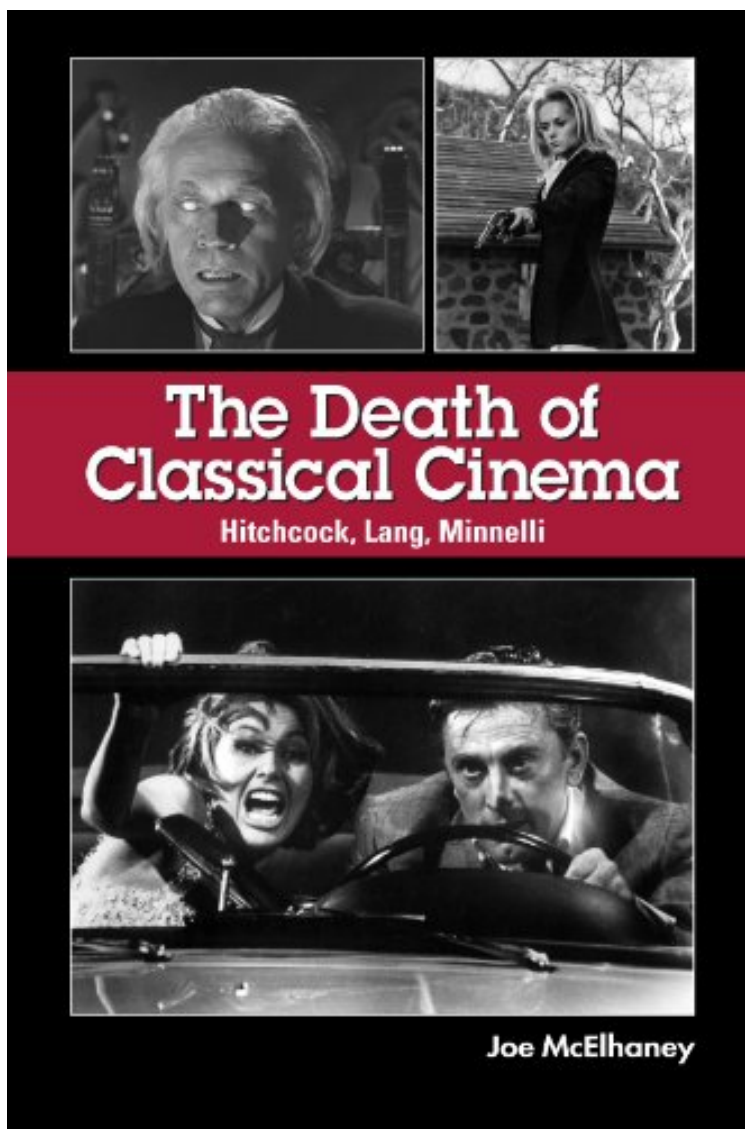


(Ebook free) The Death of Classical Cinema: Hitchcock, Lang, Minnelli (Suny Series, Horizons of Cinema)

## The Death of Classical Cinema: Hitchcock, Lang, Minnelli (Suny Series, Horizons of Cinema)

Joe McElhaney

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**Joe McElhaney : The Death of Classical Cinema: Hitchcock, Lang, Minnelli (Suny Series, Horizons of Cinema)**  
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Cinema: Hitchcock, Lang, Minnelli (Suny Series, Horizons of Cinema):

The Death of Classical Cinema uncovers the extremely rich yet insufficiently explored dialogue between classical and modernist cinema, examining the work of three classical filmmakers--Alfred Hitchcock, Fritz Lang, and Vincente Minnelli--and the films they made during the decline of the traditional Hollywood studio system. Faced with the significant challenges posed by alternative art cinema and modernist filmmaking practices in the early 1960s, these directors responded with films that were self-conscious attempts at keeping pace with the developments in film modernism. These films--Lang's *The Thousand Eyes of Dr. Mabuse*, Hitchcock's *Marnie*, and Minnelli's *Two Weeks in Another Town*--were widely regarded as failures at the time and bolstered critics' claims concerning the irrelevance of their directors in relation to contemporary filmmaking. However, author Joe McElhaney sheds new light on these films by situating them in relation to such acclaimed modernist works of the period as Godard's *Contempt*, Fellini's *La dolce vita*, Antonioni's *Red Desert*, and Resnais's *Last Year at Marienbad*. He finds that these modernist films, rather than being diametrically opposed in form to the work of Hitchcock, Lang, and Minnelli, are in fact profoundly linked to them.

"This is a brilliant work that restores my faith in film studies. McElhaney's sweeping command of film history and theory, his nuanced formal analyses, and his stately and sustained argument result in a book that I already find indispensable in my own teaching." "A sharp, erudite, and sensitive mind, wholly committed to the cinema, is here at work. At a time when the idea of the film director as 'auteur' is making a comeback, McElhaney's perspective will no doubt emerge as crucial for the necessary critical realignment between the performativity of Hollywood as a studio system and the achievements of its outstanding masters." From the Back Cover

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About the Author Joe McElhaney is Assistant Professor of Film Studies at Hunter College, The City University of New York.