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978-0-521-62980-5 - The Cinema of Satyajit Ray: Between Tradition and Modernity

Darius Cooper

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# The Cinema of Satyajit Ray

## Between Tradition and Modernity

Satyajit Ray is one of India's best-known filmmakers, and his importance in the international world of cinema has long been recognized. Darius Cooper's study of Ray is the first to examine his rich and varied work from a social and historical perspective and to situate it within Indian aesthetics. Providing analyses of selected films, including *Shatranj-ke-Khilari* (*The Chess Players*), *Jalsaghar* (*The Music Room*), the films of *The Apu Trilogy*, and others, Cooper outlines Western influences on Ray's work: the plight of women functioning within a patriarchal society, Ray's political vision of the "doubly colonized," and his attack and critique of the Bengali/Indian middle class of today. The most comprehensive treatment of Ray's work, *The Cinema of Satyajit Ray* makes accessible the oeuvre of this prolific and creative filmmaker.

Darius Cooper is Professor of Literature and Film at San Diego Mesa College.

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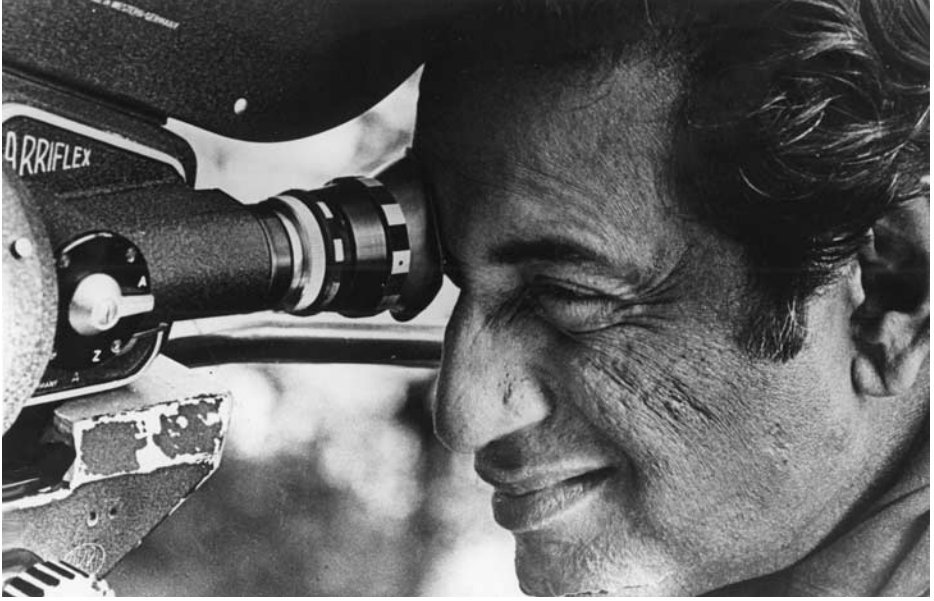
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*Satyajit Ray: framing his universe through the lens of his vision. (Photo by Nemai Ghosh; gift of Ben Nyce)*

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DARIUS COOPER

*San Diego Mesa College*



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