

Down And Dirty Pictures: Miramax, Sundance, And The Rise Of Independent Film

Tom Roston interviews filmmakers who grew up with video stores--including Allison Anders, Darren Aronofsky, Luc Besson, J.C. Chandor, Ira Deutchman, Tom DiCillo, Larry Estes, James Franco, Richard Gladstein, Nicole Holofcener, Ted Hope, Doug Liman, Greg Mottola, Tom Blake Nelson, Alex Ross Perry, John Pierson, David O. Russell, John Sayles, Kevin Smith, Morgan Spurlock, Joe Swanberg, and Quentin Tarantino. Peter Biskind authored two of the most talked about and read books of the last decade—Easy Riders, Raging Bulls: How the Sex-Drugs-and-Rock-'n'-Roll Generation Saved Hollywood and its bestselling sequel Down and Dirty Pictures: Miramax, Sundance, and the Rise of Independent Film. Gods and Monsters chronicles the cause and courses of Hollywood over the last three decades—the super freaks, lowlifes, charlatans and occasional geniuses who have left their bite mark on American culture, as refracted through the trajectory of Peter Biskind's career. The ghosts of McCarthyism and the blacklist haunt Gods and Monsters as do the casualties of the counterculture and the New Hollywood—the story of Sue Menges, the '70s "super-agent" whose career went mysteriously south, is extraordinarily poignant, as is the example of Terence Malick, whose light shone so brightly in the same period but then disappeared until 1997's The Thin Red Line. But at the heart of the book are the likes of Warren Beatty, Oliver Stone, Martin Scorsese, Robert Redford and Quentin Tarantino and uber-producers Don Simpson and Harvey Weinstein and their excess lifestyles, all of whom Biskind portrays in great Dickensian detail, charting how they have had a simultaneously strangulating and liberating effect on the industry. NOW A NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES, featuring interviews with Steven Spielberg, Francis Ford Coppola and Guillermo del Toro Before the Second World War the Hollywood box office was booming, but the business was accused of being too foreign, too Jewish, too 'un-American'. Then the war changed everything. With Pearl Harbor came the opportunity for Hollywood to prove its critics wrong. America's most legendary directors played a huge role in the war effort: John Ford, William Wyler, John Huston, Frank Capra, and George Stevens. Between them they shaped the public perception of almost every major moment of the war. With characteristic insight and expert knowledge Harris tells the untold story of how Hollywood changed World War II, and how World War II changed Hollywood.

Here is Hollywood over the last three decades - the superfreaks, lowlifes, charlatans, and the occasional geniuses who have left their bite marks on American culture, as refracted through the trajectory of Peter Biskind's career. Biskind began as a radical journalist and film critic. Now he can legitimately describe himself - as he does in the autobiographical introduction to this book - as a 'recovering celebrity journalist'. At the heart of the book are the likes of Martin Scorsese, Robert Redford, Terrence Malick, Sue Mengers, and über-producer Don Simpson, all of whom Biskind portrays in great Dickensian detail, charting how they have had a simultaneously strangulating and liberating effect on the industry.

The Swan Thieves

A Guided Tour Across a Decade of American Independent Cinema

Miramax, Sundance, and the Rise of Independent Film

Quentin Tarantino

Interviews

The Unauthorized Biography of Bernard Ingham

The Fight for the Future of Movies

Psychiatrist Andrew Marlow, devoted to his profession and the painting hobby he loves, has a solitary but ordered life. When renowned painter Robert Oliver attacks a canvas in the National Gallery of Art and becomes his patient, Marlow finds that order destroyed. Desperate to understand the secret that torments the genius, he embarks on a journey that leads him into the lives of the women closest to Oliver and a tragedy at the heart of French Impressionism. Kostova's masterful new novel travels from American cities to the coast of Normandy, from the late 19th century to the late 20th, from young love to last love. The Swan Thieves is a story of obsession, history's losses, and the power of art to preserve human hope.

