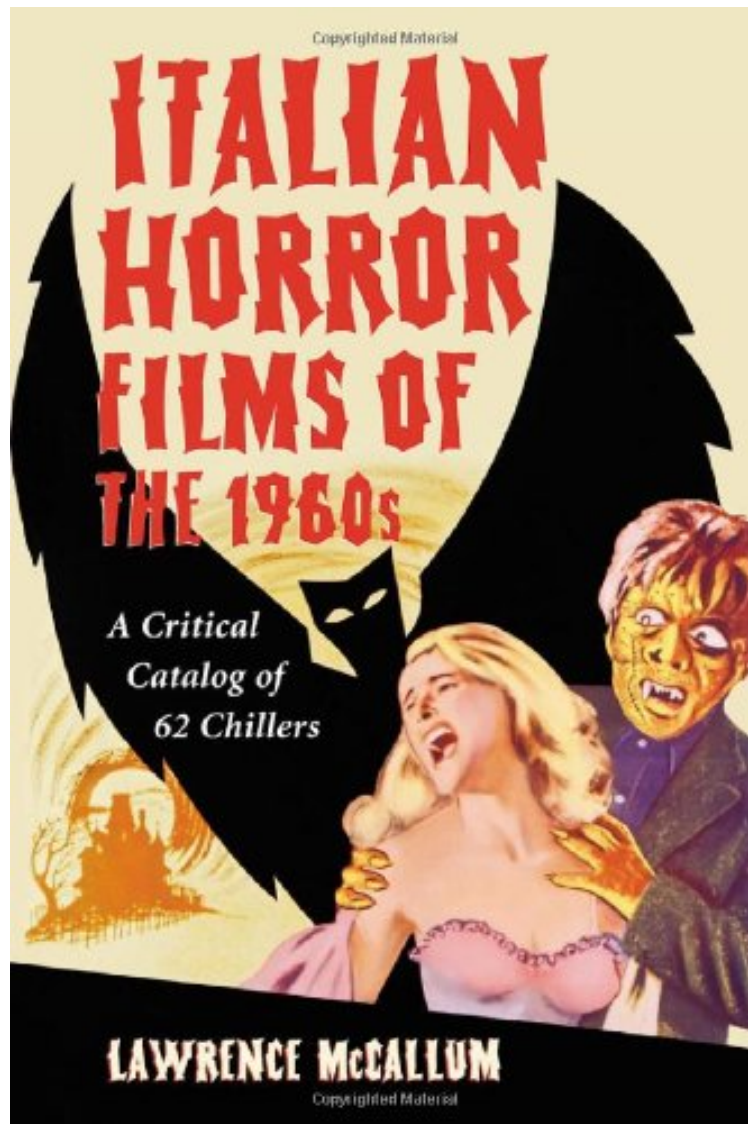


Italian Horror Films of the 1960s: A Critical Catalog of 62 Chillers

Lawrence McCallum

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Lawrence McCallum : Italian Horror Films of the 1960s: A Critical Catalog of 62 Chillers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Italian Horror Films of the 1960s: A Critical Catalog of 62 Chillers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Favorite gift of the day!By CustomerMy son is a die hard vintage Italian Horror Films buff. He loves to read as well so this was the best of both worlds.24 of 26 people found the following review helpful. No Justice for Spagetti GothicsBy Michael W. DraineThe florid, extravagantly stylized fantasies wrought by the Italian film industry in the Sixties exert a dreamlike power that transcends the obvious

deficits of bad dubbing, curiously deadpan acting, and mystifying plots. Such provocative motifs as the fatal woman, aristocratic decadence, possession, and the sinister double assert such a presence in the country's horror cinema as to practically plead for analysis. ITALIAN HORROR FILMS OF THE 1960s is a library-and-VCR research job, offering little more than credit lists, alternate titles, plot descriptions. The author devotes two to nine pages per film, with plot synopsis outweighing criticism by a wide margin. The text is peppered with inaccuracies and glaring typos, such as the attribution of a 1977 release to Wes Craven's SCREAM. Differences between American and Italian cuts are seldom noted, behind-the-scenes information is negligible, and neither dubbing credits, interviews, nor secondary-source quotes are provided. Despite the fecundity of the subject matter, a definitive English-language study of the Golden Age of the Italian horror film remains to be written.⁴ of 19 people found the following review helpful. ITALIAN HORROR FILMS OF THE 1960S By Dave masAKAS AN AFICIONADO OF ITALIAN HORROR, I FEEL THAT MCCALLUM'S BOOK IS ONE HELLUVA EXPERIENCE. HE WRITES SUCCINCTLY AND CLEARLY. HE AVOIDS THE USE OF ESOTERIC TERMINOLOGY THAT CONFUSES PEOPLE AND HELPS NO ONE. TO HELL WITH THE EFFETE SNOBS OF THE MOTION PICTURE INTELLIGENTSIA. DAVE MASAK

Until *I vampiri* (The Vampires) in 1956, Italian filmmakers generally eschewed horror in favor of fantasy films and big screen spectacles. In the 1960s, the subjects became as varied as the filmmakers, ranging from the comic strip flavor of *The Wild, Wild Planet* (1966) to the surrealistic mixture of horror and social commentary of Fellini's "Toby Dammit" segment of *Spirits of the Dead* (1969). Arranged by English title, each entry includes Italian title, studio, running time, year of release, work the film is based on (when appropriate), and cast and credits. These data are followed by a lengthy essay, blending a plot synopsis with critical commentary and behind-the-scenes information.

"intriguing...terrifically, well-thought out analysis...critical comments are very enjoyable...a good addition to your library"--Classic Images; "encompasses the entire spectrum of Italian horror productions of the 1960s"--ARBA; "entertaining, scholarly"--Brutarian Quarterly; "Italian horror films were notable for casting some of Europe's most beautiful and sensuous women...McCallum really won my heart"--Monsters from the Vault; "detailed credits and critiques...thorough study"--Interzone; "McCallum demonstrates an enviable knowledge of Italian cinema"--Scarlet Street; "recommended...a fun evening's read"--Little Shoppe of Horrors; "fabulous"--bare-bones; "McCallum has given us a map to this neglected segment of horror history...a good primer for those who are new to the genre...writing is solid and often entertaining"--CultureDose.com; "useful"--Reference Research Book News. About the Author The late Lawrence McCallum wrote for *Filmfax*, *Scary Monsters* and *The Scream Factory*.