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## Film Noir Reader Alain Silver

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## Noir Style Scarecrow Press

### Into the Dark Hal Leonard Corporation

(Limelight). This bountiful anthology combines all the key early writings on film noir with many newer essays, including some published here for the first time. The collection is assembled by the editors of the Third Edition of *Film Noir: An Encyclopedic Reference to the American Style*, now regarded as the standard work on the subject.

### *Dames in the Driver's Seat* Hal Leonard Corporation

Beginning with the first film noir, *The Maltese Falcon*, and continuing through the postwar "glory days," which included such films as *Gilda*, *The Big Sleep*, *Dark Passage*, and *The Lady from Shanghai*, Borde and Chaumeton examine the dark sides of American society, film, and literature that made film noir possible, even necessary. A Panorama of

American Film Noir includes a film noir chronology, a voluminous filmography, a comprehensive index, and a selection of black-and-white production stills.

### More Things Than are Dreamt of University of Texas Press

"There was something about Robert Aldrich's artistic temperament that enabled him to transcend the apparent vulgarity of so many of his motion pictures. Besides the great films, such as *Kiss Me Deadly* which is certainly one of the finest examples of film noir, are several little-seen or underrated later works such as the revisionist Western, *Ulzana's Raid*, the gangster love story, *The Grissom Gang*, or the grim cop picture, *Hustle*. Aldrich's career has long deserved the detailed evaluation which this book provides." - Andrew Sarris  
*More Than Night* Applause Theatre and

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## Cinema Books

Los Angeles has always been as much a star in film noir as any actor, be it Humphrey Bogart, Barbara Stanwyck, Burt Lancaster, Ava Gardner or Jack Nicholson. In *L.A. Noir: The City as Character* renowned film historians Alain Silver and James Ursini explore the world of noir cinema in the context of Los Angeles. The book features dozens of noir and neo-noir landmark films from *Double Indemnity*, *Criss Cross*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Gun Crazy*, *The Big Heat*, *Kiss Me Deadly*, and *Touch of Evil* in the classic period (1940-1960) to such neo-noir notables as *Chinatown*, *L.A. Confidential*, *Mulholland Drive*, and *Pulp Fiction*. *L.A. Noir* illustrates how these noir films use L.A.'s diverse cityscape and architecture to convey a unique vision of urban corruption and existential fatalism, not only in the ever-changing, chaotic downtown of Bunker Hill, Main Street, and

*Chinatown*, but in its affluent coastal communities (Santa Monica, Malibu) as well as its deceptively sunny suburbs (South Bay, San Fernando Valley). The authors deftly analyze the key films of noir while integrating them into the geography and history of this "dark city" which became such an important icon of noir literature and film. *L.A. Noir* is profusely illustrated with approximately 150 photographs—many of them appearing in print for the very first time—including production stills from the movies discussed, archival photos of the locations from the films and new photographs of the locations today, chronicling the ever-changing cityscape of this noir character—Los Angeles.

*What Ever Happened to Robert Aldrich?* Univ of California Press

Film Noir Reader Hal Leonard Corporation

*Film Noir* University of Texas Press

Steven Spielberg once said, "I like ideas,

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especially movie ideas, that you can hold in your hand. If a person can tell me the idea in twenty-five words or less, it's going to make a pretty good movie." Spielberg's comment embodies the essence of the high concept film, which can be condensed into one simple sentence that inspires marketing campaigns, lures audiences, and separates success from failure at the box office. This pioneering study explores the development and dominance of the high concept movie within commercial Hollywood filmmaking since the late 1970s. Justin Wyatt describes how box office success, always important in Hollywood, became paramount in the era in which major film studios passed into the hands of media conglomerates concerned more with the economics of filmmaking than aesthetics. In particular, he shows how high concept films became fully integrated with their marketing, so that a single phrase ("Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water...") could sell the movie to studio executives and provide copy for massive advertising campaigns; a single image or a theme song could instantly remind potential audience members of the movie, and tie-in merchandise could generate millions of dollars in additional income.