Corey Barker, Executive Producer of PlanetPhotoshop.com and one of the Photoshop Guys of Photoshop User TV, brings you this handy and inspiring volume in the Down & Dirty Tricks series. Yes, this book is an insane collection of some of the most mind-blowing Photoshop effects you've ever seen in one place. Ever wonder how that movie poster was created, or how they created that cool magazine ad, or maybe even how to take a seemingly mundane photo and give it the Hollywood treatment? Or maybe you just want to know how to do some really awesome stuff in Photoshop. Well, then, this book is for you! Whether you're a designer, artist, or even a photographer, there's something here for everyone. Moving through these projects, you'll start to see the potential of Photoshop's most powerful features and how, with a little experimentation, you can open up a whole new world of dazzling effects. You'll learn how to:

- Create custom brush effects from scratch*
- See type as a design element*
- Create Hollywood-style effects that actually look like Hollywood-style effects*
- Take mundane photos and turn them into something mind-blowing*
- Create eye-popping commercial effects that clients will drool over*
- Get creative with 3D in Photoshop CS5 Extended*
- Create popular advertising effects you've seen in movies, on TV, and on the Web*
- Master dazzling photo effects for designers and photographers alike*

Plus, there are so many other things throughout the book that you'll be bursting with new ideas!

Roger Ebert wrote the first film review that director Martin Scorsese ever received - for 1967's I Call First, later renamed Who's That Knocking at My Door - creating a lasting bond that made him one of Scorsese's most appreciative and perceptive commentators. Scorsese by Ebert offers the first record of America's most respected film critic's en...

Are Batman and 24's Jack Bauer heroic loners defending our way of life - or right-wing vigilantes attacking it? Is Avatar just a National Geographic version of Star Wars or a passionate assault on capitalism? And what about Game of Thrones- sword and sorcery fantasy, or lesson in mainstream politics? In The Sky is Falling! bestselling cultural critic Peter Biskind takes us on a dizzying ride across two decades of pop culture to show how the TV and movies we love have taught us to love political extremism. Welcome to a darkly pessimistic, apocalyptic world where winter has come, the dead are walking, and ultra violence, revenge and torture are all in a day's work. Welcome to the new normal.

I Lost It at the Video Store [Expanded Edition]

Robert Redford

Thirty Years of Writing on Film and Culture from One of America's Most Incisive Writers

Miramax and the Transformation of Hollywood in the 1990s

Hip: The History

How the Comedy Mavericks of the '80s Changed Hollywood Forever

Down and Dirty Pictures

In this book, we have hand-picked the most sophisticated, unanticipated, absorbing (if not at times crackpot!), original and musing book reviews of "Down and Dirty Pictures: Miramax, Sundance and the Rise of Independent Film." Don't say we didn't warn you: these reviews are known to shock with their unconventionality or intimacy. Some may be startled by their biting sincerity; others may be spellbound by their unbridled flights of fantasy. Don't buy this book if: 1. You don't have nerves of steel. 2. You expect to get pregnant in the next five minutes. 3. You've heard it all.

"The definitive history of the studio" created by the larger-than-life team of Spielberg, Geffen, and Katzenberg (Los Angeles Times). For sixty years, since the birth of United Artists, the studio landscape was unchanged. Then came Hollywood's Circus Maximus—created by director Steven Spielberg, billionaire David Geffen, and Jeffrey Katzenberg, who gave the world *The Lion King*—an entertainment empire called DreamWorks. Now Nicole LaPorte, who covered the company for *Variety*, goes behind the hype to reveal for the first time the delicious truth of what happened. Readers will feel they are part of the creative calamities of moviemaking as LaPorte's fly-on-the-wall detail shows us Hollywood's bizarre rules of business. We see the clashes between the often-otherworldly Spielberg's troops and Katzenberg's warriors, the debacles and disasters, but also the Oscar-winning triumphs, including *Saving Private Ryan*. We watch as the studio burns through billions of dollars, its rich owners get richer, and everybody else suffers. LaPorte displays Geffen, seducing investors like Microsoft's Paul Allen, showing his steel against CAA's Michael Ovitz, and staging fireworks during negotiations with Paramount and Disney. Here is a blockbuster behind-the-scenes Hollywood story—up close, glamorous, and gritty.

This behind-the-scenes glimpse of the prestigious Sundance Film Festival is written by one of the co-founders of the festival. *Party in a Box* includes insights and comments from some of the most innovative filmmakers of the past 20 years.

Indie, Inc. surveys Miramax's evolution from independent producer-distributor to studio subsidiary, chronicling how one company transformed not just the independent film world but the film and media industries more broadly. Miramax's activities had an impact on everything from film festival practices to marketing strategies, talent development to awards campaigning. Case studies of key films, including *The Piano*, *Kids*, *Scream*, *The English Patient*, and *Life is Beautiful*, reveal how Miramax went beyond influencing Hollywood business practices and motion picture aesthetics to shaping popular and critical discourses about cinema during the 1990s ... [and] looks at the range of Miramax-released genre films, foreign-language films, and English-language imports released over the course of the decade.

