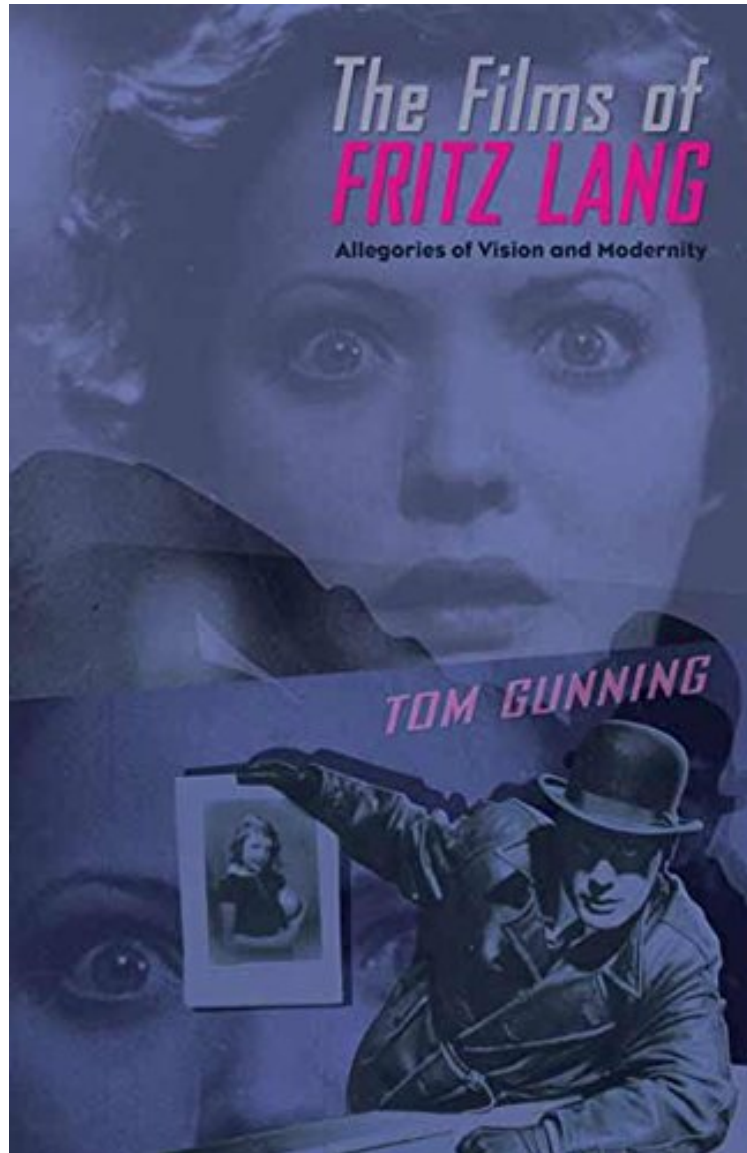


The Films of Fritz Lang: Allegories of Vision and Modernity

Tom Gunning

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Tom Gunning : The Films of Fritz Lang: Allegories of Vision and Modernity before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Films of Fritz Lang: Allegories of Vision and Modernity:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Thorough analysis By BelvidereLang's films are practically laid out on a couch and asked about their mothers. Psychologically interesting film analysis. I really enjoyed reading about the noir films because this brings much more depth to the viewing experience. Scarlet Street and House by the River are

fascinating. The author frustrates by digressing too much - Gunning often references earlier films and other reviewers - and the book could use more film stills for illustration. Recommended for in-depth enjoyment. 0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By MJ AGUILAR Great book on Lang. 0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. highly recommended By P. Mulloy A good, well written book on an awesome, iconic director.

This study examines the early work of Fritz Lang, proposing readings of the entire output of one of cinema's foremost directors. It emphasizes Lang's reflection on modernity, and hones in on the problem of identity and subjectivity in a progressively more automated, impersonal world.

"It's a complex web Lang weaves and Gunning is a perceptive and concrete guide to its richness."--"Sight and Sound" From the Back Cover In this remarkable new study, the renowned historian and theorist of early cinema turns his attention to the work of Fritz Lang, proposing new readings of the entire output of one of cinema's foremost directors. Gunning examines the films not only as a stylistically coherent body of work, but as an attempt to portray the modern world through cinema. The world of modernity in which systems replace individuals is conveyed by Lange's mastery of cinematic set design, composition, and editing. Lang presents not only a decades-long vision of cinematic narrative that can be compared to that of Alfred Hitchcock or Jean Renoir, but a view of modernity that relates strongly to the ideas of Adorno, Brecht, Benjamin, and Kracauer. From the sweeping allegorical films of the '20s to the chilly and abstract thrillers of the '50s, Fritz Lang's films, Gunning claims, are among the most precious records of the twentieth century. "The Films of Fritz Lang" immeasurably enriches our understanding of a great artist who fades away even in being recognized and interpreted, an enigmatic figure at the junction of aesthetics, history, biography and theory. About the Author Tom Gunning is Professor of Art History, Cinema and Media Studies at the University of Chicago. He is the author of *D.W. Griffith and the Origins of American Narrative Film: The Early Years* at Biograph.