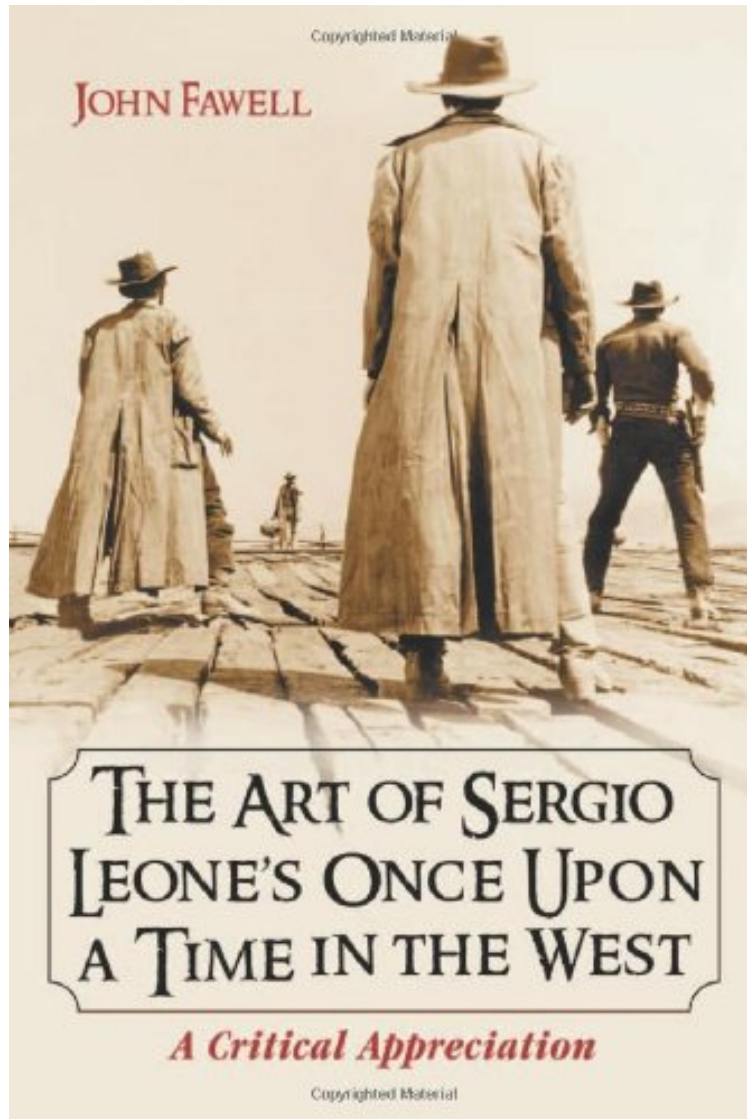


(Ebook pdf) The Art Of Sergio Leone's Once Upon A Time In The West: A Critical Appreciation

The Art Of Sergio Leone's Once Upon A Time In The West: A Critical Appreciation

John Fawell

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Pasta PistolsBy Clifford JacobsThe title of this review is my spin on the "spaghetti western" genre. This book is a wonderful analysis of Leone's masterpiece Once Upon a Time in the

West. Some parts of the book are a little redundant, but that's a very minor critique. The author's insight to the characters, production, script and soundtrack are spot on. You'll want to watch the film again after reading this book and you will see the film with new eyes. For a more detail look at the entire career and life of Sergio Leone I strongly recommend Christopher Frayling's *Something to Do With Death*. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Customer
Totally a good buy. In good condition. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Bronson H.A+

Few directors are characterized by both extraordinary film craft and the ironic reputation for lowbrow films. Despite his many achievements as a child of the Italian Cinecittà studios, however, Sergio Leone has been judged severely by writers who find his films lacking in ideas and moralists who find his films unduly cynical. Nevertheless, Leone's greatest cinematic achievement, *Once Upon a Time in the West*, served to refute these criticisms while exposing the director's unique romanticism and artistic ambition. As Leone's fourth successful American western film, *Once Upon a Time in the West* earned him acclaim for liberating the western genre, restoring it to a place of antique American simplicity. The principal goal of this book is to sharpen an appreciation for Sergio Leone and his most famous American western. The first two chapters deal with the relationship between *Once Upon a Time in the West* and the western films that preceded it, particularly those of John Ford. Subsequent chapters concentrate on the central characters of *Once Upon a Time in the West*, with special attention to Jill, Leone's first female protagonist and a surprisingly successful character, central to the plot and accorded a kind of existential strength usually reserved for men in Westerns. The sixth, seventh and eighth chapters address Leone's visual style, which represents a unique fusion of Hollywood classicism and modernism, and reveals the influences of Italian Surrealism and the French New Wave. The final chapters explore the rhythm, romanticism, and musical character of *Once Upon a Time in the West*, espousing the theory that Leone's approach to film is, above all, musical.

"critical study"--*Wrangler's Roost*; "a scholarly and an engaging book"--*Film International*; "illuminates...enthusiastic and thoughtful...a treasure"--*Cinescape*.
About the Author
John Fawell is an associate professor in Humanities at the College of General Studies at Boston University. His articles have appeared in both literature and film publications. He lives in Quincy, Massachusetts.