



*Essays and
Interviews on
the National Pastime,
Hollywood and
American Culture*

REEL Baseball

Editors

**Stephen C. Wood
and J. David Pincus**

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Reel Baseball Essays And Interviews On The National Pastime Hollywood And American Culture

Leonard Cassuto, Stephen Partridge

Reel Baseball Essays And Interviews On The National Pastime Hollywood And American Culture:

Reel Baseball Stephen C. Wood, J. David Pincus, 2003-01-16 Not only are movies and baseball two of America's favorite pastimes they are integral parts of our culture. Small wonder that the two frequently merge in Hollywood's use of baseball themes, jargon and icons. This work on baseball in the movies is organized into four sections examining different aspects of the cultural intersection between film and baseball. In the first three sections, *Baseball in Baseball Films*, *Babe Ruth and the Silver Screen* and *Baseball in Non Baseball Films*, essays by scholars in various disciplines cover such topics as symbols, the role of family, baseball as a facilitator of violence and the American mythos. The fourth section consists of interviews with directors such as Ron Shelton and Penny Marshall, actors Kevin Costner, James Belushi and baseball personnel, broadcaster Vin Scully, coach Rod Dedeaux who have worked in baseball films. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy here.

Sport, Film and National Culture Seán Crosson, 2020-08-31 Sport and film have historically been key components of national cultures and societies. This is the first collection dedicated to examining the intersection of these popular cultural forces within specific national contexts. Covering films of all types from Hollywood blockbusters to regional documentaries and newsreels, the book considers how filmic depictions of sport have configured and informed distinctive national cultures, societies and identities. Featuring case studies from 11 national contexts across 6 continents including North and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania, it reveals the common and contrasting approaches that have emerged within sport cinema in differing national contexts. This is fascinating and important reading for all students and researchers working in film, media, cultural studies or sport, and for broader enthusiasts of both sport and film.

The Baseball Film in Postwar America Ron Briley, 2014-01-10 This work focuses on the baseball movie genre in the years following World War II, beginning with the 1948 biopic *The Babe Ruth Story* and ending with the 1962 Mickey Mantle/Roger Maris vehicle *Safe at Home*, when the consensus was that conflict should be limited in American society by emphasizing economic growth and a strong stand against Communism. This study of selected films indicates, however, that this strategy was not entirely effective while offering a certain amount of nostalgia; these films could not provide shelter from the storm gathering in postwar America, which challenged conventional ideas of race, gender and class and broke in the 1960s.

Americanization of History Kathleen McDonald, 2010-10-12 This collection of essays searches for how history and literature translate into filmic texts that then reflect the time and place of the translation. Major motion pictures as well as television movies and series are the sites of this exploration. The opening essay surveys what films tell us it means to be set in a medieval time while the second looks at one of the most powerful movie studios since the earliest days of movie making, Walt Disney Studios. The second section investigates classic Americana by delving specifically into the hegemonic power of Walt Disney Studios by considering the union between the American pastime of baseball and the great white way of Broadway, and by discovering the constantly morphing relationship of the icons of the Wild West. Section three looks at

characters living outside of roles considered socially appropriate in their world vampire slayers mobsters and those with multiple personalities The fourth section studies how present day mores of power and beauty control revisions of historically based stories through issues of vengeance race sexuality and the notion of beauty itself The final section takes up the question of what it means to historicize the present moment and analyzes the current period via a very popular and long running show s depiction of sexuality as accepted or rejected within a paradigm that appears not merely to tolerate but actively to promote deviance The last essay questions the very concepts of time and history themselves The articles do not reach one conclusion regarding this topic but instead provide a variety of perspectives which help to theorize the issue for the discerning reader