*Film Noir Prototypes* Hal Leonard Corporation Discusses film noir, treating noir as a term in criticism, as an expression of artistic modernism, and as an idea that circulates through all the media.

Film Noir Reader 4 Applause Theatre and Cinema Books

The cinematic art of film noir—the dark, fascinating American movie genre that started 75 years ago, was rediscovered in the '70s, and has a worldwide cult following today—is showcased in *Into the Dark*. You know film noir when you see it: the shadowed setting; the world-weary detective; the damsel in distress;

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and the twist of fate. *Into the Dark* captures this alluring genre with a cavalcade of compelling photographs and a guide to its best films. Author Mark A. Vieira takes readers on a year-by-year tour of the film factories that made these movies, profiling the artists who worked on them, and explaining how they accomplished their moody lighting effects. *Into the Dark* also tells the story of film noir with quotes from the filmmakers and vintage reviews, taking readers to the exciting nights when *Murder My Sweet*, *Out of the Past*, and *The Big Heat* were sprung on an unsuspecting public.

**Blackout** Hal Leonard Corporation

In the wake of the remarkable success of *Film Noir Reader*, this new collection further explores a genre of limitless fascination -- and one that continues to inspire and galvanise the latest generation

of film-makers. Again heavily illustrated, with close to 150 stills, *Film Noir Reader 2* is organised much like the earlier volume.

Film Noir Style Verso

The endangered and dangerous female figures of "Rebecca", of "Jagged Edge" and "What Lies Beneath" have a deserved and endures fascination.

Helen Hanson re-examines these gothic heroines of Hollywood and their meanings, in two of Hollywood's key generic cycles, film noir and the female gothic film. Starting at the beginning, with the origin of these cycles and the ways in which they represented women in the American film industry and culture of the 1940s, she traces their revival in neo-noir and neo-gothic films from the

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1980s to the present. She also places the female figures of the femme fatale, female investigator and gothic heroine within the shifting contexts of the film industry and debates in feminist film criticism. Hanson examines a wide range of films from both periods, including 'Suspicion', 'Gaslight' and 'Pacific Heights', and gives particular attention to their presentation of female stories, actions and perspectives. She reveals a diversity of female figures, representations and actions in film noir and the female gothic film, and argues that these women are part of a negotiation of female identities, desires and roles across a long historical period. "Hollywood Heroines" therefore offers us

new ways of thinking about classic and contemporary Hollywood heroines, and about the interrelationships of gender and genre.

Dark City Santa Monica Press

A marvelous actress, Gloria Grahame (1923–1981) was also an iconic figure of film noir. Her talents are showcased in several classic motion pictures of the 1940s and 1950s, including *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Crossfire*, *In a Lonely Place*, *The Greatest Show on Earth*, *The Big Heat*, *Oklahoma!*, and *The Bad and the Beautiful*, for which she earned an Academy Award. This comprehensive overview of Gloria Grahame's life and work examines each of her feature films in detail, as well as her made-for-television productions, her television-series

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appearances and her stage career. Also discussed are the varied ways in which Grahame's acting performances were affected by her tumultuous personal life—which included four marriages, the second to director Nicholas Ray and the fourth to Ray's stepson Anthony.

Film Noir Fatal Women Hal Leonard Corporation

The Historical Dictionary of Film Noir is a comprehensive guide that ranges from 1940 to present day neo-noir. It consists of a chronology, an introductory essay, a bibliography, a filmography, and over 400 cross-referenced dictionary entries on every aspect of film noir and neo-noir, including key films, personnel (actors, cinematographers, composers, directors, producers, set designers, and writers), themes, issues, influences, visual style, cycles of films (e.g.

amnesiac noirs), the representation of the city and gender, other forms (comics/graphic novels, television, and videogames), and noir's presence in world cinema. It is an essential reference work for all those interested in this important cultural phenomenon.