How Hollywood Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Summer

Shakespeare Would Cry

How Warren Beatty Seduced America

Scorsese by Ebert

Seeing is Believing

A Novel

In this "dishy...superbly reported" (Entertainment Weekly) New York Times bestseller, Peter Biskind chronicles the rise of independent filmmakers who reinvented Hollywood—most notably Sundance founder Robert Redford and Harvey Weinstein, who with his brother, Bob, made Miramax Films an indie powerhouse. As he did in his acclaimed *Easy Riders, Raging Bulls*, Peter Biskind "takes on the movie industry of the 1990s and again gets the story" (The New York Times). Biskind charts in fascinating detail the meteoric rise of the controversial Harvey Weinstein, often described as the last mogul, who created an Oscar factory that became the envy of the studios, while leaving a trail of carnage in his wake. He follows Sundance as it grew from a regional film festival to the premier showcase of independent film, succeeding almost despite the mercurial Redford, whose visionary plans were nearly thwarted by his own quixotic personality. Likewise, the directors who emerged from the independent movement, such as Quentin Tarantino, Steven Soderbergh, and David O. Russell, are now among the best-known directors in Hollywood. Not to mention the actors who emerged with them, like Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Ethan Hawke, and Uma Thurman. Candid, controversial, and "sensationally entertaining" (Los Angeles Times) *Down and Dirty Pictures* is a must-read for anyone interested in the film world.

Based on hundreds of interviews with directors such as Coppola, Scorsese, Hopper and Spielberg, as well as producers, stars, studio executives, writers, spouses, ex-spouses, and girlfriends, this is the story of the crazy world that the directors ruled.

A national symbol of romance since the 1970s, Redford's stardom has often eclipsed the life and trials of the man himself. In this biography -- written with Redford's personal papers, journals, script notes, correspondence, and hundreds of hours of taped interviews -- Michael Feeney Callan strips away the Hollywood façade, exposing the complicated, surprising man beneath. The life of Robert Redford is a series of contradictions: descended from impoverished East Coast barbers on his father's side and once-wealthy Texans on his mother's side, the young Redford suffered from aimlessness and semi-poverty, dropping out of college and briefly spending time in jail before launching a career in theatre. Redford has contributed more -- and more widely -- to entertainment than most stars of his calibre. As an actor, he's appeared on Broadway and film, with an Oscar-nominated performance in 1973's *The Sting*. As a director, he's earned Oscar nominations for Best Picture and Best Director and has received three Golden Globe nominations for Best Director. He won the Academy Award for Best Director in 1980 for *Ordinary People*. And as a producer of independent films -- including the patronage of his Sundance Institute -- he's worked on films including *All the President's Men* and 2004's *The Motorcycle Diaries*. This is a fascinating exploration of one of our most celebrated and least understood public figures, and an essential read for anyone interested in the rocky road to Hollywood.

The 1990s saw a shock wave of dynamic new directing talent that took the Hollywood studio system by storm. At the forefront of that movement were six innovative and daring directors whose films pushed the boundaries of moviemaking and announced to the world that something exciting was happening in Hollywood. Sharon Waxman, editor and chief of The Wrap.com and for Hollywood reporter for the New York Times spent the decade covering these young filmmakers, and in *Rebels on the Backlot* she weaves together the lives and careers of Quentin Tarantino, *Pulp Fiction*; Steven Soderbergh, *Traffic*; David Fincher, *Fight Club*; Paul Thomas Anderson, *Boogie Nights*; David O. Russell, *Three Kings*; and Spike Jonze, *Being John Malkovich*.

The Godfather Companion

Blockbuster

How Vampires, Zombies, Androids and Superheroes Made America Great for Extremism

Six Maverick Directors and How They Conquered the Hollywood Studio System

The War for Late Night

The Story of the Sundance Film Festival

Good and Faithful Servant

A chronicle of the massive transformation in Hollywood since the turn of the century and the huge changes yet to come, drawing on interviews with key players, as well as documents from the 2014 Sony hack

The legendary figure who launched the careers of Spike Lee, Michael Moore, and Richard Linklater offers a no-holds-barred look at the deals and details that propel an indie film from a dream to distribution.

