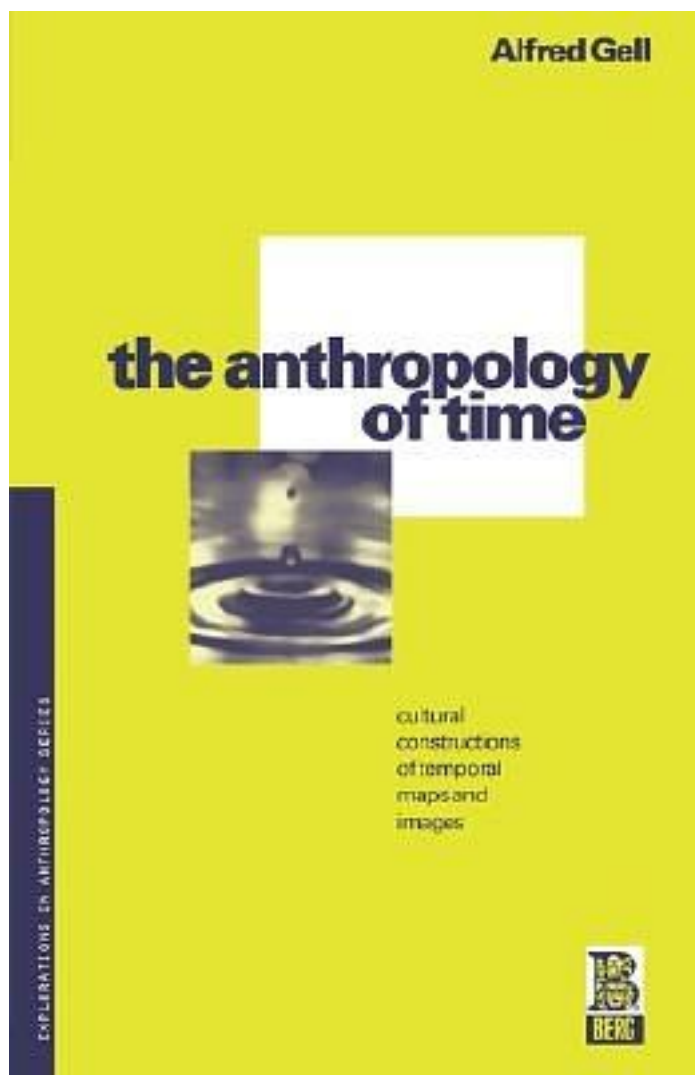


The Anthropology of Time



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著者:Alfred Gell

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Time - relentless, ever-present but intangible and the single element over which human beings have no absolute control - has long proved a puzzle. The author examines the phenomenon of time and asks such fascinating questions as how time impinges on people, to what extent our awareness of time is culturally conditioned, how societies deal with temporal problems and whether time can be considered a 'resource' to be economized. More specifically, he provides a consistent and detailed analysis of theories put forward by a number of thinkers such as Durkheim, Evans-Pritchard, Levi-Strauss, Geertz, Piaget, Husserl and Bourdieu. His discussion encompasses four main approaches in time research, namely developmental psychology, symbolic anthropology (covering the bulk of post-Durkheimian social anthropology) 'economic' theories of time in social geography and, finally, phenomenological theories. The author concludes by presenting his own model of social/cognitive time, in the light of these critical discussions of the literature.

作者介绍:

Alfred Gell's book is both scholarly and (generally) accessible for laypeople and those (like Gell) who are anthropologists. He looks at opposing theories of time perception and how these fit with a human grasp of time. Some of the more theoretical (philosophical) sections are quite heavy. Persist and you shall be rewarded. I enjoyed this book and found it a real thought-provoker.

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评论

Unanticipatedly useful to my two ongoing projects.

Gell的著作。构造主义的大师。难懂。。

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