

WALTER  
BENJAMIN  
AND THE  
MEDIA

*The Spectacle of Modernity*

JAEHO KANG

polity

## CONTENTS

	Abbreviations	ix
	Acknowledgements	xi
1	Introducing Dr Benjamin	1
	<i>There and Then, Here and Now</i>	1
	<i>Figuring Benjamin</i>	5
	<i>Configuring Benjamin</i>	15
2	The Crisis of Communication and the Information Industry	24
	<i>Introduction</i>	24
	<i>Storytelling and the Crisis of the Novel</i>	26
	<i>The Newspaper and the Information Industry</i>	38
	<i>The Intellectuals in the Age of Mass Media</i>	50
	<i>Conclusion</i>	62
3	Radio and Mediated Storytelling	65
	<i>Introduction</i>	65

	<i>Towards a Critical Sociology of the Audience</i>	68
	<i>Radio Model</i>	74
	<i>Some Motifs for Media Pedagogy</i>	85
	<i>Conclusion</i>	97
4	Art and Politics in the Age of their Technological Reproducibility	100
	<i>Introduction</i>	100
	<i>Photographic Reproducibility</i>	102
	<i>The Media Culture of Distraction</i>	117
	<i>Media and Democracy</i>	129
	<i>Conclusion</i>	147
5	The Media City: Reading <i>The Arcades Project</i>	150
	<i>Introduction</i>	150
	<i>Phantasmagorias of Modernity</i>	153
	<i>Media Spectacle and Urban Space</i>	168
	<i>Tactility of Media Critic</i>	193
	<i>Conclusion</i>	198
6	Conclusion: The Actuality of Benjamin's Media Critique	202
	Notes	216
	Further Reading	245
	Index	251