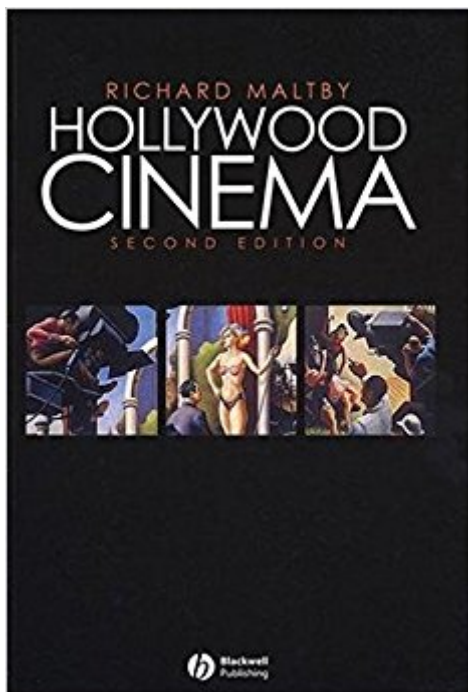


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# Hollywood Cinema



## Synopsis

This extensively revised second edition offers a comprehensive introduction to Hollywood cinema, providing a fascinating account of the cultural and aesthetic significance of the world's most powerful film industry. Provides a fascinating account of Hollywood history. Examines the cultural and aesthetic significance of the world's most powerful film industry. Explores and interprets Hollywood cinema in history and in the present, in theory and in practice. Extensively revised and updated with new chapter features including box sections, further reading lists, Notes and Queries, and chapter summaries.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Hollywood Cinema is an important book, one to be included in any consideration of American film and its influence in world cinema." Journal of Film and Video • This updated and enhanced edition of Richard Maltby's Hollywood Cinema is quite simply the best single textbook on the subject. In clear, user-friendly fashion, Maltby provides an astonishing amount of basic information about Hollywood while explaining how both the movies and the critical/theoretical discourse of film study have evolved over time. The book is not only an extremely useful overview but also an important intervention in current debates. An intelligent blending of formal and historical analysis, it should become essential reading for every serious student of film, whether beginner or advanced. • James Naremore, Indiana University "In its first edition, Hollywood Cinema quickly became a must-have™ volume for anyone interested in film. Beautifully reorganized, expanded, and updated with features that enhance its usefulness for research and teaching, this revised edition

shows how truly indispensable Maltby's work on Hollywood is to media studies." Barbara Klinger, Indiana University

This comprehensive introduction to Hollywood cinema provides a fascinating account of the world's most powerful film industry and examines its cultural and aesthetic significance. Taking a wide-ranging approach, and spotlighting such films as *A Star is Born*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Forrest Gump*, and *Titanic*, it explores and interprets Hollywood cinema in history and in the present, in theory and in practice. For this new edition, the book has been extensively revised, with the historical material updated, and including references to Hollywood movies after 1990. New features include box sections, further reading lists, and chapter summaries. Well illustrated and clearly written, this is an indispensable text for students and readers of Hollywood history and culture.

Great articles. Huge book. Very informative with pictures and movie details that give great background to the movies. Great purchase.

I purchased this book as part of a university course. I took the rather radical liberty of reading it right-through before the start of the course. It was not difficult. Packed full of insight into insight Maltby's text has proven to be a real source of enlightenment. Nearly seven hundred pages make it quite clear that nothing, but nothing, is as it seems. The reader may have a strong political energy or none whatsoever but should realise that making movies works on many political levels. It may be unpalatable but it is often undeniable. A capitalist economy is a reality. I thought genre was convenient sales language, now I understand how 'emotional landscapes' are used 'to construct ourselves socially.' I've never really been a fan of westerns but when I learn of exactly how they are operating I am most impressed. Did you know that modern films make their money from rental and sell-through dvds and not the cinema release which only serves to recoup production costs and advertises the product? Well I did not. These are almost trivial asides when it comes to the breadth of Maltby's work. The movie (the word is explained) 'is a performance and not a text.' A construction of camera, editing and scenery. And its time. 'My principle aim,' concludes the author, 'has been to argue that Hollywood cinema must be understood through the specific historical conditions of its circulation as a commercial commodity.' And this is many years before James Cameron's *Avatar*. Highly recommended.

In *Hollywood Cinema*, Richard Maltby (Professor of Film Studies in the School of Cultural Studies at

Sheffield Hallam University) draws upon his many years of expertise to provide a definitive account of the production of movies under the studio system from its inception down to the present time; an explanation of how the film industry works (including distribution and exhibition); an exploration of Hollywood's place in American popular culture and international mass culture; an analysis of the formal properties of Hollywood films (including space, time, performance and narrative); and a chronology of Hollywood Cinema. This broad-ranging cultural exploration and historical survey is highly recommended, "reader friendly" volume for film buffs and film students, as well as an essential, core addition to academic and community library film studies collections.

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