



Hitchcock's Films Revisited

Robin Wood

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When *Hitchcock's Films* was first published, it quickly became known as a new kind of book on film and a necessary text in the growing body of Hitchcock criticism. When Robin Wood returned to his writings in Hitchcock's films and published *Hitchcock's Films Revisited* in 1989, the multidimensional essays took on a new shape?one tempered by Wood's own development as a critic.

This revised edition of *Hitchcock's Films Revisited* includes a substantial new preface in which Wood reveals his personal history as a film scholar?including his coming out as a gay man, his views on his previous critical work, and how his writings, his love of film, and his personal life have remained deeply intertwined through the years. This revised edition includes all eighteen original essays and a new chapter on *Marnie* titled "You Freud, Me Hitchcock: Does Mark Cure Marnie?"

Hitchcock's Films Revisited Details

Date : Published June 20th 2002 by Columbia University Press (first published 1965)

ISBN : 9780231126953

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Format : Paperback 448 pages

Genre : Culture, Film, Nonfiction, Media Tie In, Movies, Textbooks



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William says

Robin Wood digs pretty deeply into the themes and subtexts of a selection of Hitchcock films - saying a lot about gender, sexuality (especially homosexuality), ambiguity, morality, psycho-analysis. An excellent read and a vital reference for anyone interested in film.

I love that he loves *Marnie* (one of Hitch's most misunderstood masterpieces) even though he is maybe a little too forgiving of some of the more unforgivable flaws.

David says

The best and most irrefutable analysis of Hitchcock's cinema around. Wood is one of my favorite critics and this is probably his best work. The guy is right about most everything.

Eric says

Perhaps still the foremost critic on Hitchcock's films, this is an update of Wood's landmark 1965 book that changed the director's reputation in the English-speaking world. No one else I've read has captured so well what is greatest in Hitchcock's films while pointing out their occasional weaknesses. The book is also a portrait of Wood's own evolution from callow wanna-be and closeted gay man to fierce and uncompromising Marxist/Feminist critic. It makes for a fascinating stew of opinion and insight into cinema, which was developed over a period of almost 30 years in Wood's career.

Blair says

Robin was one of my dearest friends. I want to leave it at that. He's a visionary/pioneer in terms of film analysis, and loved red wine as much as myself. I miss him. If you respect Hitchcock AND gender, READ THIS.

Jake Cole says

A simply masterful work of criticism, and I say that as someone who finds more than a few of Wood's conclusions a stretch. I still don't know if I can look at Hitchcock's work as such a progressive oeuvre, but Wood made me wrack my brain over the shots and scenarios he mentioned to see if I could refute them (I never could). It's also a highly readable distillation of some of the various critical theories to come out of the post-Derrida explosion, and after just spending a semester struggling with those theoreticians, I loved seeing their work put to practical, understandable use. One of the best film books I've ever read.

Chris says

This book is amazing for being an interesting interpretation of Hitchcock's films, but also for being damned ballsy in its interpretation too. Sample: The author sees Cary Grant's Roger O Thornhill as a symbol for Christ. Because of his last name. Thorn. Hill. Crown of Thorns. Died on a hill. Crazy!

Daniel says

This is one of the must have books for any serious student of Hitchcock. It will make you see his films in new ways. The author had his own interesting journey from the time of his original book in the '60s to this revision from 1989, and that's reflected as well. Personalities aside, reading Wood's agonizing reappraisal of "Marnie" is worth it for the aficionados. Wood had championed the film as a neglected masterpiece, defending what many feel are the film's flaws as integral to appreciating it. In the interim Donald Spoto's biography of Hitchcock came out, telling the story of what really went on off-camera, and Wood's original comments could not stand. This is that rare volume of academic criticism that's actually worth reading.

CJ Fusco says

Bored with the David Mitchell novel I've been reading, I plucked this analysis of Hitchcock's films off my shelf, where it had been languishing for a couple of years... and read it essentially cover-to-cover in one sitting. Who knew that film scholarship could be so compelling?!

Suzanne says

Really helped me with my Hitchcock class--on the films he analyzes!!
Not all films were covered, but the ones that were, great insight!!

Tracy says

this though....this is GREAT. love robin wood.

Sergio says

A must for any any Hitchcock fan, or film buff.

Megan Lengel says

Though not as enjoyable to read as *A Hitchcock Reader*, the other textbook I used for this class, I greatly enjoyed reading this book, as well!! I think I prefer anthologies in general, as there are different voices to be heard, rather than only one. This book also addressed many topics within films that I was interested in, though this is unique in that it analyzes films in general for the first part of the book, rather than ideas or topics pertaining to Hitchcock and the films themselves. The author does that in the second half of the book. This is a great book for the Hitchcock enthusiast, though the other one was far more intriguing and entertaining in the way it was written.

Teddy Farias says

the first part of it was great...but then author 'revisits' what he wrote years before as if to make a new or fresh point about his critique on Hitchcock's films. why? too technical in the end.

Mark says

Un livre réellement intéressant.
