

Francis Ford Coppola: Interviews (Conversations with Filmmakers (Paperback))

From Brand: University Press of Mississippi

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Of all the American filmmakers who emerged from the 1970s, Francis Ford Coppola (b. 1939) may be the one most passionately revered by both critics and mainstream audiences.

The *Godfather* and *The Godfather: Part II* are landmark epics whose shots and dialogue sequences have become wholly absorbed by popular culture. *Apocalypse Now*, his visionary reworking of Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, remains an enduring and controversial template for all future films about the Vietnam War.

Coppola's films featured pivotal roles for such actors as Robert Duvall, Al Pacino, Diane Keaton, Gene Hackman, and Harrison Ford and cemented the reputations of Marlon Brando and Robert De Niro. His production company, American Zoetrope, helped to launch the careers of directors George Lucas, John Milius, and Carroll Ballard.

Francis Ford Coppola: Interviews shows Coppola to be both an intensely personal auteur and a studio-savvy Hollywood player. From the beginning of his career to the present, these conversations reveal him to be brash, candid, sensitive, and willing to engage in heated debate. He reiterates his desire to change the Hollywood system from within and talks openly about the creation of his independent film production company. Featuring interviews conducted by film critics Michael Sragow and Gene D. Phillips and the *New Yorker's* Lillian Ross, among others, the volume shows how Coppola has evolved from hotshot film maverick to elder statesman of American cinema.

Gene D. Phillips, S.J., is a professor of English and film history at Loyola University, Chicago. He is the author of several books on film, including *Godfather: The Intimate Francis Ford Coppola*, and is the editor of *Stanley Kubrick: Interviews* (University Press of Mississippi).

Rodney Hill is a doctoral candidate in theater and film at the University of Kansas, and his work has been published in such periodicals as *Literature/Film Quarterly* and *Post Script*. He cowrote with Gene D. Phillips *The Encyclopedia of Stanley Kubrick.*

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- Sales Rank: #299422 in Books
- Brand: Brand: University Press of Mississippi
- Published on: 2004-09-20
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1

- Dimensions: 9.08" h x .70" w x 6.06" l, .79 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 190 pages

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Editorial Review

From Booklist
Coppola's lofty reputation rests entirely on the remarkable films he made in the 1970s: *The Godfather* and its sequel, the less-heralded masterpiece *The Conversation*, and *Apocalypse Now*. The 10 interviews collected here, drawn from mainstream newspapers and magazines, film journals, and other sources, date from 1968, when Coppola's first studio picture, *Finian's Rainbow*, was near release, to 1997, when he was working on a pedestrian adaptation of a John Grisham novel. Even the most recent interviews concentrate on his early masterworks and give short shrift to his subsequent output, largely uninspired gun-for-hire efforts. A candid, unguarded conversationalist, Coppola always expresses his ambivalence about the Hollywood studio system that both enabled and devastated his career. The centerpiece here is Lillian Ross' lengthy *New Yorker* article centered on the daring 1982 musical *One from the Heart*, a notorious flop that derailed Coppola's career, eventually costing him his independent studio. The early comparisons documented here to fellow wunderkind Orson Welles are prescient; Coppola is a similarly sad case of thwarted talent and largely unrealized potential. *Gordon Flagg*
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From the Publisher
Collected interviews spanning the career of the director of "The Godfather" and "The Godfather: Part II," and "Apocalypse Now"

Features pieces by such prominent writers as Lillian Ross, Michael Sragow, and Gene D. Phillips

Provides comprehensive collection of interviews with Coppola

From the Inside Flap
These interviews show how the director of The Godfather and The Godfather: Part II evolved from hotshot film maverick to elder statesman of American cinema

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jessie Taylor:

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Ross Adams:

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Victor Parisi:

Francis Ford Coppola: Interviews (Conversations with Filmmakers (Paperback)) can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to place every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Francis Ford Coppola: Interviews (Conversations with Filmmakers (Paperback)) nevertheless doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource data that maybe you can be among it. This great information could drawn you into fresh stage of crucial pondering.

Suzanne Robbins:

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