

Recent Press, Media and Awards
Richard Kearney's new book *Touch: Recovering our most Vital Sense* (2021)
Updated Jan 10, 2022

Brian O'Donovan talks with Richard Kearney on US National Public Radio (WBGH, March 2021)

<https://www.wgbh.org/music/celtic/2021/04/19/richard-kearneys-timely-work-on-touch>

Kieran Satiya reviews 'Touch' for the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, August 15, 2021

<https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/the-vices-of-virtuality/>

Joe Humphries reviews 'Touch' for the *Irish Times*, Jan 28, 2021

<https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/we-have-learned-from-covid-how-much-we-miss-touch-1.4467125>

Elias Maglinis interviews Richard Kearney on 'Touch and the Pandemic' for the Greek national newspaper, *Kathimerini*, June 18, 2021

<https://www.kathimerini.gr/opinion/interviews/561229900/o-kosmos-apenanti-sto-ter>

Brendan O'Connor interviews Richard Kearney on *Touch*, RTE, Radio I, Feb 14, 2021,

<https://www.rte.ie/culture/2021/0220/1198352-in-touch-philosopher-richard-kearney-talks-to-brendan-oconnor/>

Ka Yu Hui interviews Richard Kearney on *Touch* for three part series in *Ming Pao Daily* (Chinese national newspaper), December 2021-Jan

1. <https://bit.ly/3m6ai2A>

2. <https://bit.ly/3Jdspgl>

3. <https://bit.ly/3EGPbtT>

Links to Corrupt the Youth (full articles available):

1. <https://corrupttheyouth.net/2021/12/23/8261/>

2. <https://corrupttheyouth.net/2022/01/02/8273/>

3. <https://corrupttheyouth.net/2022/01/06/8280/>

'Virtual spaces bring users together but these connections are forged in an immaterial dimension. Screens are portals to digital worlds that require us to leave our bodies behind. Richard Kearney, professor of philosophy at Boston College, calls this process "excarnation" and argues that it is fueling a "crisis of touch" (*The Economist*, Charlotte McCann, Feb 20, 2021)

Touch receives the Hermes Award for Best Book of 2021

<https://www.ihermeneutics.org/Richard%20Kearney%20Touch,%20Hermes%20Award%202021.pdf>

Interview with Richard Kearney for the *IAI (Institute of Art and Ideas)* magazine, 6 July, 2021.
'Recovering Touch in a Digital World.

<https://iai.tv/articles/recovering-touch-in-a-digital-world-auid-1829>

'An engagingly cerebral discussion of the impact of the pandemic on the human instinct for tactility...by the affably erudite Kearney' (*Irish Times*, Mick Heaney, Feb 19, 2021,
<https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/we-have-learned-from-covid-how-much-we-miss-touch-1.4467125>

Richard Kearney talks about his new book with Joe Nugent and Mike Cronin on 'The Irish Influence' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSWNZ9GtKfY>

'Long before the pandemic, the prolific Kearney had already started work on a project around the philosophy of touch, resulting in the publication of his book *Touch*. The book is a testament to how philosophy can capture something important about our cultural moment, even before events themselves make it explicit to the rest of us'

(Alexis Papazoglou talks to Richard Kearney for *The Philosopher and the News*, Podcast of the UK *Philosophical Journal*, Feb 22, 2021,

<https://newsphilosopher.buzzsprout.com/1577503/7998961-richard-kearney-on-touch>).

'In my work on commemoration, memory, forgetting and forgiving I have sought to establish a discourse characterised by what the Irish philosopher Richard Kearney calls "a hospitality of narratives", acknowledging that different, informed perspectives on the same events can and do exist. The acceptance of this fact can release us from the pressure of finding, or subscribing to, a singular unifying narrative of the past'

(Irish President Michael D Higgins, *The Guardian*, Feb 11, 202)

"Richard Kearney explores the role of touch in the human experience from ancient wisdom traditions to modern therapies and calls for a very timely cultivation of the basic human need to touch and be touched." (*Newton Tab*, March 5, 2021,

<https://www.wickedlocal.com/story/newton-tab/2021/03/05/newton-author-release-new-book/4592186001/>.)

"Clare McKenna converses with Irish Philosopher Richard Kearney about his new book *Touch – Recovering Our Most Vital Sense* and how COVID restriction may just have us all realising how powerful a sense it really is." (*Newstalk Radio*, March 25, 2021,

<https://www.newstalk.com/podcasts/alive-and-kicking-with-clare-mckenna/mister-motivator>.)

