

Contemporary Japanese Film

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this comprehensive look at japanese cinema in the 1990s includes nearly four hundred reviews
of individual films and a dozen interviews and profiles of leading directors and producers
interpretive essays provide an overview of some of the key issues and themes of the decade
and provide background and context for the treatment of individual films and artists in mark
schilling s view japanese film is presently in a period of creative ferment with a lively

independent sector challenging the conventions of the industry mainstream younger filmmakers are rejecting the stale formulas that have long characterized major studio releases reaching out to new influences from other media television comics music videos and even computer games and from both the west and other asian cultures in the process they are creating fresh and exciting films that range from the meditative to the manic offering hope that japanese film will not only survive but thrive as it enters the new millennium

tracing the development of the japanese cinema from 1896 when the first kinetoscope was imported through the golden ages of film in japan up to today this work reveals the once flourishing film industry and the continuing unique art of the japanese film now back in print with updated sections major revaluations a comprehensive international bibliography and an exceptional collection of 168 stills ranging over eight decades this book remains the unchallenged reference for all who seek a broad understanding of the aesthetic historical and economic elements of motion pictures from japan

from the seven samurai and godzilla to the ring this is an outstanding collection of twenty four articles on key films of japanese cinema from the silent era to the present day that presents a full introduction to japanese cinema history culture and society

a comprehensive volume on major directors in the history of japanese film this important work fills the need for a reasonably priced yet comprehensive volume on major directors in the history of japanese film with clear insight and without academic jargon jacoby examines the works of over 150 filmmakers to uncover what makes their films worth watching included are artistic profiles of everyone from yutaka abe to isao yukisada including masters like kinji fukasaku juzo itami akira kurosawa takashi miike kenji mizoguchi yasujiro ozu and yoji yamada each entry includes a critical summary and filmography making this book an essential reference and guide uk based alexander jacoby is a writer and researcher on japanese film

the japanese cinema is one of the major national cinemas and commands the attention of world audiences yet there is much in the japanese film that western audiences unfamiliar with the japanese cultural tradition may fail to appreciate and may even misinterpret this succinct introduction illustrated with still from representative films provides a brief history of the japanese cinema at the same time it defines and explains the cultural assumptions behind the japanese film and shows how the japanese cinema has accommodated influences from elsewhere to become an amalgam of the native and the foreign welded into a new entity back cover

knowing japan and the japanese better louis Frédéric states in the introduction to this encyclopedia is one of the necessities of modern life the japanese have a profound knowledge of every aspect and detail of western societies unfortunately we in the west cannot say the same about our knowledge of japan we tend to see japan through a veil of exoticism as a land of ancient customs and exquisite arts or we view it as a powerful contributor to the global economy the source of cutting edge electronics and innovative management techniques to go beyond these clichés we must begin to see how apparently contradictory aspects of modern japanese culture spring from the country's evolution through more than two millennia of history this richly detailed yet concise encyclopedia is a guide to the full range of japanese history and civilization from the dawn of its prehistory to today providing clear and accessible information on society and institutions commerce and industry sciences sports and politics with particular emphasis on religion material culture and the arts the volume is enhanced by maps and illustrations along with a detailed chronology of more than 2 000 years of japanese history and a comprehensive bibliography cross references and an index help the reader trace themes from one article to the next japan encyclopedia will be an indispensable one volume reference for students scholars travelers journalists and anyone who wishes to learn more about the past and present of this great world civilization

this study from a variety of analytical approaches examines ways in which contemporary

japanese film presents a critical engagement with japan s project of modernity to demonstrate the crisis in conceptions of identity the work discusses gender the family travel the everyday as horror and ways in which animated films can offer an ideal space in which an ideal conception of identity may emerge and thrive it presents close theoretically informed textual analyses of the thematic issues contemporary japanese films raise through a wide range of genres from comedy family drama and animation to science fiction and horror by directors such as kurosawa kiyoshi morita yoshimitsu miike takashi oshii mamoru kon satoshi and miyazaki hayao in language that is accessible but precise

