



**Postcards from the Edge:
Reference & Instruction for Film
Studies**
ARLIS/NA 2006

List of Resources

Presented By:
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*** indicates online resource**

P indicates primary source material

A) Reference Materials

General Reference

1. Magill's
Magill's has published several series during the 20th century. Entries on films include production information (including actors), film synopsis, & brief listing of published reviews:
 - a. English Language Films, Series I / 4 vols., published 1980
 - b. English Language Films, Series II / 6 vols., published 1981
 - c. Silent Films / 3 vols., published 1982
 - d. Foreign Language Series / 8 vols., published 1985
 - e. Cinema Annual / 1 vol. published annually since 1982
DEN Ref PNI995 .M34
2. The American Film Institute Catalog of Motion Pictures Produced in the United States / DEN Ref PNI998 .A57
A multi-volume set; good for basic info on films produced from 1893 through 1971; also has some citations for periodical articles.
Also avail. as CD-ROM from Chadwyck-Healey.
3. * Film Indexes Online: (avail. online from Chadwyck-Healey)
American Film Institute Catalog online, combined with the British Film Institute's catalog

You can also purchase the BFI catalog separately, as a product called Film Index International; the first release of Film Index International contains the BFI's most up to date film and person index, with records from 1900-2003. "Offering both film and person searches, as well as a new quick search function, Film Index International has useful functionality, such as a search history, the ability to save and e-mail selected records, a combine saved searches function, usage statistics and a number of other new features."

4. Filmmaker's Dictionary / DEN Ref PNI993.45 .S56 2000
Technical terms
5. The Complete Film Dictionary / DEN Ref PNI993.45 .K66 1997
A good general-use film dictionary.
6. *The Complete Index to World Film since 1895:
 - <http://www.citwf.com>
 - Get a FREE 5-day trial for Web version
 - Database of over 379,000 films from 175 countries; Compiled by Alan Goble.
 - TIP: if you enter 195 in Year, for example, you get all the films between 1950 and 1959.
 - Also avail as CD-ROM. Loads onto your server for multiple concurrent users. Three collections: World Film, Silent Film, & British Film.
7. Internet Movie Database (imdb.com)
 - <http://www.imdb.com>
 - Good for fact-checking, production notes, dates, filmographies, etc.

Directors & Film People:

8. A Biographical Dictionary of Film / DEN Ref PNI998.2 .T49 1994
9. World Film Directors / DEN Ref PNI998.2 .W67 1987
10. International Dictionary of Films & Filmmakers / DEN Ref PNI997.8 .I58 1997
Vol. I: Films (listed alphabetically by title);

Vol. 2: Directors (listed alphabetically by last name)
Vol. 3: Actors & Actresses
Vol. 4: Writers & Production Artists
Each entry has an extensive bibliography of books and articles.

Thematic/Genre Reference:

11. Encyclopedia of Film Themes, Settings, & Series / DEN Ref PN1997.8 .A76 2001
12. Encyclopedia of Early Cinema
13. Encyclopedia of Documentary Film
People, films, concepts; entries contain bibliographies
14. Prison Pictures from Hollywood
15. Encyclopedia of Westerns
16. Encyclopedia of American Film Comedy / DEN Ref PN1995.9.C55 L34 1987
Entries on films, people, sub-genres.
17. Fantastic Cinema Subject Guide / DEN Ref PN1995.9.F36 S46 1992
Browse by type of monster/villain; each entry has an extensive filmography

Cultural Groups & Women in Film:

18. Australian Film
19. BFI Companion to German Film
20. The Greek Filmography
21. Encyclopaedia of Hindi Cinema
22. Encyclopaedia of Indian Cinema
23. Encyclopedia of Ethnic Groups in Hollywood
Organized by group; each group has entries on films & people
24. Blacks in American Films & Television
25. Women Filmmakers & Their Films
Entries have filmographies & bibliographies

Film Theory:

26. The Film Studies Dictionary / DEN Ref PN1993.45 .B49 2001
27. Critical Dictionary of Film & Television Theory / DEN Ref PN1993.45 .C75 2001

B) Books, etc...

