



JOHN H. LENTHAN

SHOWDOWN

CONFRONTING MODERN AMERICA
IN THE WESTERN FILM

Showdown Confronting Modern America In The Western Film

Susan Flynn, Antonia Mackay



Showdown Confronting Modern America In The Western Film:

Showdown, Confronting Modern America in the Western Film John H. Lenihan, 1980 Showdown is a study of America's oldest most representative film genre the Western movie from the perspective of social allegory It assesses scores of major and minor films to show how Westerns function as vehicles for contemporary social and political critiques of American life

The Influence of Small States on Superpowers Richard L. Bernal, 2015-07-22 The conventional wisdom is that small developing countries exert limited if any influence on the foreign policy of superpowers in particular the United States This book challenges that premise based on the experience of the small developing country of Jamaica and its relations with the United States It raises the question if the foreign policy of the United States can be influenced by even a small developing country should Washington be worried

Hollywood's West Peter C. Rollins, John E. O'Connor, 2005-11-11 An excellent study that should interest film buffs academics and non academics alike Journal of the West Hollywood's West examines popular perceptions of the frontier as a defining feature of American identity and history Seventeen essays by prominent film scholars illuminate the allure of life on the edge of civilization and analyze how this region has been represented on big and small screens Differing characterizations of the frontier in modern popular culture reveal numerous truths about American consciousness and provide insights into many classic Western films and television programs from RKO's 1931 classic Cimarron to Turner Network Television's recent made for TV movies Covering topics such as the portrayal of race women myth and nostalgia Hollywood's West makes a significant contribution to the understanding of how Westerns have shaped our nation's opinions and beliefs often using the frontier as metaphor for contemporary issues

Myth of the Western Carter Matthew Carter, 2018-09-17 What is the nature of the relationship between the Hollywood Western and American frontier mythology How have Western films helped develop cultural and historical perceptions attitudes and beliefs towards the frontier Is there still a place for the genre in light of revisionist histories of the American West Myth of the Western reinvigorates the debate surrounding the relationship between the Western and frontier mythology arguing for the importance of the genre's socio cultural historical and political dimensions Taking a number of critical theoretical and philosophical approaches Matthew Carter applies them to prominent forms of frontier historiography He also considers the historiographic element of the Western by exploring the different ways in which the genre has responded to the issues raised by the frontier Carter skilfully argues that the genre has and continues to reveal the complexities and contradictions at the heart of US society With its clear analyses of and intellectual challenges to the film scholarship that has developed around the Western over a 65 year period this book adds new depth to our understanding of specific film texts and of the genre as a whole a welcome resource for students and scholars in both Film Studies and American Studies

American Western Stephen McVeigh, 2007-02-14 This wide ranging book illuminates the importance of the Western in American history It explores the interconnections between the Western in both literature and film and the United States in the 20th century

Structured chronologically the book traces the evolution of the Western as a uniquely American form The author argues that America's frontier past was quickly transformed into a set of symbols and myths an American meta narrative that came to underpin much of the American century He details how and why this process occurred the form and function of Western myths and symbols the evolution of this mythology and its subversions and reconstructions throughout 20th century American history The book engages with the full range of historical literary and cinematic perspectives and texts from the founding Western histories of Theodore Roosevelt and Frederick Jackson Turner to the New Western history of Patricia Nelson Limerick and Richard White

Screening American Nostalgia Susan Flynn, Antonia Mackay, 2021-08-09 This book examines American screen culture and its power to create and sustain values Looking specifically at the ways in which nostalgia colors the visions of American life essays explore contemporary American ideology as it is created and sustained by the screen Nostalgia is omnipresent selling a version of America that arguably never existed Current socio cultural challenges are played out onscreen and placed within the historical milieu through a nostalgic lens which is tempered by contemporary conservatism Essays reveal not only the visual catalog of recognizable motifs but also how these are used to temper the uncertainty of contemporary crises Media covered spans from 1939's *Gone with the Wind* to *Stranger Things* The Americans *Twin Peaks* the *Fallout* franchise and more

ReFocus: The Films of Delmer Daves Matthew Carter, 2016-05-25 From *Destination Tokyo* 1943 to *The Battle of the Villa Fiorita* 1965 Delmer Daves was responsible for a unique body of work but few filmmakers have been as critically overlooked in existing scholarly literature Often regarded as an embodiment of the self effacing craftsmanship of classical and post War Hollywood films such as *Broken Arrow* 1950 and *3 10 to Yuma* 1957 reveal a filmmaker concerned with style as much as sociocultural significance As the first comprehensive study of Daves's career this collection of essays seeks to deepen our understanding of his work and also to problematize existing conceptions of him as a competent conventional and even naïve studio man

