



England's Hidden Reverse: A Secret History of The Esoteric Underground

By David Keenan

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Based on hundreds of hours of interviews with members of the seminal music groups Coil, Current 93, and Nurse With Wound, *England's Hidden Reverse* illuminates a shadowy but deeply influential underground scene. Together these artists and their many associates accented peculiarities of Englishness through the links and affinities they forged with earlier generations of the island's marginals and outsiders, such as playwright Joe Orton, writers like the decadent Count Eric Stenbock, ecstatic mystic novelist Arthur Machen and occult figures like Austin Osman Spare and Aleister Crowley.

While functioning as an obsessively researched biography of the three interrelated groups, David Keenan's book also works to trace their influences, explicating a reverse current that runs counter to the mainstream, drawing upon occult strains of transgressive performance, queer sensuality, and richly textured sound worlds.

This much-anticipated expanded edition of a book first published in 2002 and long out of print comes completely redesigned, with color throughout, with many new and previously unseen photographs and ephemera, including two new chapters: a final summary of how the "Reverse" has shifted gear since the book was first published, and a new essay, "Crime Calls For Night."

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Editorial Review

About the Author

David Keenan is an author and critic based in Glasgow, Scotland. He has been a regular contributor to *The Wire* magazine for the past twenty years. His debut novel, *This Is Memorial Device*, was published by Faber in 2017.

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