Bill Carter, executive producer of CNN's docuseries *The Story of Late Night* and host of the *Behind the Desk: Story of Late Night* podcast, details the chaotic transition of *The Tonight Show* from host Jay Leno to Conan O'Brien—and back again. In 2010, NBC's CEO Jeff Zucker, had it all worked out when he moved Jay Leno from behind the desk at *The Tonight Show*, and handed the reins over to Conan O'Brien. But his decision was a spectacular failure. Ratings plummeted, affiliates were enraged—and when Zucker tried to put everything back the way it was, that plan backfired as well. No one is more uniquely suited to document the story of a late-night travesty than veteran media reporter and bestselling author, Bill Carter. In candid detail, he charts the vortex that sucked in not just Leno and O'Brien—but also Letterman, Stewart, Fallon, Kimmel, and Ferguson—as frantic agents and network executives tried to manage a tectonic shift in television's most beloved institution.

A formidable new generation of American film-makers are currently in their prime: Paul Thomas Anderson, Alexander Payne, Sofia Coppola, David Fincher, Spike Jonze, Wes Anderson, to name but six. Call them 'The Sundance Kids'. . . A conspicuous number of these talents first kick-started their careers in the workshops of Robert Redford's Sundance Institute in Utah, or made the big time after screening their work at the Sundance Film Festival. Nowadays, acclaimed movies such as Payne's *Sideways*, Jonze's *Being John Malkovich* and Coppola's *Lost in Translation* have reminded people of that great period in the 1970s spearheaded by Scorsese, Altman, and Sofia Coppola's father, Francis. In this comprehensive study, James Mottram traces the roots of this new generation to Steven Soderbergh's *Sex, Lies and Videotape* - a low-budget tour de force that premiered at Sundance en route to conquering Cannes which persuaded some of the 'Sundance Kids' to first pick up a camera. Mottram proceeds to analyse each director and their oeuvre, placing each carefully within the context of the ever-changing landscape of American cinema over the last fifteen years. And Mottram poses the question - are we witnessing a new Golden Age of film-making?

Wild and Crazy Guys

Not Hollywood

The Big Picture

Once Upon a Time in Hollywood

Bitter Hollywood Tales from the Front Line

A Story of Hollywood and the Second World War

Easy Riders, Raging Bulls

Wild and Crazy Guys is the larger-than-life story of the much-loved Hollywood comedy stars that ruled the 1980s. This paperback edition features never-seen-before bonus material. As well as delving behind the scenes of classic movies such as Ghostbusters, Beverly Hills Cop, The Blues Brothers, Trading Places and dozens more, it chronicles the off-screen, larger-than-life antics of John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Bill Murray, Eddie Murphy, Chevy Chase, Steve Martin, John Candy et al. It's got drugs, sex, punch-ups, webbed toes and Bill Murray being pushed into a swimming pool by Hunter S Thompson, while tied to a lawn chair. It's akin to Peter Biskind's Easy Riders, Raging Bulls, following the key players through their highs and lows, and their often turbulent relationships with each other. Nick de Semlyen has interviewed many of the key directors such as Walter Hill, John Landis and Carl Reiner, as well as the comedians themselves. Taking you on a trip through the tumultuous '80s, Wild And Crazy Guys explores the friendships, feuds, triumphs and disasters experienced by these iconic funnymen. Based on candid interviews from the stars themselves, as well as those who entered their orbit, it reveals the hidden history behind the most fertile period ever for screen comedy.

"The Hollywood memoir that tells all . . . Sex. Drugs. Greed. Why, it sounds just like a movie."—The New York Times Every memoir claims to bare it all, but Julia Phillips's actually does. This is an addictive, gloves-off exposé from the producer of the classic films The Sting, Taxi Driver, and Close Encounters of the Third Kind—and the first woman ever to win an Academy Award for Best Picture—who made her name in Hollywood during the halcyon seventies and the yuppie-infested eighties and lived to tell the tale. Wickedly funny and

surprisingly moving, You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again takes you on a trip through the dream-manufacturing capital of the world and into the vortex of drug addiction and rehab on the arm of one who saw it all, did it all, and took her leave. Praise for You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again "One of the most honest books ever written about one of the most dishonest towns ever created."—The Boston Globe "Gossip too hot for even the National Enquirer . . . Julia Phillips is not so much Hollywood's Boswell as its Dante."—Los Angeles Magazine "A blistering look at La La Land."—USA Today "One of the nastiest, tastiest tell-alls in showbiz history."—People

A critical analysis of the rise of independent filmmakers examines the growth of Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival, the rise to power of the Weinstein brothers and their company Miramax, and the successful careers of Steven Soderbergh, Quentin Tarantino, and other independent filmmakers whose work has transformed Hollywood and the film industry. Reprint. 100,000 first printing.