japanese cinema includes twenty four chapters on key films of japanese cinema from the silent era to the present day providing a comprehensive introduction to japanese cinema history and japanese culture and society studying a range of important films from late spring seven samurai and in the realm of the senses to godzilla hana bi and ring the collection includes discussion of all the major directors of japanese cinema including ozu mizoguchi kurosawa oshima suzuki kitano and miyazaki each chapter discusses the film in relation to aesthetic industrial or critical issues and ends with a complete filmography for each director the book also includes a full glossary of terms and a comprehensive bibliography of readings on japanese cinema bringing together leading international scholars and showcasing pioneering new research this book is essential reading for all students and general readers interested in one of the world s most important film industries

reading a japanese film written by a pioneer of japanese film studies in the united states provides viewers new to japanese cinema with the necessary tools to construct a deeper understanding of some of the most critically acclaimed and thoroughly entertaining films ever made in her introduction keiko mcdonald presents a historical overview and outlines a unified approach to film analysis sixteen readings of films currently available on dvd with english subtitles put theory into practice as she considers a wide range of work from familiar classics by ozu and kurosawa

to the films of a younger generation of directors

the cinema of japan and korea is the fourth volume in the new 24 frames series of studies of national and regional cinema and focuses on the continuing vibrancy of japanese and korean film the 24 concise and informative essays each approach an individual film or documentary together offering a unique introduction to the cinematic output of the two countries with a range that spans from silent cinema to the present day from films that have achieved classic status to underground masterpieces the book provides an insight into the breadth of the japanese and korean cinematic landscapes among the directors covered are akira kurosawa takeshi kitano kim ki duk kenji mizoguchi kinji fukusaku kim ki young nagisa oshima and takashi miike included are in depth studies of films such as battle royale killer butterfly audition violent cop in the realm of the senses tetsuo 2 body hammer teenage hooker becomes a killing machine stray dog a page of madness and godzilla

now thoroughly revised and updated the book discusses recent breakthroughs in media technology including such exciting advances as video discs and cassettes two way television satellites cable and much more

donald richie is one of the foremost authorities on japanese cinema and has produced several classic works including books on the world renowned directors kurosawa and ozu richie here offers a highly readable insider s look at the achievements of japanese filmmakers donald richie is one of the foremost authorities on japanese cinema and has produced several classic works including books on the world renowned directors kurosawa and ozu richie here offers a highly readable insider s look at the achievements of japanese filmmakers he begins in the late 1800s

nippon modern is the first intensive study of japanese cinema in the 1920s and 1930s a period in which the country s film industry was at its most prolific and a time when cinema played a singular role in shaping japanese modernity during the interwar period the signs of modernity

were ubiquitous in japan s urban architecture literature fashion advertising popular music and cinema the reconstruction of tokyo following the disastrous earthquake of 1923 highlighted the extent of this cultural transformation and the film industry embraced the reconfigured space as an expression of the modern shochiku kamata film studios 1920 1936 the focus of this study was the only studio that continued filmmaking in tokyo following the city s complete destruction mitsuyo wada marciano points to the influence of the new urban culture in shochiku s interwar films acclaimed as modan na eiga or modern films by and for japanese wada marciano s thought provoking examinations illustrate the reciprocal relationship between cinema and japan s vernacular modernity what japanese modernity actually meant to japanese her thorough and thoughtful analyses of dozens of films within the cultural contexts of japan contribute to the current inquiry into non western vernacular modernities

provides a snapshot of all the archival and bibliographic resources available to students and scholars of japanese cinema

in a new history of japanese cinema isolde standish focuses on the historical development of japanese film she details an industry and an art form shaped by the competing and merging forces of traditional culture and of economic and technological innovation adopting a thematic exploratory approach standish links the concept of japanese cinema as a system of communication with some of the central discourses of the twentieth century modernism nationalism humanism resistance and gender after an introduction outlining the earliest years of cinema in japan standish demonstrates cinema s symbolic position in japanese society in the 1930s as both a metaphor and a motor of modernity moving into the late thirties and early forties standish analyses cinema s relationship with the state focusing in particular on the war and occupation periods the book s coverage of the post occupation period looks at romance films in particular avant garde directors came to the fore during the 1960s and early seventies and their work is discussed in depth the book concludes with an investigation of genre and gender in

mainstream films of recent years in grappling with Japanese film history and criticism most Western commentators have concentrated on offering interpretations of what have come to be considered classic films. A new history of Japanese cinema takes a genuinely innovative approach to the subject and should prove an essential resource for many years to come.

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- | | | |
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