



Film Reviews and Information About Films

To identify films in our library, use the University of Iowa Libraries InfoHawk Catalog. The films in the Main Library are located in Media Services on the west side of first floor.

The information below will help to locate information and reviews of feature-length motion pictures, primarily those made and/or released in the United States. We have several web-accessible databases. The print sources listed in this guide are located at the Reference Desk, on the Reference Index shelves and in the Reference alcoves on first floor, west, in the Main Library.

Electronic Indexes and Databases

Chicago Tribune – Proquest Historical Newspapers (1849-1985) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/proquest/chictrib>)

Index with full-text, documents display in PDF format with photographs and full page views. Includes reviews from Gene Siskel (1969-1985)

EBSCOhost Academic Search Elite (1985 - present) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/ebSCO/academic>)

Indexes more than 3000 periodicals, with full text of articles in more than 2000 periodicals. This is a good place to search for film reviews and articles about the film industry. Updated daily.

FIAF International FilmArchive Database (1972 – present) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/fiaf>)

Includes International Index to Film Periodicals, Treasures from the Film Archives, and International Directory of Film and TV Documentation Collections.

Film & Television Literature Index (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/ebSCO/ftli>)

Covers over 300 journal and magazine titles for film and television reviews, scholarly and critical analysis of cinema and television, and articles of popular interest about film and television. Subject coverage includes film & television theory, preservation & restoration, writing, production, cinematography, technical aspects, and reviews.

Film Index International (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/fii>)

Produced in collaboration with the British Film Institute with a focus on entertainment films and personalities.

Film Literature Index (FLI) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/rd.cgi?http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/fli/index.jsp>)

Indexes 150 film and television periodicals from 30 countries cover-to-cover and 200 other periodicals selectively for articles on film and television. Indexes both scholarly and popular publications.

LexisNexis Academic Universe (date coverage varies) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/lexis/universe>)

Index with full text for 50 major U.S. newspapers, some international newspapers, and some magazines (e.g., *New Yorker*). Includes transcripts of television and radio news programs. Updated daily.

New York Times - Proquest Historical Newspapers (1851 – 2001) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/proquest/nyt>)

Index with full-text, documents display in PDF format with photographs and full page views.

Periodicals Index Online (1800-1991) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/chadwyck/pci>)

Index to magazines in western European languages, searchable by author, title, keyword and subject (for film, s= performing arts).

Readers' Guide Retrospective (1890-1982) (UI access only)

(<http://purl.lib.uiowa.edu/wilson/rgr>)

Index to the most popular general-interest periodicals published in the United States. Does not include any full-text.

Indexes to Periodicals About the Making of Films

Film Literature Index (1973 – 2004) (Z5784.M9 F52 Reference Index shelves) Approximately 260 periodicals are indexed either wholly or selectively in this source which is issued quarterly with an annual cumulation. Authors and subjects are in one alphabetical sequence. Reviews are listed under film title. Online access available, see **Electronic Databases and Indexes** above.

International Index to Film Periodicals (1973 – 2004) (fZ5784.M9 I5 Reference Index shelves) This source indexes approximately 90 film periodicals. Entries are arranged in sections according to broad subject categories. For reviews, look under the film's original title in the "Individual Films" section.

Collections of Film Reviews

Film Review Annual (1981 – 2002) (PN1993.3.F48 Reference) This annual publication reprints entire reviews of full-length films and, in some cases, includes citations to additional reviews.

Magill's Survey of Cinema: English Language Films (1927-1980) (First Series, 4 volumes) (PN1993.45 .M3 Reference) and **Magill's Survey of Cinema: English Language Films** (1928-1981) (Second Series, 6 volumes) (PN1993.45 .M33 Reference) These two series have essay reviews of representative English language films. The first series examines 515 films, and the second series examines 751 films. Volume 6 of the second series contains cumulative indexes to both series.

Magill's Survey of Cinema: Foreign Language Films 8 volumes (to 1984) (Reference PN1993.45 .M34 1985) This series contains critical essays on 700 films originating in languages other than English. Cumulative indexes to the series are in volume 8.

