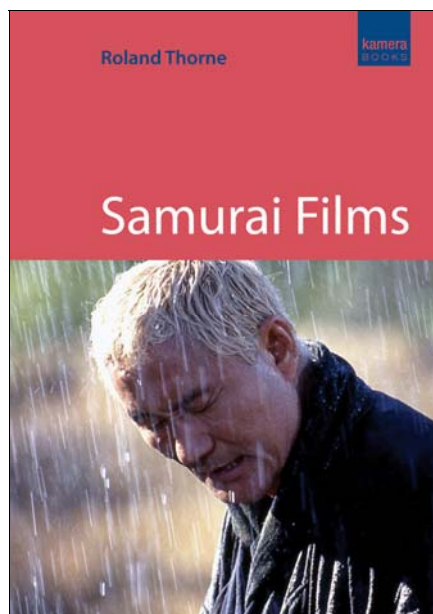


## KAMERA BOOKS ADVANCE INFORMATION

# SAMURAI FILMS

## ROLAND THORNE

NEW TITLE



Pub. date:	28 <sup>th</sup> July 2008
Price:	£9.99
ISBN13:	978-1-84243-255-6
Binding:	Paperback
Format:	194 X 137mm
Extent:	160pp + 8pp colour
Images:	8pp colour
Rights:	World
Market Restrictions:	none
Market:	Film
BIC code:	APFA
Rpt. Code:	NP



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**Publisher: Kamera Books**  
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Tel/Fax: +44 (0)1582 761264

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### SALES POINTS:

- Film fans and students are made increasingly aware of Samurai Films with popular mainstream directors such as Quentin Tarantino and Martin Scorsese citing them as influences and inspirations
- Many Samurai Films are easily available on DVD in the UK, USA and Australia
- There is currently only one other book serving as a beginner's guide, Patrick Galloway's *Stray Dogs and Lone Wolves*, but at £9.99 a Kamera Book is a better option
- Japanese filmmakers have begun to rediscover the genre with recent films such as *The Twilight Samurai* (2002), *Zatoichi* (2003), *Aragami* (2003) and *The Hidden Blade* (2005), all finding an audience, both in Japan and abroad

### MARKETING:

- Pre-publication flier distribution at the *Fighting Spirit Film Festival* in April at Excel, London. (Now in its 10<sup>th</sup> successful year, *Fighting Spirit* is the UK's leading martial arts film festival held at Europe's biggest martial arts expo, *Seni08*.)
- Widespread film magazine review coverage including *EMPIRE*, *TOTAL FILM* and *FILM REVIEW*
- Key movie and martial arts web-site promotion including competitions and giveaways
- Review copy mail-out to leading student magazines

### DESCRIPTION:

Samurai films are a wonderful combination of frenetic action sequences, moving personal drama and philosophical observations on loyalty and violence, all set against the spectacular backdrop of pre-industrial Japan. Many mainstream directors, from Hollywood and elsewhere, have been inspired and influenced by the genre. Want to know where George Lucas got some of the major plot ideas for *Star Wars: A New Hope*? Check out Akira Kurosawa's *The Hidden Fortress*. Interested in seeing the film that arguably inspired the whole Spaghetti Western genre? Have a look at Kurosawa's *Yojimbo*. Want to see one of the major inspirations for Quentin Tarantino's *Kill Bill* films? Look no further than Toshiya Fujita's *Lady Snowblood*.

If you want to know more about Samurai films, then this is the book for you. Roland Thorne covers the history of this popular cult genre, including the influence it's had on world cinema, as well as analysis of all key films. Classics such as Kurosawa's *Seven Samurai* and Hiroshi Inagaki's *Samurai Trilogy* are included, as well as more recent films, such as *Aragami*, *The Twilight Samurai* and *The Hidden Blade*.

### BIOGRAPHY:

**Roland Thorne** first discovered Samurai Films while completing a film studies major, and has been hooked ever since. He is based in Australia and this is his first book.