American Smart Cinema examines a contemporary type of US filmmaking that exists at the intersection of mainstream, art and independent cinema and often gives rise to absurd, darkly comic and nihilistic effects.

The Sky Is Falling

Indie, Inc.

Photoshop Down & Dirty Tricks for Designers

You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again

Thirty Years of Writing on Film and Culture

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about All Three Godfather Films

The Men Who Would Be King

This title provides an expose of the men who changed independent cinema for ever in the 1990s.

Mirroring his part as a Marine Corp journalist Modine recounts through words and photographs his experiences working with Stanley Kubrick on the film Full Metal Jacket.

A compilation of trivia about the "Godfather" movies presents behind-the-scenes anecdotes, quizzes, facts, quotes, and film stills from all three films

"My life, as you will read, has taken me from one cult to another. BRAVE is the story of how I fought my way out of these cults and reclaimed my life. I want to help you do the same." -Rose McGowan A revealing memoir and empowering manifesto – A voice for generations

Party in a Box

Miramax, Sundance, and the Rise of Independent Fil

What Just Happened?

American Independent Cinema

The Biography

Rebels on the Backlot

The First Novel By Quentin Tarantino

It's a typical summer Friday night and the smell of popcorn is in the air. Throngs of fans jam into air-conditioned multiplexes to escape for two hours in the dark, blissfully lost in Hollywood's latest glittery confection complete with megawatt celebrities, awesome special effects, and enormous marketing budgets. The world is in love with the blockbuster movie, and these cinematic behemoths have risen to dominate the film industry, breaking box office records every weekend. With the passion and wit of a true movie buff and the insight of an internationally renowned critic, Tom Shone is the first to make sense of this phenomenon by taking readers through the decades that have shaped the modern blockbuster and forever transformed the face of Hollywood. The moment the shark fin broke the water in 1975, a new monster was born. Fast, visceral, and devouring all in its path, the blockbuster had arrived. In just a few weeks Jaws earned more than \$100 million in ticket sales, an unprecedented feat that heralded a new era in film. Soon, blockbuster auteurs such as Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, and James Cameron would revive the flagging fortunes of the studios and lure audiences back into theaters with the promise of thrills, plenty of action, and an escape from art house pretension. But somewhere along the line, the beast they awakened took on a life of its own, and by the 1990s production budgets had escalated as quickly as profits. Hollywood entered a topsy-turvy world ruled by marketing and merchandising mavens, in which flops like Godzilla made money and hits had to break records just to break even. The blockbuster changed from a major event that took place a few times a year into something that audiences have come to expect weekly, piling into the backs of one another in an annual demolition derby that has left even Hollywood aghast. Tom Shone has interviewed all the key participants -- from cinematic visionaries like Spielberg and Lucas and the executives who greenlight these spectacles down to the effects wizards who detonated the Death Star and blew up the White House -- in order to reveal the ways in which blockbusters have transformed how Hollywood makes movies and how we watch them. As entertaining as the films it chronicles, Blockbuster is a must-read for any fan who delights in the magic of the movies.

Quentin Tarantino's long-awaited first work of fiction - at once hilarious, delicious, and brutal - is the always surprising, sometimes shocking new novel based on his Academy Award-winning film. RICK DALTON - Once he had his own TV series, but now Rick's a washed-up villain-of-the-week drowning his sorrows in whiskey sours. Will a phone call from Rome save his fate or seal it? CLIFF BOOTH - Rick's stunt double, and the most infamous man on any movie set because he's the only one there who might have gotten away with murder . . . SHARON TATE - She left Texas to chase a movie-star dream, and found it. Sharon's salad days are now spent on Cielo Drive, high in the Hollywood Hills. CHARLES MANSON - The ex-con's got a bunch of zonked-out hippies thinking he's their spiritual leader, but he'd trade it all to be a rock 'n' roll star. HOLLYWOOD 1969 - YOU SHOULDA BEEN THERE

'You'll never look at your favourite movies and TV shows the same way again. And you shouldn't' Steven Soderbergh 'Insanely readable' Slavoj Zizek 'Your book was ... like a bag of pot, with me saying, 'I'm not gonna smoke.' But I was insatiable' Quentin Tarantino on Easy Riders, Raging Bulls In The Sky is Falling! bestselling cultural critic Peter Biskind takes us on a dizzying ride across two decades of pop culture to show how the TV and movies we love - from Game of Thrones and 24 to Homeland and Iron Man - have taught us to love political

extremism. Welcome to a darkly pessimistic, apocalyptic world where winter has come, the dead are walking, and ultra violence, revenge and torture are all in a day's work. Welcome to the new normal.

