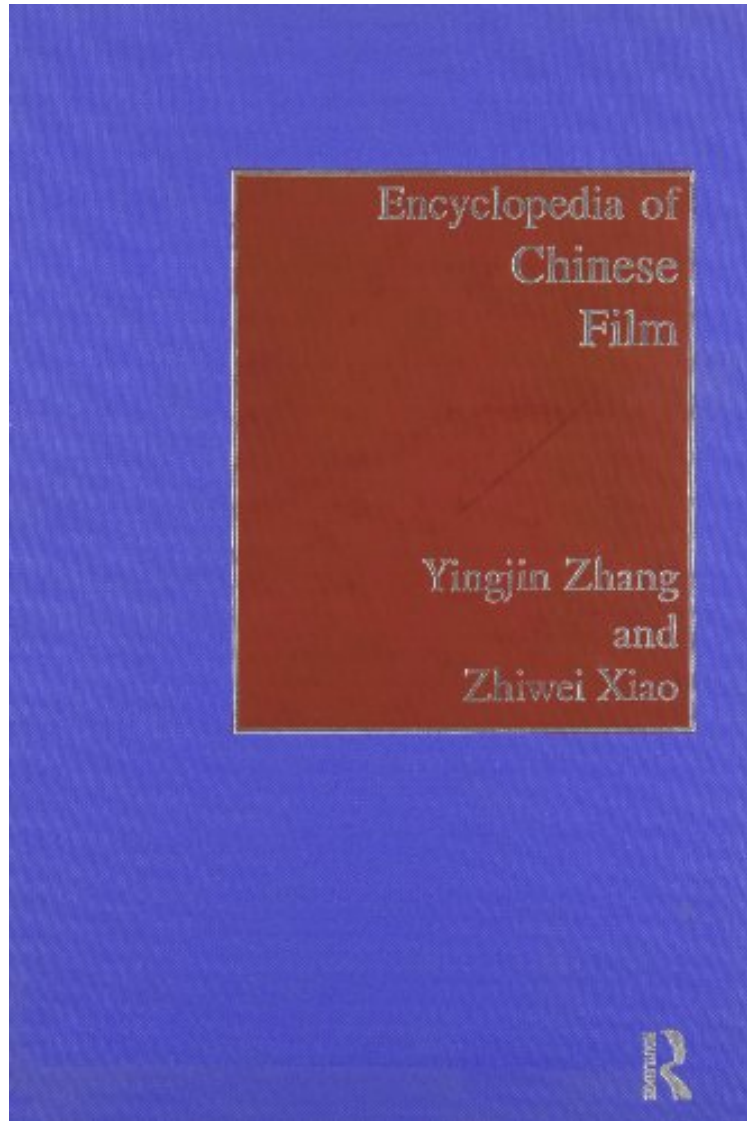


Encyclopedia of Chinese Film

Zhiwei Xiao, Yingjin Zhang

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Zhiwei Xiao, Yingjin Zhang : Encyclopedia of Chinese Film before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of Chinese Film:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Indispensible Reference for Chinese Film Studies By Mark Pollard This academic reference book includes six informative essays, an extensive bibliography, web site addresses, and indexes of titles, names and studios in addition to the hundreds of main entries. At less than 500 pages, this single volume title is hardly comprehensive, yet does provides valuable information on history, various films themselves, general topics, and people within the film industry. Due to the high price, I can only recommend this title to

professionals and serious students of Chinese film. I do research for web-based and film distribution projects and I've found the book to be well worth the purchase.

The Encyclopedia of Chinese Film, one of the first ever encyclopedias in this area, provides alphabetically organized entries on directors, genres, themes, and actors and actresses from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan as well as 300 film synopses. Great care has been taken to provide solid cultural and historical context to the facts. The alphabetical entries are preceded by a substantial historical section, incorporating material on the the main studios and analysing the impact of Chinese film abroad as well as at home in recent years. This Encyclopedia meets the needs, equally, of * the film studies scholar * the student of Chinese culture* the specialist in Chinese film* the curious viewer wanting to know more. Additional features include:* comprehensive cross-references and suggestions for further reading * a list of relevant websites* a chronology of films and a classified contents list* three indexes- (one of film and tv titles with directors names and year of release, one of names including actors, writers, directors and producers and one of studios, all with pinyin romanizations)* a glossary of pinyin romanizations, Chinese characters and English equivalents to aid the specialist in moving between Chinese titles and English translations.

From Library Journal This work offers comprehensive coverage at a time when Chinese cinema has won international acclaim through the work of directors like Chen Kaige and Zhang Yimou (mainland China), John Woo (Hong Kong), and Hou Hsiao-hsien (Taiwan). Six incisive historical essays precede the main body of entries on film people, synopses, genres, studios, and subjects. The essays alone offer great assistance, but when they are coupled with the cross-referenced entries and the handsome photographs, the work's value crystallizes. A thorough bibliography, multiple indexes, and an annotated list of select websites further enhance the volume. In addition, an effective use of fonts assists the reader in exploring this rich topical purview, and a glossary of Pinyin romanizations? Chinese characters and their English equivalents? will undoubtedly aid scholars. Highly recommended for all academic libraries; there is no comparable reference. ? Neal Baker, Ball State Univ., Muncie, IN Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. "There is little else in the reference literature that covers Chinese film as comprehensively, especially in a single volume. Academic libraries and large public libraries will find this a valuable addition to their film reference collections." - "Against the Grain, 11/99 "[A]n asset in any university or large public library that offers a collection of or concentration in film or Asian studies." - "Reference Books Bulletin, Feb 12, 1999 "The entries are well chosen, and the extensive bibliography is a gold mine for those wanting to read further. For its wealth of information and broad scope, this splendid work is essential..." - "Choice "Highly recommended for all academic libraries; there is no comparable reference." - "Library Journal, 9/98 "This is one of the very few concise and comprehensive works on the subject of Chinese films. With its well-organized format and rich source of information, this encyclopedia should satisfy those who are interested in learning about the film industry in China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.." - "American Reference Book Annual, 2000