Movie Time James Combs, 2009-03-26 *Movie Time* is a study of temporal mythmaking in American popular movies The work is rooted in American pragmatic philosophy and contemporary traditions of inquiry in the social sciences and humanities It proceeds on the premise that social beings and social orders are interested in the mediation of time and attempt to make sense of their present world through the reconstruction of important pasts of interest in the present develop new presents with the help of popular expressions which define new situations and responses for a new time and foresee possible futures which impinge upon life in the here and now In particular the work focuses on the subsequent treatment of the American 1950's in films set in that era beginning in the 1970's and continuing with an effort to create a rough taxonomy of mythemes in such retrospective films and why it is that future times would find the Fifties to be so important that people wish to revisit it Too the mediation of time includes the development of a new present in this case the emergence of conservatism as a social force in the 1970's and beyond The movies were an important form of expression in the dramatization of the conservative myth leading to the pervasion of

conservative leaders and ideologies into the new century Finally the unrealized but imminent future of the country and world was increasingly on people s minds as both millennial hopes and fears and unanticipated threats began to emerge at century s end so movies which anticipated alternative futures appeared in response to that prospective interest It is hoped that this present inquiry will stimulate further work on the social relevance of popular expression and in particular the social mediation of time

Redrawing the Western William Grady, 2024-11-12 2025 Best Single Author Book Midwest Popular Culture Association 2025 Longlist Reading the West Book Award in Nonfiction Mountains through fin de si cle anxieties with the closing of the frontier and the centrality of cowboy adventure across the interwar postwar and high Cold War years to the revisions of the genre in the wake of the Vietnam War and the Western s continued vitality in contemporary comics storytelling In its study of stories about vengeance conquest and justice on the contested frontier *Redrawing the Western* highlights how the simplistic conflicts common in Western adventure comics could disguise highly political undercurrents providing young readers with new ways to think about the contemporaneous social and political milieu Besides tracing the history forms and politics of American Western comics in and around the twentieth century William Grady offers an original reassessment of the important role of comics in the development of the Western genre ranking them alongside popular fiction and film in the process

High Noon Phillip Drummond, 2019-07-25 Made in 1951 *High Noon* rapidly became one of the most celebrated and controversial Hollywood dramas of the post war period A grave taut western about community and violence *High Noon* collected a clutch of Oscars helped to re establish the dwindling fortunes of its star Gary Cooper and confirmed the stature of director Fred Zinnemann and producer Stanley Kramer The film was also a flashpoint for the conflict between the US film industry and McCarthyite anti communism writer and associate producer Carl Foreman was hounded off the production and blacklisted Phillip Drummond offers a detailed account of *High Noon* s troubled production context and its early public reception along with career summaries of the key participants He analyzes the dramatic organization of the film with close reference to the original short story and Carl Foreman s script and concludes with an invaluable overview of the long history of critical debates focusing on questions of social identity and gender The result is a fresh and nuanced reading of a major classic Phillip Drummond is Lecturer in Film and Media Studies at the Institute of Education University of London UK

The Top Books of the Year Showdown Confronting Modern America In The Western Film The year 2023 has witnessed a remarkable surge in literary brilliance, with numerous captivating novels captivating the hearts of readers worldwide. Lets delve into the realm of popular books, exploring the engaging narratives that have captivated audiences this year. Showdown Confronting Modern America In The Western Film : Colleen Hoover's "It Ends with Us" This touching tale of love, loss, and resilience has captivated readers with its raw and emotional exploration of domestic abuse. Hoover expertly weaves a story of hope and healing, reminding us that even in the darkest of times, the human spirit can triumph. Showdown Confronting Modern America In The Western Film : Taylor Jenkins Reid's "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" This captivating historical fiction novel unravels the life of Evelyn Hugo, a Hollywood icon who defies expectations and societal norms to pursue her dreams. Reid's captivating storytelling and compelling characters transport readers to a bygone era, immersing them in a world of glamour, ambition, and self-discovery. Showdown Confronting Modern America In The Western Film : Delia Owens' "Where the Crawdads Sing" This evocative coming-of-age story follows Kya Clark, a young woman who grows up alone in the marshes of North Carolina. Owens crafts a tale of resilience, survival, and the transformative power of nature, entrancing readers with its evocative prose and mesmerizing setting. These popular novels represent just a fraction of the literary treasures that have emerged in 2023. Whether you seek tales of romance, adventure, or personal growth, the world of literature offers an abundance of captivating stories waiting to be discovered. The novel begins with Richard Papen, a bright but troubled young man, arriving at Hampden College. Richard is immediately drawn to the group of students who call themselves the Classics Club. The club is led by Henry Winter, a brilliant and charismatic young man. Henry is obsessed with Greek mythology and philosophy, and he quickly draws Richard into his world. The other members of the Classics Club are equally as fascinating. Bunny Corcoran is a wealthy and spoiled young man who is always looking for a good time. Charles Tavis is a quiet and reserved young man who is deeply in love with Henry. Camilla Macaulay is a beautiful and intelligent young woman who is drawn to the power and danger of the Classics Club. The students are all deeply in love with Morrow, and they are willing to do anything to please him. Morrow is a complex and mysterious figure, and he seems to be manipulating the students for his own purposes. As the students become more involved with Morrow, they begin to commit increasingly dangerous acts. The Secret History is a exceptional and gripping novel that will keep you wondering until the very end. The novel is a cautionary tale about the dangers of obsession and the power of evil.

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Showdown Confronting Modern America In The Western Film Introduction

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