A Hollywood producer provides an insider's look at filmmaking in Hollywood, offering views and tales of some of the leading actors, directors, screenwriters, and industry executives.

An Almost Epic Tale of Moguls, Movies, and a Company Called Dream Works

A Filmmakers' Oral History of a Vanished Era

Five Came Back

The Sky is Falling

Miramax, Sundance and the Rise of Independent Film

Gods and Monsters

Star

The independent sector has produced many of the most distinctive films to have appeared in the US in recent decades. From 'Sex, Lies and Videotape' in the 1980s to 'The Blair Witch Project' and New Queer Cinema in the 1990s and the ultra-low budget digital video features of the 2000s, indie films have thrived, creating a body of work that stands out from the dominant Hollywood mainstream. But what exactly is 'independent' cinema? This, the first book to examine the question in detail, argues that independence can be defined partly in industry terms but also according to formal and aesthetic strategies and by distinctive attitudes towards social and political issues, suggesting that independence is a dynamic rather than a fixed quality. Chapters focus on distribution and relationships with Hollywood studios; narrative ('Clerks' and 'Slacker' to 'Pulp Fiction', 'Magnolia' and 'Memento') and other formal dimensions (from 'Blair Witch's' 'authenticity' to expressive and stylized camerawork and editing in work from Harmony Korine to the Coen brothers); approaches to genre and alternative socio-political visions.

Hip: The History is the story of how American pop culture has evolved throughout the twentieth century to its current position as world cultural touchstone. How did hip become such an obsession? From sex and music to fashion and commerce, John Leland tracks the arc of ideas as they move from subterranean Bohemia to Madison Avenue and back again. Hip: The History examines how hip has helped shape -- and continues to influence -- America's view of itself, and provides an incisive account of hip's quest for authenticity. This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book, including author interviews, recommended reading, and more.

In this compulsively readable and constantly surprising book, Peter Biskind, the author of the film classics "Easy Riders, Raging Bulls" and "Down and Dirty Pictures," writes the most intimate, revealing, and balanced biography ever of Hollywood legend Warren Beatty.

Down and Dirty Pictures Miramax, Sundance and the Rise of Independent Film Bloomsbury Publishing

Spike, Mike, Slackers & Dykes

Full Metal Jacket Diary

American Smart Cinema

Sundance Kids

100 Mere Mortal Reviews of Down and Dirty Pictures

When Leno Went Early and Television Went Crazy

How the Mavericks Took Back Hollywood

In the late 1980s a generation of filmmakers began to flower outside the Hollywood studio system and in the following decade, the independent film movement bloomed. Dozens of lesser-known filmmakers such as Steven Soderbergh and Quentin Tarantino began walking away with coveted prizes at Cannes and eventually the Academy Awards. Many of these directors were discovered at Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival and then scooped up by Harvey and Bob Weinstein, whose company Miramax laid waste to the competition. In Down and Dirty Pictures, Peter Biskind tells the incredible story of these filmmakers, the growth of Sundance into the premier showcase of independent film, and the meteoric rise of the controversial Weinstein brothers who left a trail of carnage in their wake yet created an Oscar factory that is the envy of the studios.

Seeing is Believing is a provocative, shrewd and witty look at the Hollywood fifties movies we all love - or love to hate - and the thousand subtle ways they reflect the political tensions of the decade. Peter Biskind concentrates on the films everybody saw but nobody really looked at, classics such as Giant, Rebel Without a Cause, and Invasion of the Body Snatchers, and shows us how movies that appear politically innocent in fact bear an ideological burden. As we see organization men and rugged individualists, housewives, and career women, cops and docs, teen angels and teenage werewolves fight it out across the screen, from suburbia to the farthest reaches of the cosmos, we understand that we have been watching one long dispute about how to be a man, a woman, an American - the conflicts of the time in action. Not since Martin Scorsese in the mid-1970s has a young American filmmaker made such an instant impact on international cinema as Quentin Tarantino, whose PULP FICTION won the Cannes Film Festival's Grand Prix Award. A manic talker, Tarantino obsesses about American pop culture and his favorite movies and movie makers.

The pioneering anthropologist Sherry B. Ortner explores the culture and practices of independent filmmaking in the U.S., arguing that during the past three decades, independent cinema has provided vital cultural critique.

Independent Film at the Twilight of the American Dream

Brave