

Contents

1 The Cultural Psychology of Motion Pictures:	
Dreams that Money Can Buy	1
Introduction	1
Psychology in the Cinema.....	3
The Lay of the Land and the Flow of the Stream.....	3
References	28
2 The Aliens in Us and the Aliens Out There:	
Science Fiction in the Movies	31
References	43
3 The Role of Movies and Mental Health	45
Psychiatry and Movies	45
Study Design	48
Approaches to Treatment	49
Kinds of Therapists	51
Serious	51
Exceptional Workers	53
Troubled	57
Eccentric.....	58
Evil	60
Fools.....	61
The Patients Take Over	63
Actors and Their Roles	64
Actors Who Appeared Twice as Therapists	66
Actors Who Appear as Therapist and Patient.....	67
Actors Appearing Most Frequently in Therapy Situation	69
Directors	71
Psychiatry-Related Films in Learning.....	72
Psychiatric Content on Television	73
Some Trends	74
References	75

4 Bedlam in Spyland: Is Bourne Bond?	79
A Pre-history of Treachery and Espionage	79
Film Language	80
From the Page to the Stage and Studio	81
Inventing Society	81
Selling Thrills and Good Guys	82
The Ethos and Style of Hollywood: Entertainments, Markets, and Brand Management	83
The Nature of the Enemy	84
The Enemy and the Hero	84
Actors and Stars: An Excursus	85
Hollywood as America's State Theater: Pathways of the Stars	86
Apocalyptic Change and Cinema	87
The Enemy Defines the Hero	89
Who are the Enemies? Sexual Innuendo and Misogyny	89
Quantum of Solace: Bond Gets Bourne-Like	92
War Mart: Action Heroes for Grown-Ups	92
Bonding and Bondage: The Captive Audience and Long Distance Spying	92
The Flat World of Globalization	93
Spy Land and Gang Land: Film Authenticity and Censorship	94
The Mafia Makes an Offer	95
The Godfather Provenance	96
The Mean Streets: Shock and Awe	97
The Cultural Nostalgia of Nationhood	98
Peddling the Myths of Heroism	98
In The Service of Eros: Dangerous Sexual Liaisons	99
Nihilistic Relativism	99
Conclusions	100
References	101
5 The Cult of Celebrity: How Hollywood Conquered Reality	103
Introduction	103
There's no Business Like Show Business	103
Celebrity Worship	105
The Seditious Joy of Professional Wrestling: Other Types of Stardom and Fame	106
The Debut of Celebrity Types	107
The Degraded Underside of Glamour and Celebrity	108
Celebrities as Commodity Entrepreneurs	109
American Idol, Television, and Literacy at Risk	111
Junk Politics: Attractive Packaging and Political Theater	112
The Most Essential Skill in Political Theater	113
Postscript: The Moral Geography of a Place	114
References	115

6 Life Imitating Art: Organized Crime on Screen	117
Introduction	117
Prohibition	119
World War II and its Aftermath	120
It's Only a Movie	122
Hollywood and Television: The Impact on the Underworld	122
The Godfather Trilogy and the Sopranos Series:	
Panoramas of the American Mafia	124
Changing Times and Changing Crimes: The Gangster	
and the New Underworld	128
From Global Crime to the American Suburbs: TV Wiseguys	131
The Gangster Genre in Film and Television	133
Molls, Mamas, and "Goomadas"	134
Plot Structures and Dramatic Themes	135
References	138
7 Media and Film Influences on Popular Culture.....	143
Influences on Popular Culture.....	143
Mass Media and Law Enforcement	147
Criminal Representations	148
Early Gangster Films and Their Legacies	150
Film Censorship	151
Post-World War II	152
Big City Crime Fighting	153
Impression Management and Public Behavior	154
The Mafia's Monopoly of Mob Movies: Emotional Engineering	155
The War on Organized Crime	158
By Way of a Conclusion	159
References	162
8 Conclusions: The Inventor, the Detective, and the Warrior	165
Three Film Archetypes	165
The Inventor	165
The Warrior	167
The Detective	169
Conclusion	170
Index.....	173