

READERS GUIDE FOR FILM STUDIES

This guide will provide a general overview to print and online resources for film studies. Users need to be careful about the provenance of the source. Fans are responsible for a good deal of the literature of film. Scholarly content may or may not be present. You can access the online sources through the Databases tab on the Libraries' homepage (<http://www.lib.ku.edu/>). Unless otherwise indicated, all of the printed sources are located in Watson Reference. There are increasingly online sources that provide access to part of the literature on film; however, some research sources are only available in print sources. Except as noted, all material is located in the Watson Reference Department.

I. Quick Reference.

Internet movie database (<http://us.imdb.com/>) (ONLINE)

IMDb is a comprehensive online source for film facts—who directed a film, who starred in it, etc. The database contains over 1.2 million titles and 2.7 million names. The information in this database is supplied from a number of sources, not all of them scholarly, and the information it contains may not always be authoritative.

II. Filmographies (Many of the encyclopedias also include filmographies).

Film indexes online. (ONLINE)

FIO contains two separate databases, which can be searched together or separately:

- 1) *The AFI catalog.* This database is also available in printed form as *The American Film Institute catalog of motion pictures produced in the United States.* (New York: R. R. Bowker, 1971- PN1998 .A57). The AFI is working by decade. Volumes have been published for films through the 1970's. This database is comprehensive and authoritative for those decades that have been published.
- 2) *Film index international.* Information in this database is compiled by the staff of the British Film Institute. It is international in scope and contains over 120,000 entries from the range of movie history. There are useful bibliographies at the end of many entries.

III. Dictionaries (Books with primarily technical or historical terms)

Hayward, Susan. *Key concepts in cinema studies.* 2nd ed. London & New York: Routledge, 2000. PN 1993.45 .H36 2000

International film, television and video acronyms. Ed. Matthew Stevens. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press, 1993. PN 1993.45 .S76 1993

Jackson, Kevin. *The language of cinema.* New York: Routledge, 1998. PN 1993.45 .J23 1998

Konigsberg, Ira. *The complete film dictionary.* 2nd ed. New York: Penguin, 1997. PN 1993.45 .K66 1997

Slide, Anthony. *The international film industry: A Historical Dictionary.* Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press, 1989. PN 1993.45 .S57 1989

IV. Encyclopedias and Guides (Primarily contain short pieces on directors, performers, critical concepts, etc.)

Morgan, Jenny. *Film researcher's handbook; a guide to sources in North America, South America, Asia, Australasia and Africa*. London; New York, Routledge, 1996. PN1994 .F438 1996

Roud, Richard, ed. *Cinema: a critical dictionary: the major film-makers*. New York: Viking Press, 1980. 2 vols. PN 1993.45 .C5

World film directors. Ed. John Wakeman. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1987-1988. 2 vols. (Vol II: 1945-1985) PN 1998.2 .W67 1987

V. Plots, etc.

Magill's survey of cinema. English language films, first series. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Salem Press, c1980. (PN1993.45 .M3); *English language films, second series* (PN1993.45 .M32); *Foreign language films* (PN 1993.45 .M34 1985); *Silent films* (PN1993.45 .M33 1982)

VI. Bibliography (Retrospective)

Ellis, Jack C., Charles Derry and Sharon Kern. *The Film book bibliography 1940-1975*. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1979. Z5784.M9E44

The Film index: A bibliography. Ed. Harold Leonard. New York: MOMA Film Library and H.W. Wilson, 1941- . Z5784 .M9W75

Manuel, Frank. *Film study: an analytical bibliography*. Rutherford, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1990- . 4 vol. Z5784 .M9M84

McCann, Richard Dyer and Edward S. Perry. *The new film index: a bibliography of magazine articles in English, 1930-1970*. New York: Dutton, 1975. Z5784 .M9M29 1975

Rehauer, George. *The Macmillan film bibliography*. New York: Macmillan, 1982. 2 vols. Z5784 .M9R423 1982

VII. Biography.

Contemporary theatre, film and television. Detroit: Gale Research, 1984- ; v.76=2007. PN2285 .C58

Halliwell, Leslie. *Halliwell's who's who in the movies*. 15th ed. / edited by John Walker. London: Harper Resource, 2003. PN1993.45 .H3 2003

Thompson, David. *The new biographical dictionary of film*. New York: Knopf, 2004. PN1998.2 .T49 2004

VIII. Special Topics:

A. Minorities (Black Films, Native-American, etc.)

Within our gates : ethnicity in American feature films, 1911-1960. Alan Gevinson, ed. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997. PN1995.9 .M56 W58 1997

B. Latin American Film

A Guide to Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latino made film and video / edited by Karen Ranucci and Julie Feldman. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 1998. PN1995.9.L37 G85 1998

Burton, Julianne, *The new Latin American cinema: an annotated bibliography of sources in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, 1960-1980*. New York: Smyrna Press, 1983. Z 5784. M9B93