I. Screenplays: **P**

- Newmarket Press--Newmarket Press Shooting Script Series
- Hyperion / Talk Miramax Books (sometimes just Miramax)
- FilmFour
- Screenpress
- St. Martin's Griffin
- Grove Press
- Faber & Faber
- Applause
- Methuen Film
- Warner Books
- Black Sparrow Press
- Lorrimer/dist. by F. Ungar--Classic Film Scripts Series

- Southern Illinois University Press-- Screenplay Library Series
- Viking Press
- Simon & Schuster--Classic Film Scripts Series, Modern Film Scripts Series
- Motion Picture Scripts: A Union List
2002-2003 Edition / Margaret Herrick Library
Contact: Maryrose McMahon at mrmcmahon@oscars.org
\$60 + \$5 shipping
Motion Picture Scripts collects the script holdings of six major film collections into one volume. Motion Picture Scripts is your one-stop source for finding and reading screenplays in Southern California.
 - 17,000 entries alphabetized by release title
 - Cross-referencing for easier access
 - Contact information and addresses for all libraries
 - Separate writer credit index
- *American Film Scripts Online **P**
 - Alexander Street Press
 - Copyrighted (some unpublished) scripts (not public domain)
 - search by character, scene, race, nationality, age, subject, year of writing
 - Will contain 1000 scripts (~500 currently)
 - Can purchase perpetual rights or annual subscription

2. Studies & Analysis:

- McFarland: <http://www.mcfarlandpub.com/>
- Routledge
- Berg
- University Presses:
 - University of California
--History of the American Cinema Series
 - University of Minnesota
 - University of Wisconsin
 - University of Indiana
 - Harvard University
 - Columbia University
 - University of Mississippi:
--Conversations w/ Filmmakers Series **P**
 - Oxford
 - Cambridge
- British Film Institute: <http://www.bfi.org.uk/booksvideo/books>
SERIES OF NOTE FROM BFI:
 - BFI Film Classics Series
 - BFI Modern Classics Series
 - Film-makers Series
 - BFI World Directors Series
- Faber & Faber:
--Directors on Directing Series **P**

3. Technical or "How To" Books

- Screenwriting
- Filmmaking processes
- Directing
- Acting

- Etc...

C) Journals/Periodicals (examples)

1. Film studies/film history journals
 - Film Comment
 - Screen
 - Cahiers du Cinema
 - Cinema Journal
 - Cineaste
 - Film Quarterly
 - Journal of Film & Video
2. Journals about movie-making
 - Sight & Sound
 - American Cinematographer
 - Filmmaker
 - Creative Screenwriting
3. Trade publications **P**
 - Variety
4. Newspapers **P**
 - New York Times
 - London Times
5. Popular magazines
 - Entertainment Weekly
 - Rolling Stone
 - New Yorker

D) Indexes/Databases

1. Macmillan Film Bibliography / DEN Ref PN1993.5 .A1 R423 1982
Use the Subject Index (in vol. 2) to find books on films. Books are listed in vol. 1.
2. Index to Critical Film Reviews / DEN Ref PN1995 .B64
A guide to articles in scholarly journals... OLD, but has citations for foreign & obscure films. Films are listed alphabetically by title.
3. Film Review Index / DEN Ref PN1995 .F513 1986
Vol. 1: 1882-1949; Vol. 2: 1950-1985. Citations for periodical articles (mainly from newspapers) from on or near the release date of films.
4. *Film Literature Index:
Online: <http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/fli/simpleSearch.jsp>
Print: DEN Ref PN1993 .F58 (2002-)
Thanks to a falling out between the parties who created it, FLI Online is currently open-access!
(Film and Television Documentation Center @ SUNY Albany + Indiana U.) Indexes 150 film and television periodicals from 30 countries.
5. *Film & Television Literature Index

From EBSCO

Will be a new online version of Film Lit Index ***THROUGH PRESENT***

Due for release by end of May

Allegedly, current FLI subscribers will get free access

6. *FIAF International FilmArchive Database

Served by SilverPlatter (Ovid)

Coverage: 300 periodicals since 1972, also print sources

consists of four databases:

International Index to Film/TV Periodicals

Treasures from the Film Archives

International Directory of Film/TV Documentation Collections

Bibliography of FIAF Members Publications

7. *Art Abstracts:

Abstracts and citations for 414 art periodicals. Date coverage: 1929-present.

8. *International Index to the Performing Arts:

1864-present; from Chadwyck-Healey; avail. with or without full text

9. *MLA International Bibliography

E) Miscellany

1. Research Microfiche Collections from UMI ProQuest: **P**

- British Film Institute Cinema Pressbooks, 1920 – 1940 (fiche)

“From the era of the silent movies to the Golden Age of Hollywood in the 1930s and 40s, the pressbook was one of the key means by which studios persuaded cinema proprietors to show their films.”

- Film Weekly, 1928-1939 (fiche)

- History of the Cinema, 1895 – 1940 (fiche)

“Created in response to the dramatic increase of interest in the history of cinema in the academic world, the collection provides essential materials for the study of one of the most important cultural influences of the twentieth century.”

- The Alan G. Barbour Screen Facts and Screen Nostalgia Illustrated Collection (fiche)

“Movie Nostalgia from the '20s, '30s, '40s, and '50s”

- Picturegoer, 1913-1960 (fiche)

2. www.simplyscripts.com

A free web site that provides searchable access to screenplays on the web
POST non-copyrighted screenplays; LINK TO copyrighted material
also has tons of useful links