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978-0-521-83444-5 - Twentieth-Century American Fiction on Screen

Edited by R. Barton Palmer

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## Twentieth-Century American Fiction on Screen

The essays in this collection analyze major film adaptations of twentieth-century American fiction, from F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Last Tycoon* to Toni Morrison's *Beloved*. During the century, films based on American literature came to play a central role in the history of the American cinema. Combining cinematic and literary approaches, this volume explores the adaptation process from conception through production and reception. The contributors explore the ways in which political and historical contexts have shaped the transfer from book to screen, and the new perspectives that films bring to literary works. In particular, they examine how the twentieth-century literary modes of realism, modernism, and postmodernism have influenced the forms of modern cinema. Written in a lively and accessible style, the book includes production stills and a detailed filmography. With its companion volume on nineteenth-century fiction, this study offers a comprehensive account of the rich tradition of American literature on screen.

R. BARTON PALMER holds Ph.D. degrees from Yale University (medieval studies) and New York University (cinema studies) and has published widely in those two fields. He is Calhoun Lemon Professor of English at Clemson University, directs the Film Studies Program at Clemson, and is the Director of the South Carolina Film Institute.

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(All film production stills courtesy of the British Film Institute)

## Notes on contributors

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WILLIAM RODNEY ALLEN teaches at the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts. His special interests are modern American culture, film, and literature. Among his books are *Walker Percy: A Southern Wayfarer* (1988), *Conversations with Kurt Vonnegut* (1988), and *Understanding Kurt Vonnegut* (1991). His most recent project is a collected edition of the interviews given by the filmmakers Joel and Ethan Coen (forthcoming).

CHRISTOPHER AMES is Provost and Dean of the College at Washington College. He taught formerly at Agnes Scott College where he chaired the English department and was Charles A. Dana Professor of English. In addition to many scholarly articles and book chapters on various aspects of modern American culture, including film, Ames has published *The Life of the Party: Festive Vision in Modern Fiction* (1991) and *Movies about the Movies: Hollywood Reflected* (1998).

MATTHEW BERNSTEIN is Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Film Studies department at Emory University. Among his many writings on the history of American film and world cinema are *Walter Wanger: Hollywood Independent* (1994), *Controlling Hollywood: Censorship and Regulation in the Studio Era* (1999), and (both with Gaylyn Studlar) *Visions of the East: Orientalism in Film* (1997) and *John Ford Made Westerns: Filming the Legend in the Studio Era* (2001).

ROBERT H. BRINKMEYER, JR. is Professor of English and chair of the department at the University of Arkansas. Widely published on all aspects of Southern literature and culture, Brinkmeyer has written *Remapping Southern Literature: Contemporary Southern Writers and the West* (2000), *Katherine Anne Porter's Artistic Development: Primitivism, Traditionalism, and Totalitarianism* (1997), and *The Art and Vision of Flannery O'Connor* (1993), among other books.

MARC C. CONNER is Associate Professor of English at Washington & Lee University. His research interests include twentieth-century



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American fiction and African-American literature. He edited *Speaking the Unspeakable: The Aesthetic Dimensions of Toni Morrison* (2000), and his essays have appeared in such journals as *Studies in American Fiction* and *Critique*.

STEFFEN HANTKE teaches for the Cultural Studies Program in the English department of Sogang University in Seoul, South Korea. In addition to essays on contemporary literature and film that have appeared in such journals as *Paradoxa*, *College Literature*, and *Post Script*, he has published *Conspiracy and Paranoia in Contemporary Literature* (1994) and *Horror: Creating and Marketing Fear* (2004).

MCKAY JENKINS is Cornelius A. Tilghman Professor of English and Journalism at the University of Delaware, specializing in environmental studies, nonfiction writing, and the history and literature of race relations. He is the author of *The South in Black and White: Race, Sex and Literature in the 1940s* (1999), *The White Death: Tragedy and Heroism in an Avalanche Zone* (2000), and *Bloody Falls of the Coppermine: Madness, Murder and the Collision of Cultures in the Arctic, 1913* (2006).

ROBERT P. KOLKER is Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Maryland. He has also taught at the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Virginia. Among his many books on the cinema are *Film, Form, and Culture* (1998), *A Cinema of Loneliness: Penn, Stone, Kubrick, Scorsese, Spielberg, and Altman* (2000), *Landscapes of Dread in the Scapes of Modernity: Welles, Kubrick, and the Imagination of the Visible* (2006), and "Psycho": *A Casebook* (2006).

THOMAS M. LEITCH is Professor of English at the University of Delaware, specializing in film and literary and cultural theory. He has a special interest in such popular narrative modes as detective stories and Hollywood genre films (westerns, musicals, gangster films, and comedies of all sorts). Among his books are *Find the Director and Other Hitchcock Games* (1991), *The Encyclopedia of Alfred Hitchcock* (2002), *Crime Films* (Cambridge, 2002), and *What Stories are: Narrative Theory and Interpretation* (1986).

R. BARTON PALMER is Calhoun Professor of Literature at Clemson University, where he also directs the Film Study Graduate Program. Among his many books on film and literary topics are *Joel and Ethan Coen* (2004), (with David Boyd) *After Hitchcock* (2006), and (with Robert Bray) *Hollywood's Tennessee: Tennessee Williams on Screen* (2006). With Linda Badley, Palmer serves as General Editor of *Traditions in World Cinema*.

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ROBERT SKLAR is Professor of Cinema Studies at New York University. Among his many books on film and literary subjects are *F. Scott Fitzgerald: The Last Laocoön* (1967), *City Boys* (1992), *A World History of Film* (2001), and *Movie-Made America: A Cultural History of American Movies* (1999).

ROBERT STAM is University Professor at New York University. His numerous books in film and media studies include *Reflexivity in Film and Literature* (1992), *Subversive Pleasures* (1992), *Literature Through Film: Realism, Magic, and the Art of Adaptation* (2004), and, with Alessandro Raengo, *A Companion to Literature and Film* (2005).

MARK R. WINCHELL is Professor of English at Clemson University. He also serves as the director of the League of the South Institute for Southern History and Culture. His publications include *Cleanth Brooks and the Rise of Modern Criticism* (1996), *Where No Flag Flies: Donald Davidson and the Southern Resistance* (2000), *Too Good to Be True: The Life and Work of Leslie Fiedler* (2002), and *Reinventing the South: Versions of a literary Region* (2006).

ALLEN L. WOLL is Professor of History at Rutgers University-Camden, where he also directs the Film Studies program. He has published *Ethnic and Racial Images in American Film and Literature* (1987), *Black Musical Theatre: From Coontown to Dreamgirls* (1991), and *The Hollywood Musical Goes to War* (1982).

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