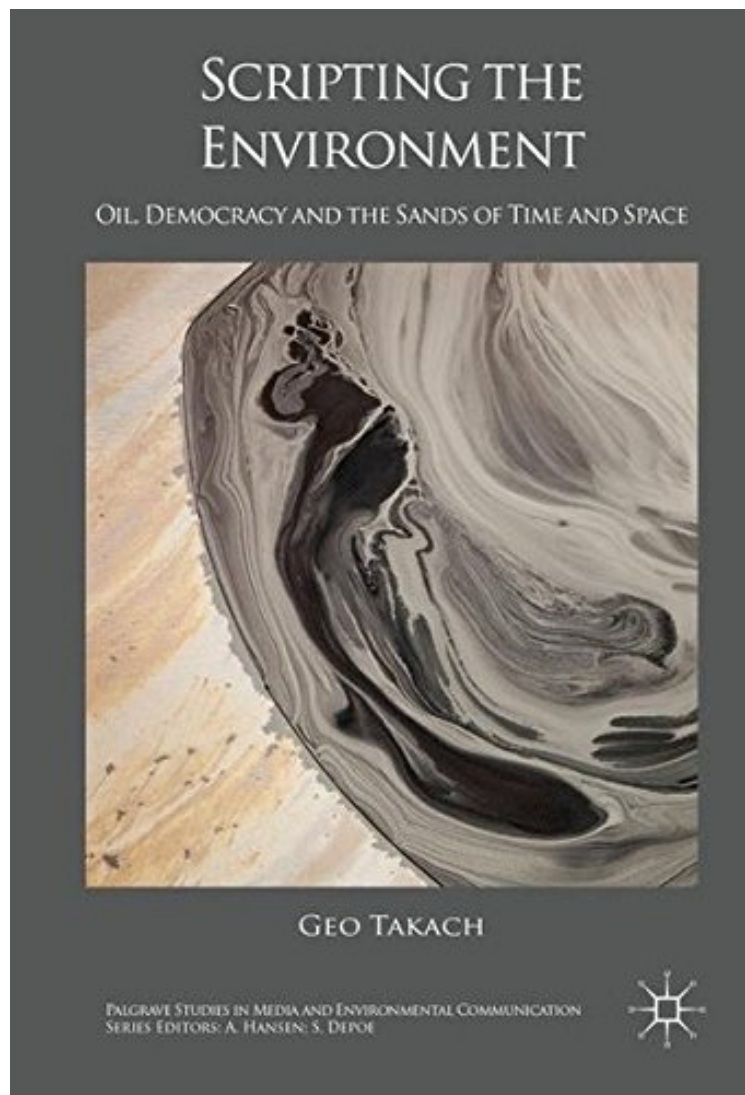


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## Scripting the Environment: Oil, Democracy and the Sands of Time and Space (Palgrave Studies in Media and Environmental Communication)

*Geo Takach*

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**Geo Takach : Scripting the Environment: Oil, Democracy and the Sands of Time and Space (Palgrave Studies in Media and Environmental Communication)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Scripting the Environment: Oil, Democracy and the Sands of Time and Space (Palgrave

Studies in Media and Environmental Communication):

This volume explores how to engage audiences both beyond and within the academy more deeply in environmental research through arts-based forms. It builds on a multi-pronged case study of scripts for documentary film, audio-visual and stage formats, focusing on how the identity of a place is constructed and contested in the face of environmental concerns around fossil-fuel extraction in a globalized, visual society--and specifically on the rising, international public-relations war over Albertas stewardship of the tar sands. Each script is followed by discussion of the authors choices of initiating idea, research sources, format, voices, world of the story, structure and visual style, and other notes on the convergence of synthesis, analysis and (re)presentation in the script. Included are lively analysis and commentary on screenwriting and playwriting theory, the creation and dissemination of the scripts, and reflections to ground a proposed framework for writing eco-themed scripts for screen, audio-visual and stage formats.

Scripting the Environment is an outstanding example of how arts-based research--and scripts in particular--can be used in service of environmental research. Indeed, Geo Takach has taken the fields of arts-based research and environmental studies forward, by showing how the former can be used in service of the latter. This is a well-written, engaging, and insightful book that offers environmentalists new, creative ways to think about conducting and sharing their research. I highly recommend it. (Patricia Leavy, Ph.D., author of *Method Meets Art: Arts-Based Research Practice* and editor of the *Social Fictions* series) Drawing on environmental communication praxis, Takach combines cutting-edge scholarship and applied experience as a screen and stage writer to address the worlds largest industrial project in Canada. It is work such as this, persuasive and poetic, that we need to engage to learn how to address the complex challenges we face with greater imagination and renewed hope. (Phaedra C. Pezzullo, author of *Toxic Tourism: Rhetorics of Travel, Pollution, and Environmental Justice*) From the Back Cover This volume explores how to engage audiences both beyond and within the academy more deeply in environmental research through arts-based forms. It builds on a multi-pronged case study of scripts for documentary film, audio-visual and stage formats, focusing on how the identity of a place is constructed and contested in the face of environmental concerns around fossil-fuel extraction in a globalized, visual society--and specifically on the rising, international public-relations war over Albertas stewardship of the tar sands. Each script is followed by discussion of the authors choices of initiating idea, research sources, format, voices, world of the story, structure and visual style, and other notes on the convergence of synthesis, analysis and (re)presentation in the script. Included are lively analysis and commentary on screenwriting and playwriting theory, the creation and dissemination of the scripts, and reflections to ground a proposed framework for writing eco-themed scripts for screen, audio-visual and stage formats. About the Author Geo Takach is a writer, filmmaker, speaker and instructor. His adventures span hundreds of publications in speeches, print, theatre, film, radio, television and Boolean ether. After many years of teaching communications at four universities in Alberta, Canada, he recently became Associate Professor at the School of Communication and Culture at Royal Roads University, Canada.