Schwartz, Ronald. *Latin American films, 1932-1994: a critical filmography*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 1997. PN 1995.9 .L37S38

ONLINE: The principle "gateway" to Internet sites about Latin American films, along with some links to sites on motion pictures in general, is provided by UT-LANIC, the University of Texas Latin American Studies Institute. The URL for this site is:
www.lanic.utexas.edu/la/region/cinema

C. Film Noir

Keaney, Michael F. *Film noir guide: 745 films of the classic era, 1940-1959*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2003. PN1995.9 .F54K43

D. Homosexuality

Hadleigh, Boze. *The lavender screen: the gay and lesbian film*. New York: Citadel Press, 2001. PN 1995.9 .H55H34 2001

E. Musicals

Hischak, Thomas. *Film it with music : an encyclopedic guide to the American movie musical*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2001. PN1995.9.M86 H57 2001

F. Science Fiction

Willis, Donald C. *Horror and science fiction films [I]-IV*. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 1972-1997. PN1995.9 .H6 W543

G. Westerns

Fagen, Herb. *The encyclopedia of westerns*. New York: Checkmark Books, 2003. PN1995.9 .W4F27 2003

IX. Access to Scholarly Articles

A. *FIAF international index to film periodicals plus*. (ONLINE)
FIAF international index to film periodicals indexes 300 academic and popular film journals, from 1972 to the present.

B. *Film & television literature index with full text*. (ONLINE)
Film & Television Literature Index provides cover-to-cover indexing and abstracts for more than 300 publications, and selected coverage of 300 more.

C. *Film literature index*. Albany, NY: Filmindex, Inc., 1973-2004. (PN1993 .F55x)
FLI is the most comprehensive index in the area of film, but it ceased publication in 2004.. ONLINE: The years 1973 to 2001 are available on a free internet website (<http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/fli/index.jsp>).

FLI indexes approximately 150 international film journals, excluding periodicals of purely “fan” interest, totally technical data, and extremely short pieces of press release information. In addition to the author’s name and over one thousand subject headings, articles are indexed under the names of individual screenwriters, performers, directors, cinematographers, professional societies, and corporations. Also, there are entries for the title of individual films, personal names, topics (e.g., Set Design), film themes (e.g., Prisoners in Film), organizations, studios, technical and industry terminology.

D. *International index to the performing arts (IIPA)*. (ONLINE)

IIPA provides an index to 210 journals in the performing arts including film. Full-text is available for some of these journals back to 1998.

E. *The MLA international bibliography*. (ONLINE)

Primarily devoted to literature and language, the MLA (Modern Language Association of America) International Bibliography is of some use for the study of ancillary subjects such as folklore, theater, and film, especially for the more theoretical aspects of those fields as they converge with or derive from literary and linguistic theory. The online edition includes articles from 1963 to the present. For earlier years consult the printed volumes in the Watson Reference Dept (Z7006 .M64).

X. Access to Newspaper and Magazine Articles, Including Reviews

A. *LexisNexis academic*. (ONLINE)

Academic Universe is one of the best online sources for full-text, recent (very up-to-date) newspaper and magazine articles, including reviews about films.

B. *The New York times*. (ONLINE)

The *New York times* is one of the online databases available from the Libraries. The coverage is from the beginning in 1851 to 2003. The full text is indexed. More current issues of the Times are indexed in the *National Newspaper Index* (ONLINE).

XI. Access to Books: The Online Catalog

A. Author Searches.

If you do an author search on the name of a film actor, director, or screenwriter in the Online Catalog, you will retrieve information about the books or screenplays that the person wrote or the films the person appeared in, directed, or wrote that are owned by the library.

B. Subject Searches.

If you do a subject search on the name of a film actor, director, or screenwriter in the Online Catalog, you will retrieve information about the person. In addition you can search systematically for information about film. The main cluster of subject headings begin with the term “Motion pictures,” but there are also other subject headings that start with other words. Many of

Latin America in motion pictures
Latin Americans in motion pictures
Motion picture actors and actresses
Motion picture industry—California—Los Angeles
Motion picture industry—Kansas
Motion picture producers and directors
Motion picture sequels
Motion pictures
Motion pictures and history
Motion pictures and youth
Motion pictures—Arab Countries
Motion pictures—Bibliography
Motion pictures—Biography
Motion pictures—California—Los Angeles—History
Motion pictures—Catalogs
Motion pictures—Dictionaries
Motion pictures—Latin America
Motion pictures—Mexico
Motion pictures—Plots, themes, etc.
Motion pictures—Reviews
Motion pictures—United States
Motion pictures—United States—History
Musical films
Musical films—History and criticism
New wave films—France
Science fiction films
Social problems in motion pictures
Western films—Italy
Western films—United States
Women in motion pictures

George E. Gibbs
Bibliographer for Film Studies
ggibbs@ku.edu
864-3282

9/08