inspired researchers, artists, and scholars since then. *Sonic Fiction* became a myth and a mantra, a keyword and a magical spell. This book provides a basic introduction to sonic fiction. In six chapters it explicates the inspirations for and the transformations of this concept; it explores applications and extrapolations in sound art and sonic theory, in musicology, epistemology, in critical and political theory. Sonic fiction is presented in this book as a heuristic for critique and activism.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *Interspecies Communication* Gavin Steingo, 2024-04-09 In *Interspecies Communication*, ethnomusicologist Gavin Steingo examines several significant cases of attempted communication beyond the human--several cases, that is, where the dualistic relationship of human to non-human is dramatically challenged. Analyzing scenarios including a small coastal community in South Africa where humans call to whales, a scientific laboratory in the Caribbean where humans tried to speak with dolphins, and a case of black performance art involving human-alien communication, Steingo charts various mechanisms that humans have devised to think about, and indeed to reach, beings very unlike ourselves. These speculative endeavors look--and listen--beyond what we are and what we know. The book focuses on the second half of the twentieth century, when Enlightenment conceptualizations of human and non-human were increasingly materialized. Following the Second World War, scientists embarked upon the deep exploration of oceans and cosmic space--two realms previously inaccessible to the senses and to empirical investigation. As quintessential final frontiers, the outer space of the cosmos and the inner space of oceans were conceptualized as structurally isomorphic twins, subject to the same method of scrutiny. *Interspecies Communication* examines the way that globally circulating ideas are taken up by a range of different subject positions--including, and especially, peripheral subject positions in the global South--

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *The Composer's Black Box* Theodore Gordon, 2025-12-02 Stories about new musical instruments are often told as quests for new kinds of sounds. *The Composer's Black Box* asks, What happens when new musical instruments produce not only new sounds but also new dynamics of musical agency and control? And what consequences do those new dynamics have for musicality beyond sound? With a focus on five key figures--Morton Subotnick, Pauline Oliveros, Donald Buchla, Alvin Lucier, and Sun Ra--this book explores how scientific and technological developments in mid-twentieth-century America galvanized musicians to reconfigure their conceptions of sociality, freedom, and the creative self. Theodore Gordon shows how cybernetic thinking in a range of disciplines, from experimental music to jazz and electrical engineering, shaped musical techniques and technologies and changed what it means to be a composer--or, more broadly, a music-making human--in an increasingly informational world--Provided by publisher.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Sound Art* Sanne Krogh Groth, Holger Schulze, 2020-02-20 *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Sound Art* explores and delineates what Sound Art is in the 21st century. Sound artworks today embody the contemporary and transcultural trends towards the post-apocalyptic, a wide sensorial spectrum of sonic imaginaries as well as the decolonization and deinstitutionalization around the making of sound. Within the areas of musicology, art history, and, later, sound studies, Sound Art has evolved at least since the 1980s into a turbulent field of academic critique and aesthetic analysis. Summoning artists, researchers, curators, and critics, this volume takes note of and reflects the most recent shifts and drifts in Sound Art--rooted in sonic histories and implying future trajectories.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *The Oxford Handbook of Sound and Imagination* Mark Grimshaw, Mark Grimshaw-Aagaard, Mads Hansen, Martin Knakkegaard, 2019 In this two-volume Handbook, contributors address the tendency to discuss musical imagination through terms like compositional creativity or performance technique, correcting the current bias towards visual imagination to instead highlight the many forms of sonic and musical imagination.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *The Oxford Handbook of Sound and Imagination, Volume 2* Mark Grimshaw-Aagaard, Mads Walther-Hansen, Martin Knakkegaard, 2019-07-26 Whether social, cultural, or individual, the act of imagination always derives from a pre-existing context. For example, we can conjure an alien's scream from previously heard wildlife recordings or mentally rehearse a piece of music while waiting for a train. This process is no less true for the role of imagination in sonic events and artifacts. Many existing works on sonic imagination tend to discuss musical imagination through terms like compositional creativity or performance technique. In this two-volume Handbook, contributors shift the focus of imagination away from the visual by addressing the topic of sonic imagination and expanding the field beyond musical compositional creativity and performance technique into other aural arenas where the imagination holds similar power. Topics covered include auditory imagery and the neurology of sonic imagination; aural hallucination and illusion; use of metaphor in the recording studio; the projection of acoustic imagination in architectural design; and the design of sound artifacts for cinema and computer games.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *The Voice as Something More* Martha Feldman, Judith T. Zeitlin, 2019-09-30 In the contemporary world, voices are caught up in fundamentally different realms of discourse, practice, and culture: between sounding and nonsounding, material and nonmaterial, literal and metaphorical. In *The Voice as Something More*, Martha Feldman and Judith T. Zeitlin tackle these paradoxes with a bold and rigorous collection of essays that look at voice as both object of desire and material object. Using Mladen Dolar's influential *A Voice and Nothing More* as a reference point, *The Voice as Something More* reorients Dolar's psychoanalytic analysis around the material dimensions of voices—their physicality and timbre, the fleshiness of their mechanisms, the veils that hide them, and the devices that enhance and distort them. Throughout, the essays put the body back in voice. Ending with a new essay by Dolar that offers reflections on these vocal aesthetics and paradoxes, this authoritative, multidisciplinary collection,

