Conceptual Blockbusting Guide Better Ideas

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providing an indispensable resource for students and general readers this book serves as an entry point for a conversation on america s favorite pastime focusing in on generational differences and the evolution of american identity in an age marked by tension and division americans of all ages and backgrounds have turned to film to escape the pressures of everyday life yet beyond escapism popular cinema is both a mirror and microscope for our collective psyche examining the films that have made billions of dollars through a new lens reveals that popular culture is a vital source for understanding what it means to be an american this book is divided into four sections each associated with a different generation featuring such era defining hits as jaws back to the future avatar and the avengers each section presents detailed film analyses that showcase the consistency of certain american values throughout generations as well as the constant renegotiation of others ideal for any cinephile the american blockbuster demonstrates how complex and meaningful even the summer blockbuster can be

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provides an overview of a dynamic and rapidly growing area with a widely applied methodology this handbook covers the historical development of the field and its growing influence and application in other areas it is suitable for advanced undergraduates and postgraduates

ben hur 1959 jaws 1975 avatar 2009 wonder woman 2017 the blockbuster movie has held a dominant position in american popular culture for decades in american blockbuster charles r acland charts the origins impact and dynamics of this most visible entertaining and disparaged cultural form acland narrates how blockbusters emerged from hollywood s turn to a hit driven focus during the industry s business crisis in the 1950s movies became bigger louder and more spectacular they also became prototypes for ideas and commodities associated with the future of technology and culture accelerating the prominence of technological innovation in modern american life acland shows that blockbusters continue to be more than just movies they are industrial strategies and complex cultural machines designed to normalize the ideologies of our technological age

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with more than 130 films and a career spanning four decades klaus kinski 1926 1991 was one of the most controversial actors of his generation known for his wild tantrums on set and his legendary collaborations with auteur werner herzog aguirre the wrath of god 1972 nosferatu the vampyre 1979 kinski s intense performances made him the darling of european arthouse and exploitation horror cinema a genius in front of the camera he was capable of lighting up the most risible films yet behind his public persona lurked a depraved man who

took his art to the darkest extremes this first ever collection of essays focusing on kinski examines his work in exploitation and art house films and spaghetti westerns along with his performances in such cult classics as doctor zhivago 1965 crawlspace 1986 venus in furs 1965 the great silence 1968 android 1982 and his only directorial credit paganini 1989 more than 50 reviews of kinski s films are included along with exclusive interviews with filmmakers and actors who worked with him

includes bibliographical references and index

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