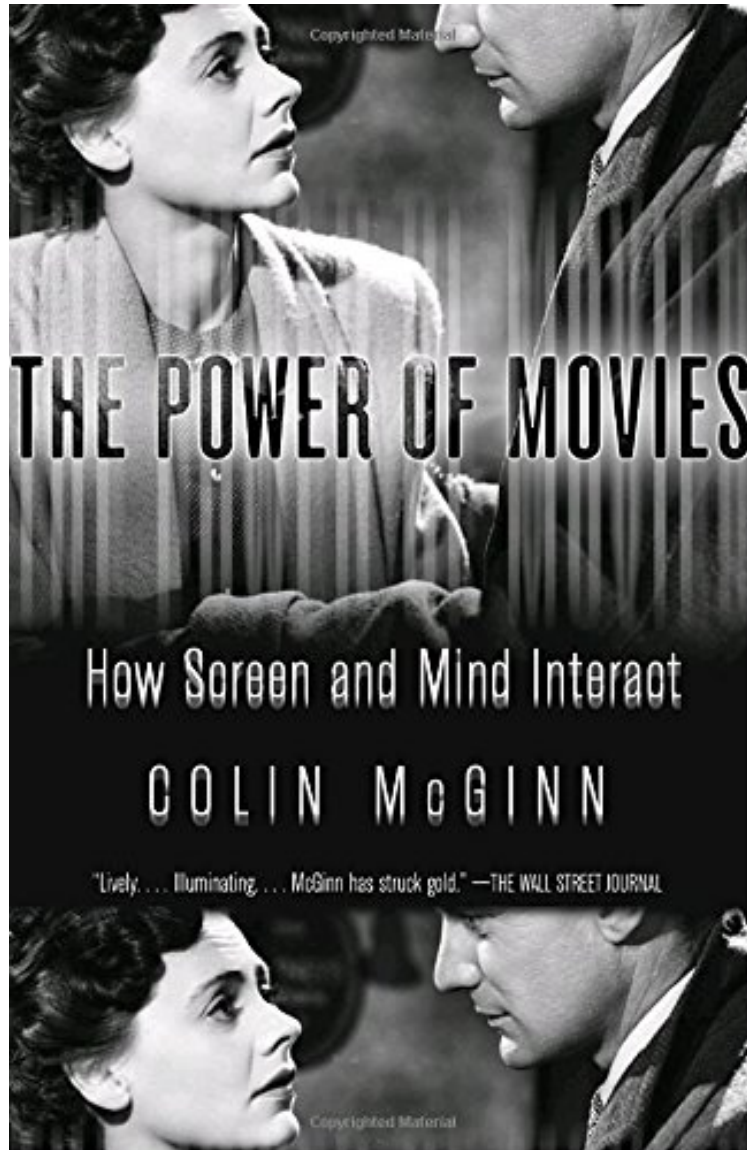


# The Power of Movies: How Screen and Mind Interact

Colin McGinn

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#530768 in Books McGinn, Colin 2007-02-13 2007-02-13 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.98 x .51 x 5.191, .51 #File Name: 1400077206224 pages | File size: 72.Mb

**Colin McGinn : The Power of Movies: How Screen and Mind Interact** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Power of Movies: How Screen and Mind Interact:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. MehBy LauraAs far as the seller, no complaints. The book is just not that great. If you're a writer or knowledgeable reader, the author's writing style will be very irritating. He takes paragraphs to say one sentence's worth of information. Could be a worse read, though. 21 of 24 people found the following review helpful. McGinn's P.O.M = Clear-Eyed Reason and A Fascinating Hypothesis By Lance DrakeWhat

a marvelous guy is Colin McGinn. He recently appeared with Bill Moyers on the 'Faith Reason' series and is ever more apparently the closest thing we have in our culture to a modern-day renaissance man. In 'The Power of Movies' we come to understand how it is that movies are capable of affecting us and what is unique about the movie-viewing experience - as opposed to perceiving other forms of art such as painting, live theater, etc. Personally, I am a huge fan of the way Colin McGinn thinks, what he thinks about, and the lucid, cogent way his thoughts are regurgitated which makes for easy ingestion and assimilation. 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Spectacular ReadingBy Golden Falcons LLC This book is a great read, everyone should find it enjoyable. I am reading it for the second time.

How is watching a movie similar to dreaming? What goes on in our minds when we become absorbed in a movie? How does looking into a movie screen allow us to experience the thoughts and feelings of a movie's characters? These and related questions are at the heart of *The Power of Movies*, a thoughtful, invigorating, and remarkably accessible book about a phenomenon seemingly beyond reach of our understanding. Colin McGinnan ingenious philosopher who thinks like a laser and writes like a dream, according to Steven Pinker enhances our understanding of both movies and ourselves in this book of rare and refreshing insight.

From Publishers Weekly McGinn (*The Making of a Philosopher*) presents a lighthearted exegesis of film's hold on our imagination. He begins by suggesting a movie screen is something we look into rather than at, then considers what else our gaze takes on in this manner. Looking into an open fire, for example, captivates in a manner similar to the flickering lights of a film projection. The real meat of McGinn's theory, though, is in his assertion that watching a movie is like having a dream it's better than dreaming, in fact, because a movie is "a dream as it has been rendered into art." The conjecture makes sense when he grounds it in earlier proposals that cinematic techniques of composition and editing mirror the processes of consciousness, but occasionally, the informal elaboration is taken to silly extremes, as when McGinn wonders if early evening is the best time to watch movies because previous generations went to bed right after sundown. And neuroscientists will have a field day refuting his argument that dreaming is such an elaborate process our minds simply must be working out our dreams before we fall asleep. Even at his most debatable, however, McGinn should remain entertaining to general audiences and more cerebral readers alike. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Lively. . . . Illuminating. . . . McGinn has struck gold. The Wall Street Journal Enlightening. . . . Lucid, rewarding. The New York Times Book Persuasive. . . . Astute. . . . McGinn synthesizes ideas about seeing movies with the passion of a buff. Entertainment Weekly About the Author Colin McGinn is a professor of philosophy at Rutgers University. He is the author of sixteen previous books, including *The Making of a Philosopher: My Journey Through Twentieth-Century Philosophy*; *Space Trap*, a novel; and, most recently, *Mindsight: Image, Dream, Meaning*. McGinn's writing has appeared in such publications as *The New York Times Book Review*, *London Review of Books*, *The New Republic*, and *The New York Times Book Review*. From the Hardcover edition.