



Gangsters and G-Men on Screen: Crime Cinema Then and Now

Gene D. Phillips

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While the gangster film may have enjoyed its heyday in the 1930s and '40s, it has remained a movie staple for almost as long as cinema has existed. From the early films of Humphrey Bogart, James Cagney, and Edward G. Robinson to modern versions like *Bugsy*, *Public Enemies*, and *Gangster Squad*, such films capture the brutality of mobs and their leaders.

In *Gangsters and G-Men on Screen: Crime Cinema Then and Now*, Gene D. Phillips revisits some of the most popular and iconic representations of the genre. While this volume offers new perspectives on some established classics—usual suspects like *Little Caesar*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, and *The Godfather Part II*—Phillips also calls attention to some of the unheralded but no less worthy films and filmmakers that represent the genre. Expanding the viewer's notion of what constitutes a gangster film, Phillips offers such unusual choices as *You Only Live Once*, *Key Largo*, *The Lady from Shanghai*, and even the 1949 version of *The Great Gatsby*. Also included in this examination are more recent ventures, such as modern classics *The Grifters* and Martin Scorsese's *The Departed*.

In his analyses, Phillips draws on a number of sources, including personal interviews with directors and other artists and technicians associated with the films he discusses. Of interest to film historians and scholars, *Gangsters and G-Men on Screen* will also appeal to anyone who wants to better understand the films that represent an important contribution to crime cinema.

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