ranging from Europe and the Americas to East Asia, from classics and music to film and literature, will serve as an essential entry point for scholars and students who are thinking toward materiality.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: A Hacker Manifesto McKenzie Wark, 2004-10-04 Drawing on Debord and Deleuze, this book offers a systematic restatement of Marxist thought for the age of cyberspace and globalization. In the widespread revolt against commodified information, Wark sees a utopian promise, beyond property, and a new progressive class, the hacker class, who voice shared interest in a new information commons.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: Strangers in the Land Eric J Sundquist, 2009-06-30 The importance of blacks for Jews and Jews for blacks in conceiving of themselves as Americans, when both remained outsiders to the privileges of full citizenship, is a matter of voluminous but perplexing record. A monumental work of literary criticism and cultural history, *Strangers in the Land* draws upon politics, sociology, law, religion, and popular culture to illuminate a vital, highly conflicted interethnic partnership over the course of a century.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: The African American Novel in the Early Twenty-First Century, 2024-12-16 The African American Novel in the Early Twenty-First Century comprises fourteen essays, each focussing on recent, widely known fiction by acclaimed African American authors. This volume showcases the originality, diversity, and vitality of contemporary African American literature, which has reached a bewildering yet exhilarating stage of disruption and continuity between today and yesterday, homegrown and diasporic identities, and local and global interrelatedness. Additionally, it delves into the complexity of the Black literary imagination and its interaction with broader cultural contexts. Lastly, it reflects on the evolution of the African American community, its tribulations, triumphs, challenges, and prospects.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: Reassembling Scholarly Communications Martin Paul Eve, Jonathan Gray, 2020-10-20 A range of perspectives on the complex political, philosophical, and pragmatic implications of opening research and scholarship through digital technologies. The Open Access Movement proposes to remove price and permission barriers for accessing peer-reviewed research work--to use the power of the internet to duplicate material at an infinitesimal cost-per-copy. In this volume, contributors show that open access does not exist in a technological vacuum; there are complex political, philosophical, and pragmatic implications for opening research through digital technologies. The contributors examine open access across spans of colonial legacies, knowledge frameworks, publics and politics, archives and digital preservation, infrastructures and platforms, and global communities.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: Black Acting Methods Sharrell Luckett, Tia M. Shaffer, 2016-10-04 *Black Acting Methods* seeks to offer alternatives to the Euro-American performance styles that many actors find themselves working with. A wealth of contributions from directors, scholars and actor trainers address afrocentric processes and aesthetics, and interviews with key figures in Black American theatre illuminate their methods. This ground-breaking collection is an essential resource for teachers, students, actors and directors seeking to reclaim, reaffirm or even redefine the role and contributions of Black culture in theatre arts. Chapter 7 of this book is freely available as a downloadable Open Access PDF at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com> under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives (CC-BY-NC-ND) 4.0 license.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: The Routledge Companion to Sounding Art Marcel Cobussen, Vincent Meelberg, Barry Truax, 2016-07-15 The Routledge Companion to Sounding Art presents an overview of the issues, methods, and approaches crucial for the study of sound in artistic practice. Thirty-six essays cover a variety of interdisciplinary approaches to studying sounding art from the fields of musicology, cultural studies, sound design, auditory culture, art history, and philosophy. The companion website hosts sound examples and links to further resources. The collection is organized around six main themes: Sounding Art: The notion of sounding art, its relation to sound studies, and its evolution and possibilities. Acoustic Knowledge and Communication: How we approach, study, and analyze sound and the challenges of writing about sound. Listening and Memory: Listening from different perspectives, from the psychology of

