

Aspects of Cinema

An expert presentation of both conventional hand-drawn animation production methods and today's computer-generated and controlled systems, Eli L. Levitan's **Handbook of Animation Techniques** covers the procedures, equipment and terminology in this thoroughgoing and clearly presented manual. Illustrations are particularly abundant and well-selected, including photographs, drawings and charts (Van Nostrand Reinhold \$24.95).

A definitive reference work on all historic varieties of cartooning from film animation to political caricature, Maurice Horn's **The World Encyclopedia of Cartoons** is a comprehensive compilation of outstanding aspects of the genre. Biographies of leading artists and surveys of their accomplishments, bibliographies and indexes comprise the 1200 entries of this substantial and informative 2-volume set (Gale \$50/set).

In **The American Animation Cartoons**, a notable anthology of stimulating essays assembled by Gerald and Danny Peary, the contribution of individual artists and production houses to the growth in the U.S. of animation art and techniques is assessed in penetrating articles that reveal the scope and social impact of the popular medium (Dutton \$10.95).

Film historian Leonard Maltin provides in **Of Mice and Magic** an engrossing and well-documented history of American animated cartoons. Rich in personal, technical, artistic and business data, this impressive volume offers a panoramic overview of the genre, its creative filmmakers and their work. Extensive filmographies, interviews with animators, superb illustrations add up to an entertaining and significant work (McGraw-Hill \$19.95 to 12/31/80, \$24.95 thereafter).

Audiovisual presentations, as enriched by new strides in creativity and imagination, are discussed in John Lewell's detailed and stimulating survey, **Multi-vision**. It documents currently available equipment and techniques, and discusses the medium's expanded value to anyone

involved in design production and use (Focal Press \$34.95).

In **The Documentary Conscience**, Alan Rosenthal, a filmmaker himself, quotes leading documentarians on the problems they have to surmount — underfinancing, limitation to free access, uncooperative participants — and upholds their tenacious commitment to a style based on truth and reality (U. of California Press \$19.50).

Non-professional moviemakers in the documentary or fictional fields who are eager to advance creatively in their craft will profit from J. David Beal's considerable technical advice in **Adventurous Film Making**. In addition, interviews with several award-winning directors reveal their methods and experiences. (Focal Press \$27.95).

Films In Print

Five new scripts have been added to the 3 previous volumes published in the Wisconsin/Warner Bros. Screenplay Series. Some 40 books are being planned by the University of Wisconsin Press, recipient of the Warner Film Library of 800 features and 1500 shorts of the 1930-50 period. Issued under the general editorship of Tino Balio, these texts constitute an invaluable resource for the broad study of the American film and specifically the art of screenplay during Hollywood's Golden Age.

The new volumes include **Gold Diggers of 1933** (Arthur Hove, ed.), **To Have and Have Not** (Bruce F. Kawin, ed.), **The Green Pastures** (Thomas Cripps, ed.), **High Sierra** (Douglas Gomery, ed.) and **The Adventures of Robin Hood** (Rudy Behlmer, ed.). Identical in format, the books carry introductions by their editors, stressing the salient points of the film and its place in the context of the period and the state of film art. The annotated shooting script follows, with cast and production credits, and 20 frame blowups (\$12.50/4.95 ea.).

Another university-originated series, **The Asphalt Jungle** is now available in script form to scholars and buffs. Directed by John Huston, who also wrote its screenplay with Ben Maddow, this 1930 film classic is credited with starting a new trend in the realistic depiction of contemporary crime (S. Illinois U. Press \$15/6.95).

In **GWTW - The Screenplay**, Sidney

Howard's complete 5-hour adaptation of Margaret Mitchell's epic is ably presented by Richard Harwell. The book also includes an abundance of inside information, such as Ms. Mitchell's misgivings about the 16 writers assigned to the script, the cutting of 80 minutes from the finished film, and other incidents in the making of an eventually famous movie (Macmillan \$17.95/10.95).

Author-director Eric Rohmer establishes in **Six Moral Tales** the story basis of his films, capturing subtle nuances in the feelings that affect relationships between men and women. Particularly interesting is the strong visual element Rohmer injects into this literary work — as elegant and tasteful an exercise in writing as is the delicately refined style of his films (Viking \$12.95).

Celebrity Row

A father figure of the cinema is considered in Martin Williams's literate and perceptive biography, **Griffith: First Artist of the Movies**. Filled with anecdotes, quotes from his contemporaries, and abundant source information about his films, this knowledgeable assessment examines the early influences that shaped Griffith's distinctive film techniques and the eventual decline of his directorial talent (Oxford U. Press \$12.95).

In **Peckinpah: The Western Films**, Paul Seydor explores the themes, ideas and feelings that unify a self-contained group of 6 of Peckinpah's movies. Seydor's appraisals are incisive and thoughtful, based on in-depth interviews with a complex man, devoted to his art and often impatient with critical perceptions of his approach (U. of Illinois Press \$12.95).

Neal and Janice Gregory, in **When Elvis Died**, describe the worldwide response in the media to the news of his sudden death, quoting from dailies' spot coverage and editorials appearing in leading newspapers, and assembling a documented record of international hysteria (Communications Press, 1346 Connecticut Ave., Washington, DC 20036; \$13.95). In **Elvis, The Final years**, Jerry Hopkins recaps many familiar events — some significant, others trivial — that preceded and followed the singer's widely mourned passing (St. Martin's \$12.95).

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