

Gearóid Mac Giolla Mhuire

MSc in Interactive Digital Media

A Vision of the Future: A Debordian Analysis of Charlie Brooker's Black Mirror

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Abstract

In 1967, Guy Debord of the Situationists International released his magnum opus, *The Society of the Spectacle* and spoke of the downgrading of the modern human condition as a result of a life dominated entirely by the spectacle. Debord's thoughts and concepts laid out in his seminal treatise continue to be relevant in our contemporary society, and also continue to influence many of the great artists of our time. In the following research paper, we will critically analyse Charlie Brooker's innovative science-fiction television series *Black Mirror*, which takes our current reality and speculates as to where society is heading, by applying Debord's concept of the spectacle to the text. This will hopefully enrich our understanding of the modern human condition in the information age.