



THE WESTERN

DAVID CARTER

new title

SALES POINTS:

- Covers directors such as Fred Zinnemann, John Ford and Sergio Leone
- Films discussed include *Shane*, *The Wild Bunch*, *The Magnificent Seven*, *High Noon* & *Brokeback Mountain*
- Includes stars such as John Wayne, Clint Eastwood, Barbara Stanwyck and James Stewart
- Westerns feature as a significant genre in college and university film courses.
- All major films now easily available on DVD.

MARKET:

film, film criticism, film history

Targeted Marketing:

- Western cinema fans
- Specialist websites
- On-line DVD rental companies

DESCRIPTION:

From the very beginnings of cinema in America the Western has been a central genre. The hazardous lives of the settlers, their conflict with Native Americans ('the Indians'), the lawless frontier towns, outlaws and cattle rustlers, all found their way into the new medium. Folk heroes and heroines, such as Jesse James, Wild Bill Hickok, Wyatt Earp, Calamity Jane and Annie Oakley, were all eagerly seized on by filmmakers. Writers, from the very popular to the very literary, from Zane Grey to Owen Wister and James Fennimore Cooper, were plundered for storylines. The Western soon became popular worldwide offering escape, adventure and romance, and themes that concerned people everywhere including survival, law and order, defence of family, and dreams of a new and better world.

The Western starts with an introduction to the real American West and its famous historical figures, and traces the development of the genre from popular literature, through the early silent films, the sound era, the Golden Age of classic Westerns, TV and 'spaghetti westerns', to the self-reflexive and revisionist Westerns of recent decades. This book provides a basic work of reference for all the major directors and noteworthy films of the genre. The great Hollywood directors are all here, such as John Ford, Howard Hawks, Raoul Walsh, Michael Curtiz, Sam Peckinpah and Henry Hathaway, and great stars including John Wayne, James Stewart, Gary Cooper, Barbara Stanwyck, Jane Russell and Clint Eastwood.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY:

David Carter is a writer, translator and freelance journalist, and currently Professor of Communicative English at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea. He has also taught at universities in the UK, lecturing on European cinema, and published on German and French literature, psychoanalysis, aesthetics, film history, drama and applied linguistics. He has recently published translations of Georges Simenon's *Three Crimes* and Honoré de Balzac's *Sarrasine*, and written Pocket Essentials on *Georges Simenon*, *Literary Theory* and a Kamera Books title: *East Asian Cinema*.

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