Movies and the Church of Baseball Jonathan Plummer,2024-12-25 Christian religious imagery and symbolism has a long history in American baseball cinema from *The Busher* 1919 to *Angels in the Outfield* 1994 and present day movies This book examines *The Natural* *Field of Dreams* *Bull Durham* and other films exploring the frequency of Christian imagery and themes in the American baseball movie From Babe Ruth s performance of a miracle to help a disabled boy walk again in *The Babe Ruth Story* to Shoeless Joe Jackson s question to Ray Kinsella Is this heaven in *Field of Dreams* Christian themes and American baseball film are inextricably linked This discussion encompasses symbolic imagery in mainstream film Christian baseball movies directed by Christian filmmakers promoting their faith messages and images of America as a prelapsarian paradise before The Fall

Baseball Over the Air Tony Silvia,2007-07-02 This narrative contains the documentation and interpretation of two imaginative pastimes radio and baseball and illuminates each in a unique manner It integrates radio and baseball historically sociologically and culturally using the common themes of imaginative expression This book is a unique approach into the magic of radio s imaginative power Broadcasting baseball on the radio has brought many millions of Americans an imaginative link to a game that is built upon recollections of athletic achievement that ring far truer in our sweet imaginations Through the use of our imaginations we can see the game itself as more than just a game but a gateway to an imaginative realm beyond the reality of everyday life

Babe Ruth and the Creation of the Celebrity Athlete Thomas Barthel,2018-07-30 From his first year in the majors George Herman Babe Ruth knew he could profit from celebrity Babe Ruth Cigars in 1915 marked his first attempt to cash in Traded to the Yankees in 1920 he soon signed with Christy Walsh baseball s first publicity agent Walsh realized that stories of great deeds in sports were a commodity and in 1921 sold Ruth s ghostwritten byline to a newspaper syndicate for 15 000 187 000 today Ruth hit home runs while Walsh s writers made him a hero crafting his public image as a lovable scalawag Were the stories true It didn t matter they sold Many survive but have never been scrutinized until now Drawing on primary sources this book examines the stories separating exaggerated facts from clear falsehoods This book traces Ruth s ascendance as the first great media created superstar and celebrity product endorser

The Cambridge Companion to Baseball Leonard Cassuto,Stephen Partridge,2011-02-21 From Babe Ruth to the Black Sox scandal this Companion examines baseball s history global identity

current challenges and memorable personalities Kevin Costner, America's Teacher Ludovic A. Sourdou, Edward Janak, 2022-02-02 Kevin Costner America's Teacher examines the role of Costner in educational settings domestically and abroad Costner's career over the past 35 years has seen ups and downs his movies grossed 2 billion dollars in ticket sales worldwide and he has been nominated for several Academy Awards but he also experienced critical and box office failures Through the films in his oeuvre Costner has been teaching audiences around the world about the United States its history people and culture Some viewers and scholars recognize this as positive others as problematic This book serves as a place for teachers and scholars to explore ways in which Costner may be tapped for research and teaching purposes at all levels of education It is organized around three large themes Costner's baseball films and their connection to Americana Costner's films through the more critical lenses of gender and new western scholarship and Costner's teaching of teachers the pedagogical possibilities of his work **National Pastimes** Katharina Bonzel, 2020-01-01 Sports have long fascinated filmmakers from Hollywood and beyond from Bend It Like Beckham to Chariots of Fire to Rocky Though sports films are diverse in their approach style and storytelling modes National Pastimes discloses the common emotional and visual cues that belie each sports film's underlying nationalistic impulses Katharina Bonzel unravels the delicate matrix of national identity sports and emotion through the lens of popular sports films in comparative national contexts demonstrating in the process how popular culture provides a powerful vehicle for the development and maintenance of identities of place across a range of national cinemas As films reflect the ways in which myths of nation and national belonging change over time they are implicated in important historical moments from Cold War America to the class dynamics of 1980s Thatcherite Britain to the fragmented sense of nation in post unification Germany Bonzel shows how sports films provide a means for renegotiating the boundaries of national identity in an accessible engaging form National Pastimes opens up new ways of understanding how films appeal to the emotions using myth like constructions of the past to cultivate spectators engagement with historical events

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