**Film Noir** Applause Theatre and Cinema Books

In his first book since the enormously popular *Great Singers on Great Singing*, the distinguished Metropolitan Opera basso Jerome Hines here provides a wealth of new information and advice for all those who have embarked on - or plan to embark on - a serious singing career. From basic information on how the head and body combine to produce vocal sound, he goes on to analyze the "four voices" encompassed by the singer's one voice, always explaining how through proper

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technique and training that voice can achieve its ultimate in power, grace and beauty. On another level, Mr. Hines guides the singer through the labyrinth of choosing the right teacher, shows how physical and emotional health and care of the body relate to the vocal apparatus and considers such diverse matters as stage fright, dealing with conductors and managers and that final challenge - facing the critics.

*Historical Dictionary of Film Noir* Time Inc. Books

In the 1930s the gangster film in the United States coincided with a very real and very sensational gangsterism at large in American society. *Little Caesar* (1931), *The Public Enemy* (1931), and *Scarface* (1932) borrowed liberally from the newspapers and books of the era.

With the release of just these three motion pictures in barely more than a year's time, Hollywood quintessentially defined the genre. The characters, the situations, and the icons—from fast cars and tommy-guns to fancy fedoras and fancier molls—established the audience expectations associated with the gangster film that remain in force to this day. As with their *Film Noir Reader* series, using both reprints of seminal articles and new pieces, editors Silver and Ursini have assembled a group of essays that presents an exhaustive overview of this still vital genre. Reprints of work by such well-known film historians as Robin Wood, Andrew Sarris, Carlos Clarens, Paul Schrader,



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and Stuart Kaminsky explore the evolution of the gangster film through the 1970s and *The Godfather*. Parts 2 and 3 comprise two dozen newer articles, most of them written expressly for this volume by Ursini and Silver. These case studies and thematic analyses, from *White Heat* to the remake of *Scarface* to "The Sopranos," complete the anthology.

**Nightmare Alley** Taschen America Llc  
Film noir remains one of the most enduring legacies of 1940s and '50s Hollywood. Populated by double-crossing, unsavory characters, this pioneering film style explored a shadow side of American life during a period of tremendous prosperity and optimism.

Edward Dimendberg compellingly demonstrates how film noir is preoccupied with modernity--particularly the urban landscape. The originality of Dimendberg's approach lies in his examining these films in tandem with historical developments in architecture, city planning, and modern communications systems. He confirms that noir is not simply a reflection of modernity but a virtual continuation of the spaces of the metropolis. He convincingly shows that Hollywood's dark thrillers of the postwar decades were determined by the same forces that shaped the city itself. Exploring classic examples of film noir such as *The Asphalt Jungle*, *Double Indemnity*,

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Kiss Me Deadly, and *The Naked City* alongside many lesser-known works, Dimendberg masterfully interweaves film history and urban history while perceptively analyzing works by Raymond Chandler, Edward Hopper, Siegfried Kracauer, and Henri Lefebvre. A bold intervention in cultural studies and a major contribution to film history, *Film Noir and the Spaces of Modernity* will provoke debate by cinema scholars, urban historians, and students of modern culture--and will captivate admirers of a vital period in American cinema.

**Film Noir and the Spaces of Modernity** Bloomsbury Academic

For this was the summer when, after

the hiatus of the Second World War, French critics were again given the opportunity to view films from Hollywood. The films they saw, including *The Maltese Falcon*, *Double Indemnity*, *Laura*, *Murder, My Sweet*, and *The Woman in the Window*, prompted the naming and theorization of a new phenomenon: film noir. Much of what has been written about the genre since has remained within the orbit of this preliminary assessment. While sympathetic towards the early French critics, this collection of original essays attempts to move beyond their first fascinated look. Beginning with an autonomy of that look—of the 'poujadist' climate that nourished it and the

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imminent collapse of the Hollywood studio system that gave it its mournful inflection—*Shades of Noir* re-explores and calls into question the object first constructed by it. The impetus for this shift in perspective comes from the films themselves, viewed in the light of contemporary social and political concerns, and from new theoretical insights. Several contributions analyze the re-emergence of noir in recent years, most notably in the hybrid forms produced in the 1980s by the merging of noir with science fiction and horror, for example *Blade Runner* and *Angel Heart*, and in films by black directors such as *Deep Cover*, *Straight out of Brooklyn*, *A Rage in Harlem* and *One False Move*.

