



The Oxford History of World Cinema

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From its humble beginnings as a novelty in a handful of cities, cinema has risen to become a billion-dollar industry and the most spectacular and original contemporary art form. In *The Oxford History of World Cinema*, an international team of film historians traces the history of this enduringly popular entertainment medium. Covering all aspects of its development, stars, studios, and cultural impact, the book celebrates and chronicles over one hundred years of diverse achievement from westerns to the New Wave, from animation to the avant-garde, and from Hollywood to Hong Kong.

The Oxford History of World Cinema tells the story of the major inventions and developments in the cinema business, its institutions, genres, and personnel, and they outline the evolution of national cinemas round the world--the varied and distinctive film traditions that have developed alongside Hollywood. A unique aspect of the book are the special inset features on the film-makers and personalities--Garbo and Godard, Keaton and Kurosawa, Bugs Bunny and Bergman--who have had an enduring impact in popular memory and cinematic lore. With over 280 illustrations, a full bibliography, and an extensive index, this is the buff's ultimate guide to cinema worldwide.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Most histories of the international cinema focus on the careers of prominent directors. But the authors of **The Oxford History of World Cinema** set cinematic genres, trends, and national themes at the fore, composing a history of the cinema that is equally a history of our multifarious world culture. Still, in deference to the older historical style, the text of this hefty book is dotted with hundreds of minibiographies on individual filmmakers. The result of this hybrid approach is one of the most comprehensive film histories ever, allowing insight into its complex subject from a number of different perspectives.

From School Library Journal

YA. This text is jam-packed with a comprehensive yet readable history of world cinema. Prominent contributions and contributors are highlighted unobtrusively. Unlike recently published chronicles and CDs that rely on glossy illustrations, this quiet resource requires little more than fundamental research skills, but it rewards readers with a bounty of easily accessible and highly valuable information. ?Sue Callahan, R. E. Lee High School, Springfield, VA

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From Library Journal

Compiled by Nowell-Smith (coeditor of *The Coming of the Book*, Norton, 1985), this collection of essays by a host of international film authorities runs the gamut of movie history, from the silent screen of the 1890s to the contemporary world cinema. Novices and specialists alike will find much here of value, particularly the sections on non-Western nations (e.g., Turkey, Taiwan). Excellent special-feature articles?primarily biographical?are interspersed throughout, and more than 280 sharp black-and-white illustrations and a color inset add to the overall quality. Although lack of space prevents in-depth discussion of many themes, general coverage is uniformly good. A fine complement to Robert Sklar's *Film: An International History of the Cinema* (Abrams, 1993), this reasonably priced volume should be a top purchase for all film collections, if only for the handy, single-volume international scope. Recommended for all libraries. ?Anthony J. Adam, Prairie View A&M Univ. Lib., Tex.

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