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Screenwriting: History, Theory, and Practice

By Steven Maras



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Working across contemporary histories of film and screenwriting, and US screenwriting manuals from the 1910s and 1920s, this volume breaks new ground in thinking about the nature of scripting, and how screenwriting took shape as a particular kind of practice.



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Screenwriting: History, Theory, and Practice By Steven Maras Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #810723 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Wallflower Press
- Published on: 2009-04-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.10" h x .70" w x 6.10" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 256 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

An important and long-overdue contribution to the historiography of screenwriting,

(Oscar Michaels *Real Time Arts*)

For film scholars and especially film historians, the rigour and attention to detail in the discussion of the history and evolution of screenwriting practice is invaluable.

(Harry Kirchner *Screening the Past*)

...offers ways of thinking about the script beyond simply the blueprint version.

(Nina Seja *Media International Australia*)

...should prove a seminal text for the study of screenwriting.

(Adam Ganz *Journal of Screenwriting*)

If you want to think seriously about screenwriting, you ought to pick this one up.

(Tom Stempel *Slant Magazine*)

Steven Maras' achievement is to set out a number of parameters and future signposts for focusing "on less well understood aspects of screen discourse", to raise the bar on informed exchanges that acknowledge these little understood aspects.

(Maryella Hatfield *Global Media Journal*)

Review

In a remarkable feat of research the author sets out to problematize our understanding of what a script is and what screenwriting involves. The approach is predominantly archeological—the author searches back through history, through the manuals, guide books, publications and other documents in order to establish how many different (and often conflictual) meanings these terms have had. As such it is a study of the discourse(s) of or about screenwriting, a cinema history book, looking at the different ways the script has been positioned in the film industry from the dawn of the twentieth century to today. On this level, the book gives the reader great, exceptional insight. It is lucid and well-expressed, with an original way of dealing with its subject, building on ideas from previous scholars but elaborating them further than has been done before. This is a work of real value and importance and is a great Wallflower book.

(Adrian Martin, Monash University)

This is an invaluable text for anyone interested in this field: academic, student or scriptwriter. It is an original work ... there is no contemporary text that attempts to cover the study of the screenplay and screenwriting with such depth and breadth. Interesting, substantial and a wonderful addition to academic discourse on the screenplay.

(Jill Nelmes, University of East London)

About the Author

Steven Maras is senior lecturer in media and communications at the University of Sydney. He has published widely on the theory and practice of media production.

Users Review

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Pauline Jefferson:

The guide untitled Screenwriting: History, Theory, and Practice is the e-book that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the book content that will be shown to a person. The language that creator use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of research when write the book, therefore the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also will get the e-book of Screenwriting: History, Theory, and Practice from the publisher to make you much more enjoy free time.

Todd Jacobs:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the entire day to reading a reserve. The book Screenwriting: History, Theory, and Practice it is very good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book has high quality.

Shiela Steen:

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Linda Williams:

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