Magill's Survey of Cinema: Silent Films 3 volumes (1902 – 1929) (Reference PN1995.75 .M33) This series contains articles on individual silent films arranged alphabetically by film title. Volume 3 contains cumulative indexes.

Magill's Cinema Annual (1982 – latest) (Reference PN1993.3 .M3) Each annual contains essay reviews of English and foreign language films released in the United States during the year. Citations to additional reviews are given.

The New York Times Film Reviews (1913 – 2000) (Reference fPN1998 .N49) NYTFR contains reprints of reviews from The New York Times. The reviews are arranged chronologically. To find the review, you need the date of its publication, so find the Index volumes. There are title, personal name and corporation indexes.

Variety Film Reviews (1907 – 1996) (Reference fPN1993.V34 1983) Reprints of *Variety* reviews are arranged chronologically, with a title index for 1907-1980 in v.16. The title index for 1981-84 is in volume 18, and title and director indexes for 1985 -1996 are in the back of each volume.

Reference Books and Indexes

DVD & Video Guide (annual) (Reference PN1992.93 V53 annual) Lists feature films available in video formats with dates, ratings, cast, and synopsis.

Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature by Mark Emmons (Reference Z5784.M9 E47 2006) An annotated and comprehensive list of print and electronic sources intended as a starting point for researchers. Covers film and television from the earliest days to 2004 for print and 2005 for Web sites.

Halliwel's Film, Video and DVD Guide (at Reference Desk PN1993.45 H27 annual) Lists feature films by title, with dates, ratings, cast, brief synopsis, video availability.

Halliwel's Who's Who in the Movies, edited by John Walker. (Reference Desk PN1993.45 F5 annual) Names with brief biographical information and filmographies. See appendices for lists of awards, electronic movie resources, chronology.

The Film Encyclopedia by Ephraim Katz. (Reference PN1993.45 K34. 2001) Terminology, concepts, organizations, and people (biographical information for major figures is more extensive, but all biographies have brief information and filmographies).

Film Review Index (1882-1985) (Reference Z5784. M9F54. 1986) Two volumes. Index to film reviews in books and in American and British periodicals. Includes New York Times reviews and Magill's collections of reviews, for example. Additional indexes under year and director.

International Film Index 1895-1990, edited by Alan Goble (Reference fPN1998. G62. 1991) An extensive international list of film titles with release date and director listed.

Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature (1890 – latest) (AI3.R4 Reference Index shelves. Approximately 180 general interest periodicals are indexed. Author and subject entries are in one alphabetical sequence. Look for the subject heading "Motion Picture Review—Single works" to find an alphabetical listing of movies reviewed. In earlier volumes the appropriate heading is "Moving Picture Plays—Criticisms, Plots, etc.—Single Works." Online access available, see **Electronic Databases and Indexes** above – ***Readers' Guide Retrospective***.

Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film, edited by Barry Keith Grant (Reference fPN1993.45 .S35 2007) This four volume set is comprised of more than 16,000 entries. Subtopics include countries, history, philosophies, and more, as well as information on individual films. Contemporary topics, such as "Gay, lesbian and queer cinema," are included along with more traditional entries such as "Teen films" and "Cinematography."

Note: Many other reference books on film are located in Reference, under call numbers PN1990-PN1999.

Locating Periodicals and Newspapers

When you have a citation to a periodical or newspaper article, you will need to find the periodical or newspaper. To determine whether UI Libraries owns a certain newspaper or periodical and/or where the issues you need are located, search the InfoHawk catalog (<http://infohawk.uiowa.edu>) and search under "Title beginning with." If we have an electronic version of the periodical, an "InfoLink" button will be displayed on the record.

Current issues and bound volumes of many of the periodicals devoted exclusively to film are kept in the Permanent Reserve section of the Reserved Book Room, first floor southwest corner of the Main Library. Current issues (last few weeks or months) of most other periodicals are shelved on third floor, northeast, and the bound volumes (back issues) are located on third floor, east. They are shelved alphabetically under the title of the periodical.

Current issues of many newspapers are located in Media Services, and older issues of newspapers are available on microfilm or microfiche in Media Services, Main Library.