listening to embodied and technologically mediated listening. *Acoustic Spaces, Identities and Communities*: How humans arrange their sonic environments, how this relates to sonic identity, how music contributes to our environment, and the ethical and political implications of sound. *Sonic Histories*: How studying sounding art can contribute methodologically and epistemologically to historiography. *Sound Technologies and Media*: The impact of sonic technologies on contemporary culture, electroacoustic innovation, and how the way we make and access music has changed. With contributions from leading scholars and cutting-edge researchers, *The Routledge Companion to Sounding Art* is an essential resource for anyone studying the intersection of sound and art.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *Sonic Warfare* Steve Goodman, 2012-08-24 An exploration of the production, transmission, and mutation of affective tonality—when sound helps produce a bad vibe. Sound can be deployed to produce discomfort, express a threat, or create an ambience of fear or dread—to produce a bad vibe. Sonic weapons of this sort include the “psychoacoustic correction” aimed at Panama strongman Manuel Noriega by the U.S. Army and at the Branch Davidians in Waco by the FBI, sonic booms (or “sound bombs”) over the Gaza Strip, and high-frequency rat repellants used against teenagers in malls. At the same time, artists and musicians generate intense frequencies in the search for new aesthetic experiences and new ways of mobilizing bodies in rhythm. In *Sonic Warfare*, Steve Goodman explores these uses of acoustic force and how they affect populations. Traversing philosophy, science, fiction, aesthetics, and popular culture, he maps a (dis)continuum of vibrational force, encompassing police and military research into acoustic means of crowd control, the corporate deployment of sonic branding, and the intense sonic encounters of sound art and music culture. Goodman concludes with speculations on the not yet heard—the concept of unsound, which relates to both the peripheries of auditory perception and the unactualized nexus of rhythms and frequencies within audible bandwidths.

kodwo eshun more brilliant than the sun: *Oil Fictions* Stacey Balkan, Swaralipi Nandi, 2021-10-15 Oil, like other fossil fuels, permeates every aspect of human existence. Yet it has been largely ignored by cultural critics, especially in the context of the Global South. Seeking to make visible not only the pervasiveness of oil in society and culture but also its power, *Oil Fictions* stages a critical intervention that aligns with the broader goals of the energy humanities. Exploring literature and film about petroleum as a genre of world literature, *Oil Fictions* focuses on the ubiquity of oil as well as the cultural response to petroleum in postcolonial states. The chapters engage with African, South American, South Asian, Iranian, and transnational petrofictions and cover topics such as the relationship of colonialism to the fossil fuel economy, issues of gender in the Thermocene epoch, and discussions of migration, precarious labor, and the petro-diaspora. This unique exploration includes testimonies of the oil encounter—through memoirs, journals, and interviews—from a diverse geopolitical grid, ranging from the Permian Basin to the Persian Gulf. By engaging with non-Western literary responses to petroleum in a concentrated, sustained way, this pathbreaking book illuminates the transnational dimensions of the discourse on oil. It will appeal to scholars and students working in literature and science studies, energy humanities, ecocriticism, petrocriticism, environmental humanities, and Anthropocene studies. In addition to the editors, the contributors to this volume include Henry Obi Ajumeze, Rebecca Babcock, Ashley Dawson, Sharae Deckard, Scott DeVries, Kristen Figgins, Amitav Ghosh, Corbin Hiday, Helen Kapstein, Micheal Angelo Rumore, Simon Ryle, Sheena Stief, Imre Szeman, Maya Vinai, and Wendy W. Walters.

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