



American Horror Story and Cult Television

Narratives, Histories and Discourses

Edited by Richard Hand and Mark O'Thomas

Pub Date: 07 November 2023

Binding: Hardback

Price: £80.00 / \$110.00

ISBN: 9781785279331

BISAC CATEGORY: PERFORMING ARTS / Television /

Genres / Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror LITERARY

CRITICISM / Horror & Supernatural, PERFORMING ARTS /

Film / Genres / Horror

BISAC CODE: PER010110

BIC CODE: APT

Extent: 250 pages

Size: 153 x 229 mm /

6 x 9 inches

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Exclusive: WORLD

A collection of essays approaching the *American Horror Story* cult television series through a rich variety of critical perspectives.

Over ten seasons since 2011, the television series *American Horror Story (AHS)*, created by Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk, has continued to push the boundaries of the televisual form in new and exciting ways. Emerging in a context which has seen a boom in popularity for horror series on television, *AHS* has distinguished itself from its 'rivals' such as *The Walking Dead*, *Bates Motel* or *Penny Dreadful* through its diverse strategies and storylines which have seen it explore archetypal narratives of horror culture as well as engaging with real historical events. Utilising a repertory company model for its casting, the show has challenged issues around contemporary politics, heteronormativity, violence on the screen, and disability to name but a few. This new collection of essays approaches the *AHS* anthology series through a variety of critical perspectives within the broader field of television studies and its transections with other disciplines.

Readership

Academic readers of popular culture and more specifically television studies, and the fans of the series.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Richard J. Hand is Professor of Media Practice at the University of East Anglia, UK. He has a particular interest in popular culture, especially horror.

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