

Japanese Film Directors

Audie Bock

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Audie Bock : Japanese Film Directors before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japanese Film Directors:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great IntroductionBy Patrick Mc CoyAudi Bock's out of print book, Japanese Film Directors, still has a lot of relevance even though it isn't up to date anymore-it was originally published in 1978. It is a useful reference and introduction to the films of Japan's master film directors. Bock is also known as the translator of Akira Kurosawa's biography Something Like A Biography. There are three sections in which Bock discussed the careers and influence of several directors in each section from the prewar 30s, postwar mid-50s and late 60s. The first section is "Early Masters" and Bock gives an in-depth look at the films of Kenji Mizoguchi, Yasujiro Ozu, and Mikio Naruse. I haven't explored the films of Mizoguchi or Naruse yet, and feel compelled to do so after reading the chapters on the directors-Mizoguchi in particular comes across as an interesting character. The next section looks at "The Postwar Humanists": Akira Kurosawa, Kesuke Kinoshita, Kon Ichikawa, and Masaki Kobayashi. Again I am compelled to search out films by the directors I am largely unfamiliar with: Kinoshita, Ichikawa, and Kobayayshi. The final section is "The New Wave And After" focuses on the films of Shohei Imamura, Nagisa Oshima, and Masahiro Shinoda. Shinoda is the only director of the three that I haven't seen a film by, but again feel compelled to search out some films by him. It is a good introduction to the films of the Japan's 20th century masters of film.4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. What a treasure!By E.D.At a San Francisco Film festival some years ago Akira Kurosawa was being interviewed and as his English was almost non-existent he had a translator. It was the perfect person to do this, Audie Bock! I had been looking for this book then, and it took until this year to get a

copy of my own. It may seem it would be out of date, but that's the beauty of film, the films still exist, the lessons can still be learned. It should be a film school text book and more available!!! Coppola, Lucas, Scorsese and so many legendary film makers have study these directors works and admired them. This is the go to book on early Japanese film. Hope you can find a copy for yourself, mine stays with me until the Will is read! I had the advantage of living in Japan and the other islands off and on until college so I was familiar with many of them, but this book opened up so much more for me. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Remains the best book on the subject By Joseph W. Hlebica Though a generation has passed since Audie Bock's encyclopaedic guidebook to the acknowledged masters of Japanese cinema was first published, it remains unchallenged for preeminence in the field. Not even the widely recognized American expert on Japanese film, Donald Richie, has managed to surpass it, and with all due respect, Richie has had the benefit of a longer career and a great many more publications. There's just something about Bock's pocketbook format and encyclopaedic content that makes this book one to go back to again and again. This book is to Japanese films what the Golden Field Guides are to birds or seashore critters. I have been consulting my copy for almost 30 years, and I'm always discovering something new among its yellowed and worn pages. The detailed filmographies are especially helpful.

Taking ten filmmakers, such as Oshima and Kurosawa, and following their caree chronologically has resulted in a history of Japanese film as well as a stud of each master.