



Screen Writings Volume 1

Partial Views of a Total Art, Classic to Contemporary

Bert Cardullo

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Description

Volume 1 of *Screen Writings* offers close readings of individual films intended to explain how moviemakers use the resources of the medium to pursue complex and significant humanistic goals.

'The film writings of Bert Cardullo are fresh and lucid, in addition to being revelatory of his belief that the study of cinema is a sacred calling. I marvel at Cardullo's profound perceptiveness – particularly on display in *Screen Writings* – about the exemplary meaning as well as the ultimate magic of the movies.'

—Andrew Sarris, *Columbia University*

'Among my contemporaries, the best film critic writing in English in America is Bert Cardullo, and *Screen Writings* proves why.'

—Dan Harper, *American film scholar*

The main purpose of *Screen Writings: Partial Views of a Total Art, Classic to Contemporary* is to stake out territory for a certain type of film critic, somewhere between a reviewer-journalist and a scholar-theorist. At a time when the movie review has degenerated into mere publicity for Hollywood pictures, while film scholarship has become entangled in its own pseudo-scientific discourse, the author offers close readings of individual films that go beyond simple plot summaries and vague impressions about acting, yet refrain from hermetic theoretical pronouncements. The reviews and re-viewings contained in 'Screen Writings' are acts of analysis and interpretation in the humanistic sense - they are neither theoretical musings nor pedantic tracts. As such, this book can be considered a call for the return of practical criticism as the best way to understand and appreciate the work of cinematic artists, including directors from countries across the world. These review-essays are supplemented by a previously unpublished interview with Luchino Visconti, an investigation of the new screen violence, a bibliography of related criticism, directors' filmographies, individual film credits, and a thorough index.

Readership: students and teachers of university-level courses in movie criticism, media studies, international cinema, and independent film; the educated or cultivated moviegoer.

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Bert Cardullo is Professor and Chair of Media and Communication at the Izmir University of Economics in Turkey.

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