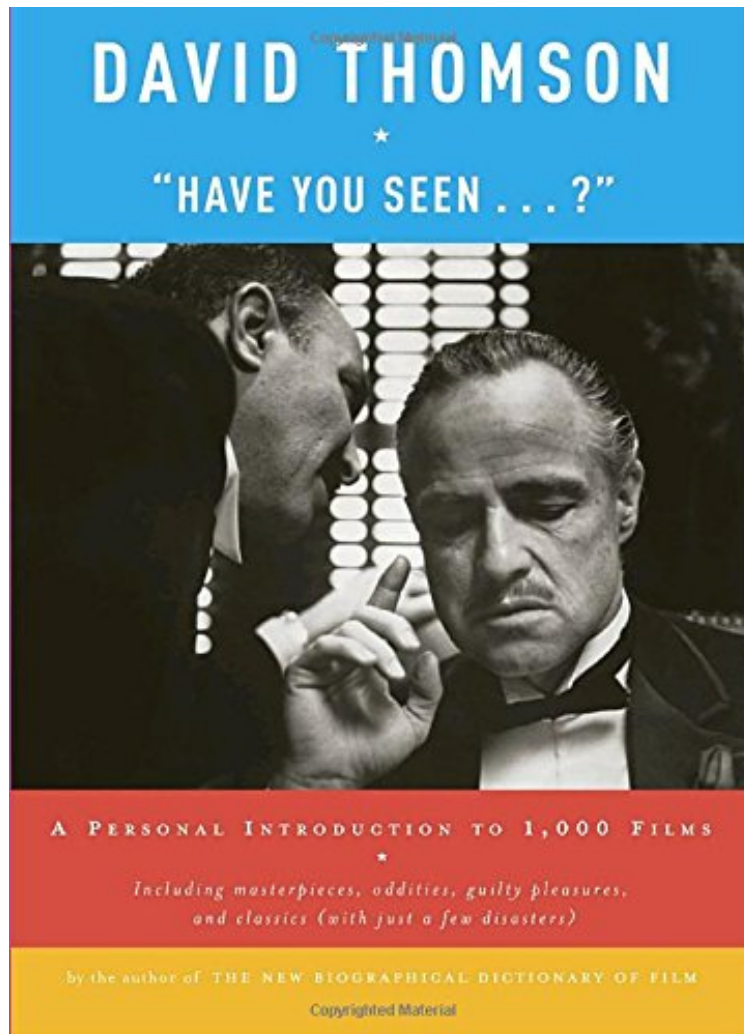


"Have You Seen . . . ?": A Personal Introduction to 1,000 Films

David Thomson

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David Thomson : "Have You Seen . . . ?": A Personal Introduction to 1,000 Films before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised "Have You Seen . . . ?": A Personal Introduction to 1,000 Films:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Interesting and recommended reading for movie fans By Z Hayes I found this book to be a treasure trove of ideas on which films should be on one's must-see list, and yes, one may not agree 100% with Thomson's recommendations (and wonder why some movies were left off the list) but this book still does entertain and inform. The format of the book seems pretty straight-forward with an alphabetical listing of the movies (with the year provided), but I felt the author was remiss in not providing a comprehensive index. There is a chronological index at the back of the book, but none for the main actors, directors, the genre of a movie, etc, which

makes this less user-friendly as a film reference book/guide. Each movie that does make Thomson's list is given a page and the author basically provides his own opinions, insights and commentaries on what make a particular movie appealing and/or worth watching. The writing is concise, candid, and entertaining. I wish there had been more organization in terms of presenting a movie. For example, merely listing the title of the movie and the year of release followed by the commentary is insufficient. I would have appreciated a listing of specifics such as the actors, whether the movie was in color or BW, total running time, the awards won (if any), etc. There are also no illustrations of photographs in the book. On the whole though, this is an interesting read, especially for those who love the movies, like I do. Some other books I'd recommend: Roger Ebert's *Book of Film: From Tolstoy to Tarantino*, the finest writing from a century of film; *1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die*; *The A List: The National Society of Film Critics' 100 Essential Films*. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I Love Movies! By Rick Sherman David Thomson's "Have You Seen...?" gives this movie junkie his fill of movie information! I love the write ups on all the movies telling me which movies I'd enjoy buying/watching! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. essential inspiration for Netflix choices By Marine Architect This is an intellectual view of the films that should be watched. That means that the selected films are not there for relaxation, but to stimulate the mind. It is an excellent compendium and should be viewed as the basis for a decade long investigation via a Netflix account.

More than one thousand pages in the voice of our most provocative contemporary film critic and historian, a generous history of film and an enticing critical appraisal written with as much humor and passion as historical knowledge. Juxtaposing the fanciful and the fabulous, the old favorites and the forgotten, this sweeping collection presents the films that Thomson offers to answer the question he gets asked most often: What should I see? Not content to choose only his own top films, Thomson has created a list that will surprise and delight you and send you to your DVD player. But he also probes the question: After one hundred years of film, which ones are the best, and why? *Have You Seen . . . ?* suggests a true canon of cinema and is a must for anyone who loves the silver screen: the perfect confection to dip into for a taste of controversy, little-known facts, and ideas about what to see. You'll want to return to this volume again and again, like a dear but argumentative friend in the dark at the movies.

.com Best of the Month, October 2008: Having already written (and twice revised) the greatest bathroom book of all time, *The New Biographical Dictionary of Film*, David Thomson has refreshed his encyclopedic and idiosyncratic understanding of movie history to confect another giant slab of candy for anyone who loves movies or just likes to watch a great mind at work. "Have You Seen...?": A Personal Introduction to 1,000 Films is no cobbled collection of old reviews: written fresh from start to finish, Thomson's page-long profiles often ignore plot to focus instead on the people behind the film or the slippery, personal question of what the movie is actually like to watch. And writing about a thousand films pushes him beyond his favorites into more interesting territory: flaws and failures are often his best subjects. You'll want to discover movies you've never heard of before, and rediscover others you thought you knew well. --Tom Nissley From Publishers Weekly Film critic Thomson (*The New Biographical Dictionary of Film*) gives cinephiles and film novices alike a comprehensive yet personal list of 1,000 must-see films. Arranged alphabetically a chronological index is included Thomson's tome opens with a slapstick American comedy (1948's *Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein*) and closes with a social critique from talented Italian director, Antonioni (*Zabriskie Point* from 1970). For Thomson, films are products of both their time and our own, and the act of watching (and re-watching) reminds us that film is a medium where the past perpetually enhances the present. It can't be a coincidence that the oldest entry (1895's *L'Arroseur Arross*) and the newest (2007's *No Country for Old Men*) are both twists on the revenge epic helmed by innovative brothers (the Lumieres and the Coens, respectively). As Thomson points out, Story is as long and twisty as a hose. It goes on forever. (Oct. 15) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Sparks fly off nearly every page . . . [Thomson is] one of our great enthusiasts, a Julia Child for people wanting to get their hands dirty with Netflix. *The New York Times* Book If you're any kind of film fan, *Have You Seen . . . ?* is essential . . . Thomson is, without doubt, the greatest living film historian, archivist, and professional fan. *Los Angeles Times*