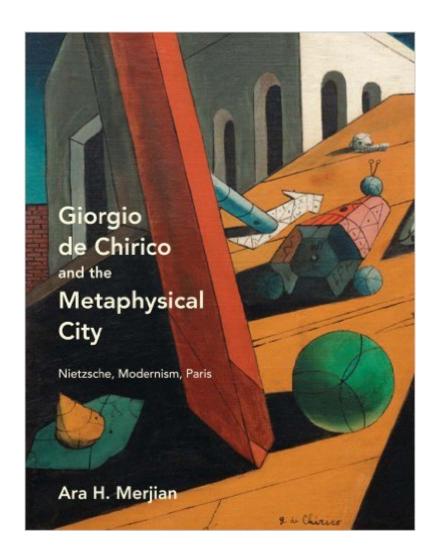
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Giorgio De Chirico And The Metaphysical City: Nietzsche, Modernism, Paris





Synopsis

Painted in Paris on the eve of World War One, the Metaphysical cityscapes of Giorgio de Chirico (1888-1978) redirected the course of modernist painting and the modern architectural imagination alike. Giorgio de Chirico and the Metaphysical City examines the two most salient dimensions of the artistâ TMs early imagery: its representations of architectural space and its sustained engagement with the philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche. Â Centering upon a single painting from 1914 – deemed by the painter “the fatal yearâ • – each chapter examines why and how de Chiricoâ TMs self-declared “Nietzschean methodâ • takes architecture as its pictorial means and metaphor. The first, full-length study in English to focus on the painterâ TMs seminal work from pre-war Paris, the book places de Chiricoâ TMs “literaryâ • images back in the context of the cityâ TMs avant-garde, particularly the circle of Guillaume Apollinaire. Â Merjianâ TMs study sheds light on one of the most influential and least understood figures in 20th-century aesthetics, while also contributing to an understanding of Nietzscheâ TMs paradoxical consequences for modernism.

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This is an outstanding study of de Chirico's Metaphysical art that emphasizes the importance of Nietzsche to the artist's development. It is sumptuously illustrated--the permissions must have cost a bundle.

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