



Action!

Interviews with Directors from Classical Hollywood to Contemporary Iran
Edited by Gary Morris, with a Foreword by Jonathan Rosenbaum, and an Introduction by Bert Cardullo

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Description

Draws on the very best published and unpublished interviews of the *Bright Lights Film Journal*.

'*Action!* is a treasure-trove: nineteen rare interviews with a wide variety of film directors, all conducted by writers who are truly savvy about their subjects. The book as a whole adds up to a practical PhD in what it takes to put personal vision up on the screen, both then and now.' —*Jeanine Basinger, Chair, Film Studies Department, Wesleyan University*

Action! Interviews with Directors from Classical Hollywood to Contemporary Iran presents nineteen outstanding interviews with directors past and present, from around the world, working in a variety of genres and budgets and production environments from major studios to indie and DIY. The result is a vibrant group portrait of the filmmaking art, a kind of festival in words that explores everything from the enormous creative and personal satisfactions of filmmaking to the challenges and frustrations that range from meddlesome studio heads to state censorship. These articulate auteurs include iconic figures Fellini and Truffaut (in his moving final interview), avant-garde masters Otto Muehl and the Brothers Quay, social critics Barbara Kopple and Allie Light, mainstream mavericks Robert Wise and Douglas Sirk, and eleven others. While their work (and working methods) varies widely, these directors share the status of pioneer and subversive, fighting – sometimes against great odds – to put their unique vision onscreen.

Readership: A fascinating and insightful collection for filmmakers, cinephiles, film teachers and students, and general pop culture mavens.

Contents

Foreword, by Jonathan Rosenbaum; Editor's Preface, by Gary Morris; Introduction: The Art and Craft of Interviewing, by Bert Cardullo; I. Going Hollywood: Masters of Studio Style; II. Tickets to the Dark Side: Festival Favorites; III. Blows Against the Empire: Indie Godfathers; IV. Edgeplay: Avant-Garde Auteurs; V. Women in Revolt: Artist-Activists; VI. The Canon: Brilliance without Borders

About the Editor

Gary Morris publishes and edits *Bright Lights Film Journal* and is the author of the monograph *Roger Corman* (1985) in the prestigious Twayne Theatrical Arts Series.

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