

CONTENTS

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	ix
<i>Preface</i>	xi
Introduction. ‘Pacific Mobility’: Irony, Class, and the Car as Medium	1
Between ‘Atlantic’ and ‘Pacific’	1
Recapitulating the Rise and Decline of the Adventure Machine as an Ironic Tool	4
Reconsidering Class: Carnavalesque Mobility and the Postironic Car	9
Between Adventure and Status Consciousness: Theorizing the Medialization of the Car	14
PART I. Doom, for Some? Questioning the Car	
Chapter 1. The Shock of the Oil: Energy and the Carnival of Mass-Produced Car Adventure (1970s–1990)	29
Introduction: A Postmodern Automotive Adventure?	29
Western Mobilities: Energy, Environment, and the Middle Classes	33
Banalizing the Automotive Adventure: Highbrow Automotive Culture	60
The Revival of Automotive Adventure: The Car in Western Popular Culture	105
The Limits of Mobility Growth: The Urban Crisis	134
Globalizing Environmental Consciousness: Toward a “Pacific Century”	154
Conclusions: Beyond a Nihilistic Automotive Adventure?	222

PART II. Confusion: Where Is the Adventure?

Chapter 2. The Motorization Miracle: The Quest of the Rest (1990–2015)	289
Neoliberalizing Mobility: Introduction	289
Opening Up: Motorizing the Chinese Middle Class	292
On the Road to Hyperautomobility? Turn-of-the-Millennium ‘Development’ through Motorization in the Rest of the World	366
Neoliberal Mobility: Automotive Adventure, Ecological Concerns, and the ‘War on the Car’	449
Conclusions	480
Chapter 3. The Adventure Machine Redux? Searching for the Motives of the Neoliberal Motorist	550
From the ‘West’ to the ‘Rest’: Introduction	550
Parallel Worlds: Post-Postmodern Reflections on a New Multimodal Mobility Culture	552
Emancipatory Mobilities: Adventures Produced by Women, Ethnic Minorities, and Working-Class Youth	586
Carnivalizing Adventure: Popular Culture and the Shifting Class Base of the Adventure Machine	599
Bipolar Dichotomies: Diasporic Mobilities between South and North	652
Provincializing Adventure: The Commodity Character of the Car in Heavily Layered Mobility	670
Billionaires, Brothers, and Other Incarnations: Car Adventure and Family in China	688
The Loss of Automotive Irony: Conclusions	726
Conclusion. ‘Deplorable’ Mobilities and the Future of the Car Adventure	775
Irony and Postirony as Class-Based Techniques	778
And Who Are ‘We’? The ‘Invisibilization’ of the Working Class	788
The Other ‘We’: The Global South and the End of Automobilism	799
<i>Bibliography</i>	817
<i>Index</i>	937