Other essays focus on the open urban territory in which the noir hero hides out; the office spaces in *Chandler*, and the palpable sense of waiting that fills empty warehouses, corridors and hotel rooms. Finally, *Shades of Noir* pays renewed attention to the lethal relation between the sexes; to the femme fatale and the other women in noir. As the role of women expands, the femme fatale remains deadly, but her deadliness takes on new meanings. Contributors: Janet Bergstrom, Joan Copjec, Elizabeth Cowie, Manthia Diawara, Frederic Jameson, Dean MacCannel, Fred Pfeil, David Reid and Jayne L. Walker, Marc Vernet, Slavoj Zizek. *Film Noir Reader 2* Applause Theatre &

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## Cinema Books

With its focus on dangerous, determined femmes fatales, hardboiled detectives, and crimes that almost-but-never-quite succeed, film noir has long been popular with moviegoers and film critics alike. Film noir was a staple of classical Hollywood filmmaking during the years 1941-1958 and has enjoyed a resurgence in popularity since the 1990s. *Dames in the Driver's Seat* offers new views of both classical-era and contemporary noirs through the lenses of gender, class, and race. Jans Wager analyzes how changes in film noir's representation of women's and men's roles, class status, and racial identities mirror changes in a culture

that is now often referred to as postmodern and postfeminist. Following introductory chapters that establish the theoretical basis of her arguments, Wager engages in close readings of the classic noirs *The Killers*, *Out of the Past*, and *Kiss Me Deadly* and the contemporary noirs *L. A. Confidential*, *Mulholland Falls*, *Fight Club*, *Twilight*, *Fargo*, and *Jackie Brown*. Wager divides recent films into retro-noirs (made in the present, but set in the 1940s and 1950s) and neo-noirs (made and set in the present but referring to classic noir narratively or stylistically). Going beyond previous studies of noir, her perceptive readings of these films reveal that retro-noirs fulfill a reactionary social function,

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looking back nostalgically to outdated gender roles and racial relations, while neo-noirs often offer more revisionary representations of women, though not necessarily of people of color.

L.A. Noir Hal Leonard Corporation

Beginning with a general overview of film noir and covering its most important themes chapter by chapter (lovers plan murder, corrupt police, doomed love, psychological noir, and more), this illustrated handbook provides access to the film noir genre for amateurs and aficionados alike.

*Film Noir Reader* I.B. Tauris

By incorporating and transforming foreign influences, film noir became a uniquely American art form. Though it

was overlooked at first, this powerful genre would give Humphrey Bogart and Robert Mitchum career-defining roles, fuel Joan Crawford's middle-age comeback, and set the stage for the work of Martin Scorsese and Quentin Tarantino. Noir illuminated the dark side of the American dream, but despite its characteristic bleakness, these films are somehow always fun. *Film Noir: 75 Years of the Greatest Crime Films* revisits 20 of the genre's best, from the first noir *The Maltese Falcon* to *L.A. Confidential*. We commence by delving into "Classic Noir," films released between 1941 and 1958 with their angular chiaroscuro and Teutonic angst combined with the influence of pup and

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hard-boiled crime fiction. Stunning photography walks us through *Shadow of a Doubt*, *Double Indemnity*, *Laura*, *Mildred Pierce*, *Out of the Past*, *The Third Man*, *In a Lonely Place*, *Niagara*, *The Night of the Hunter*, *Touch of Evil* and more. Next in our "Neo Noir" section, you will see the transformation of noir from 1967 onward with films like *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Dirty Harry*, *Chinatown*, *Taxi Driver*, *Body Heat*, *Blood Simple*, *Blue Velvet*, *Pulp Fiction* and more. Articles about how the genre was born, tabloids and film noir, offscreen noir, and what factors lead film back to black punctuate these spreads. Enter the cinematic world of "doom, fate, fear, and betrayal," as beloved film critic

Roger Ebert said, with *Film Noir: 75 Years of the Greatest Crime Films*.