

[Download] The Cinema of Central Europe (24 Frames)

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Peter Hames

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Peter Hames : The Cinema of Central Europe (24 Frames) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cinema of Central Europe (24 Frames):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Introduction to an Underappreciated Part of the Film World By J. Merritt This is an excellent collection of articles on select films from Eastern European cinematic history. The Product Description lists some of the directors discussed, but it's probably more helpful to American readers to know that the book covers such films as "Closely Observed Trains" (Menzel), "Knife in the Water" (Polanski), "A Shop on the High Street" (Kadar and Klos, often called "A Shop on Main Street"), "Love" (Makk), "The Round-Up" (Jancso), "Ashes and Diamonds" (Wajda), and many other Hungarian, Czechoslovakian, and Polish classics, plus a handful of films produced in (or co-produced with) other countries. The films discussed date from the early days of cinema to 1996's "Bolshe Vita" (Fekete). Fabri's "Merry-Go-Round" is an odd exclusion, but the book does contain an article on his underrated 1954 film "Fourteen Lives Were Saved." It isn't all beginner stuff; some of the articles get quite heavy on film theory and difficult jargon. Nonetheless, on the whole, the book is a wonderfully interesting introduction to a

fabulous group of films and filmmakers from a part of the film world that is not sufficiently appreciated here in the West. Like most of the publications in the '24 Frames' series, a very worthy purchase for cineastes.

This new volume in the Twenty-Four Frames series focuses on twenty-four key Czech, Slovak, Hungarian, and Polish films from the twenties to the present. Between the wars the cinemas of Hungary, Poland, and the former Czechoslovakia each claimed their pioneers of early cinema and attained significant levels of production. They first attracted international attention in the 1930s, confirming this status with a succession of politically and aesthetically challenging films from the 1950s to the present. The work of directors such as Andrzej Wajda, Mikls Jancs, Jir Menzel, Istvn Szab, Mrta Mszros, Krzysztof Kieslowski, Jan vankmajer, and Bla Tarr are discussed. There are in depth studies of films such as Ashes and Diamonds, The Round-Up, The Shop on Main Street, Closely Watched Trains, Alice, The Decalogue, and Satantango.

An authoritative text...The essays throughout are deeply felt, factually accurate, and carefully written. (Choice)About the AuthorPeter Hames is honorary research associate in film and media studies at Staffordshire University. His books include The Czechoslovak New Wave and, as editor, Dark Alchemy: The Films of Jan vankmajer.