New York Times, op ed citation of Richard Kearney's *Touch*, November 28, 2021

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/26/opinion/touch-starvation-metaverse-virtual-worlds.html?referringSource=articleShare>

"Kearney offers a timely, clarion call to reemphasize the importance of touch, an essential essence of our humanness and conduit for well-being. He proposes a mutually enhancing symbiosis of the digital and the tactile.... striking the right balance between the two, not choosing one over the other." (*Boston College Chronicle*, March 25, 2021,

<https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/bcnews/humanities/philosophyandethics/books-by-kearney.html>.)

“Simon Sleeman interviews Richard Kearney on his book *Touch* in the Mindful Monk series.” *Mindful Monk*, August 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fF8rq--4N3I&t=557s>.)

‘Britt Edelen talks with Richard Kearney in the *NewBooks Network* (March, 2021) <https://newbooksnetwork.com/touch>

“Richard Kearney speaks about his new book on the philosophy of touch” (Maeve Cook, *UCD Speakers Series*, April 2021) <https://www.ucd.ie/philosophy/newsandevents/videohighlights/>.)

Boston Book launch of ‘Touch’ and other recent work by Richard Kearney (April 24, 2021) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GY72viTKf0&ab_channel=GuestbookProject (Book Launch - 25 mins)

‘*Pulled Up Short*’ podcast series talks with Richard Kearney on ‘Touch’ (May 23, 2021) <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1705738/8524092>.

‘*The Philosopher*’ Interview with Richard Kearney – ‘Towards a Sexual Pedagogy of Touch’ (May 25, 2021) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3vqG9W2dgA>

Matthew Clemente talks with Richard Kearney, ‘Keeping in Touch: The Corporeality of Psychological Experience’ (*Psychology of the Other Speakers Series*, May 6, 2021) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ujvEck83RyA>.

Kim Forrester interviews Richard Kearney on the therapeutic implications of his philosophy of ‘Touch’ for the *Eudaemonia Podcast Series* (June 2021) - <https://www.buzzsprout.com/723738/8862975>

Elina Feld reviews Richard Kearney’s *Touch* and other recent books on his work in *Creativity*, vol 4, no 1, September, 2021, Addleton Academic Publications. <https://www.addletonacademicpublishers.com/contents-creativity>

Frank Armstrong reviews *Touch* for *Cassandra Voices*, November, 2021 <https://cassandravoices.com/society-culture/society/is-medicine-out-of-touch/>

‘Touch in a Digital Age’, PJ Wehry interviews Richard Kearney on *Touch* for the *Chasing Leviathan* podcast series, CG productions, Dec 7, 2021 <https://open.spotify.com/show/3nfeOTGygv8tcSUY94BUQD>

Anne Davenport reviews *Touch* for the *JMJ* journal, Tokyo, Winter, 2021 (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BXnWubY97CT-q0PzJFj93sqAKsknH-jd/view?usp=sharing>)

Eileen Brennan reviews *Touch* for *Ricoeur Studies/Etudes Ricoeuriennes*, Paris, Vol 12, no 2, 2021

<http://ricoeur.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/ricoeur/article/view/574>

Aine Huthinson reviews *Touch* for *Inside Out: Journal for Humanistic Psychotherapy*, No 95 Autumn, 2021

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aVzRIL1hHspuXfh_10xUh6nxDxVhd4jd

Other Endorsements for Richard Kearney's *Touch*

“In this openhearted study of touch, Richard Kearney leads the reader masterfully through thinkers past and present who have wondered deeply in response to the mystery of feeling things.” (Fanny Howe, author of *Second Childhood* and winner of the 2009 Ruth Lily Poetry Prize.)

“Kearney is acutely aware of how our digital technologies exacerbate the drift to excarnation in modern culture. This book casts much light on how we lost sight of touch—and might regain it.” (Charles Taylor, author of *A Secular Age* and winner of the Kyoto Prize in Arts and Philosophy.)

“Kearney writes with urgency, fluency, and commitment. He connects serious and complex thought to ideas on how we might live better in the world. His work arises not only from deep reading but also from a belief that just as philosophy comes from the world it has a duty to touch and transform its own source.” (Colm Tóibín, author of *Brooklyn: A Novel* and winner of the *Sunday Times* award for Literary Excellence.)

“A fascinating piece of work by one of the most interesting thinkers of our age.” (Simon Critchley, Moderator of *The Stone* series, *New York Times*.)

Details on *Touch* and other recent books by Richard Kearney can be found at:

- <https://cup.columbia.edu/book/touch/9780231199537> (*Touch*, Columbia University Press, 2021)
- <https://www.fordhampress.com/9780823294435/radical-hospitality/> (*Radical Hospitality*, Fordham University Press, 2021)
- <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781786609205/Imagination-Now-A-Richard-Kearney-Reader> (*Imagination Now: A Richard Kearney Reader*, ed. Murray Littlejohn, Rowman and Littlefield, 2021)

For further information on any of the books, contact Peter Klapes at peter.klapes6@gmail.com or (617) 512-8446.