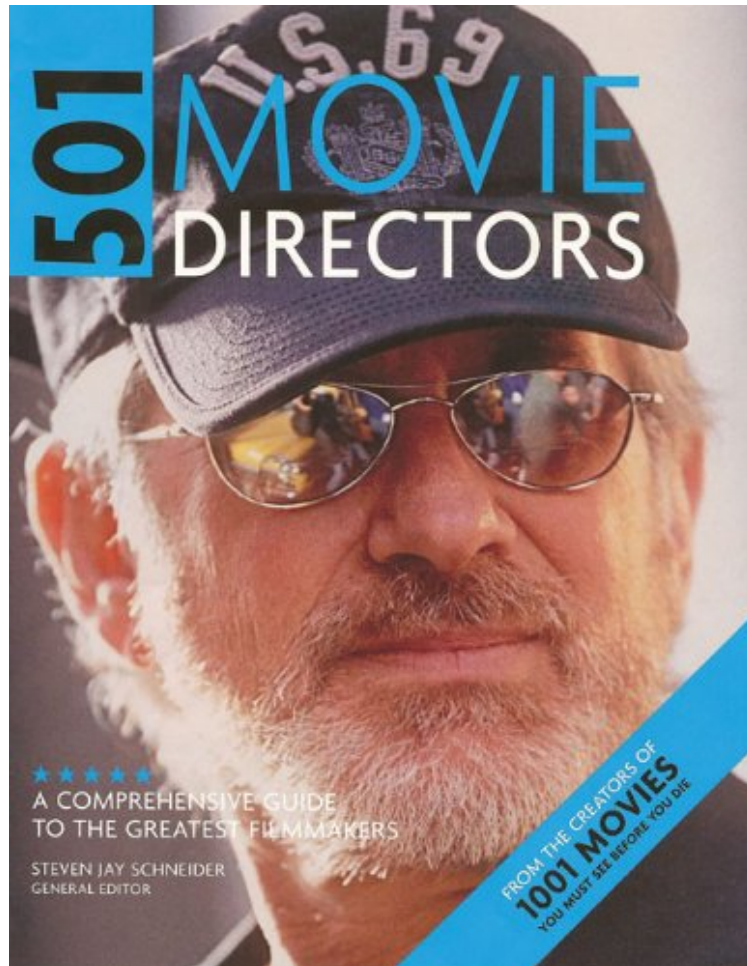


501 Movie Directors: A Comprehensive Guide to the Greatest Filmmakers

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From Brand: Barron's Educational Series : 501 Movie Directors: A Comprehensive Guide to the Greatest Filmmakers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 501 Movie Directors: A Comprehensive Guide to the Greatest Filmmakers:

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Great book for film students, film buffs and movie watchers!By WNYerThis is a great book for film students (I bought it for my daughter who is a film major at Syracuse University), film buffs and for us folks who love to watch movies!As General Editor of this book, Steven Jay Schneider (who also wrote 1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die)aptly summarizes, "This book is a love letter to those men and women who have changed our lives as a result of their celluloid dreams." Sit back and imagine the movies you have seen and how they impacted your life... perhaps prompted you to some action whether of the heart or for society? Moved you to tears or laughter? A great director's fine tuning of a writer's vision onto a screen does just that.This book

has colored tabs on the side of the pages for the director's birth year decade - beginning with the man who invented movies, George Melies, born in the 1860's in Paris, France, right through to David Gordon Green, born in the 1970's, writer and director of Southern Gothic coming of age dramas. The first pages of the book is a solid Table of Contents A-Z of all 501 of these great directors. Each director's page(s) has a photo of the director and some have movie stills from his or her films. Some of the directors included in this great compendium are Alexander Korda (who helped put the British film industry on the map); John Ford (a titan in the industry who even influenced Spielberg when Steven was a runner on the 20th Century studio lot! Steven went into Ford's office and Ford 'taught' Spielberg to really "look at" his landmark sweeping vista shots carefully...'what do you see?'); George Cukor (Dinner at Eight, Grand Hotel, My Fair Lady); George Stevens (who, as the book states, had "A legendary sharp eye for detail that enhanced visual storytelling; rapport with actors produced memorable performances from Hollywood greats." and other such greats as Federico Fellini, Alfred Hitchcock, Martin Scorsese, Margarethe von Trotta and Kathryn Bigelow. The "Top Takes..." of each director's body of work are listed to the right of each director's description of his/her piece in film history including their backgrounds, their influences...what led them to their signature styles. My particular book came with no cover which was a disappointment as I really admire Steven Spielberg, but the inside history is 100% readable and enjoyable....and moves me to want to read more about my favorite directors and to see works I have not yet screened!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. AT A THEATER NEAR YOU By J. David Kopp This is a really well-done, thorough, concise overview of the movie directors who have given up amazing cathartic cinematic thrills and tears and laughter over the last 100 years or so. A great source for quick mental note-taking about these pioneers and visionaries.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. it was a great reference book By Monchibella This was a gift, I am sure, it was a great reference book.

A copy of this valuable book is destined to find its way into the home of every true movie fan, cinema scholar, and film critic. It's a chronological compendium that profiles the 501 most important film directors of all time. Entries augmented with a photo of each director plus movie stills from his or her films describe such major figures as Sergei Eisenstein, Martin Scorsese, Alfred Hitchcock, Fritz Lang, Leni Riefenstahl, Orson Welles, Federico Fellini, Steven Spielberg, Robert Altman, and many, many others. Written by an expert team of film critics and historians, this book was compiled under the direction of editor Steven J. Schneider, whose *1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die* has sold a half-million copies worldwide to date. Readers will learn why D. W. Griffith is called the father of filmmaking. The details surrounding Martin Scorsese's fascination with New York. The truth about Alfred Hitchcock's stunning blondes . . . and much more. All filmmakers receive at least a one-page entry, which includes discussion of their work and influences, their complete filmography, and listing of awards they have received. Seventy-five directors of special importance are profiled in larger entries two-page spreads while 15 internationally acknowledged master directors are discussed and examined in two double-page spreads. Here is a comprehensive survey of the creative imaginations behind more than a hundred years of filmmaking. It's a wonderful book for browsing, for reference, and for gaining insights into the personalities who directed the most memorable movies ever made.

These hefty, valuable volumes are stuffed with tons of information about all your favorite filmmakers.

Scene, January 29, 2008

About the Author Steven Jay Schneider is a film critic, scholar, and producer with an academic degree in philosophy from Harvard University and in cinema studies from New York University. He is also the general editor of *1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die*, published in North America by Barrons.