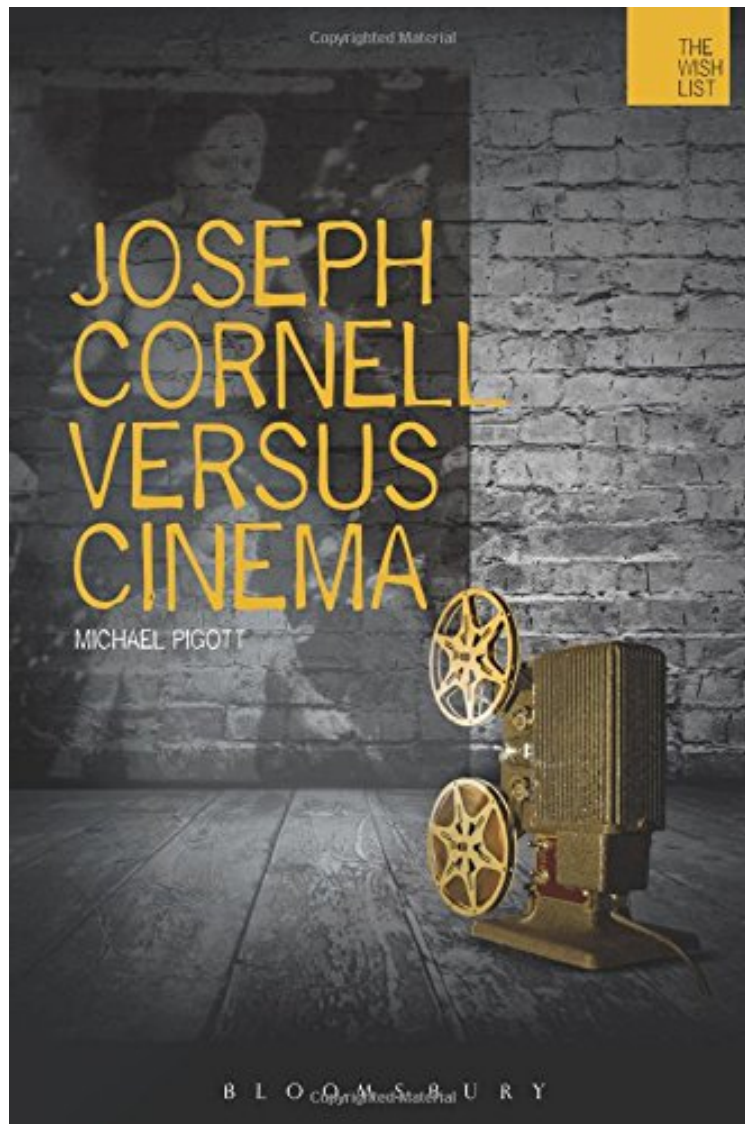


(Mobile book) Joseph Cornell Versus Cinema (The WISH List)

Joseph Cornell Versus Cinema (The WISH List)

Michael Pigott

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Michael Pigott : Joseph Cornell Versus Cinema (The WISH List) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joseph Cornell Versus Cinema (The WISH List):

Joseph Cornell is one of the most significant American artists of the 20th century. His work is highly visible in the world's most prestigious galleries, including the Tate Modern and MOMA. His famous boxes and his collage work have been admired and widely studied. However, Cornell also produced an extraordinary body of film work, a serious

contribution to 20th-century avant-garde cinema, and this has been much less examined. In this book, Michael Piggott makes the case for the significance of Joseph Cornell's films. This is an important contribution to our knowledge of 20th-century culture for scholars and students of film and art history and American studies and for all those interested in pop culture, celebrity and fandom.

Compared to other aspects of Joseph Cornell's art practice, remarkably little has been written about his films. Michael Piggott, in his rich and provocative engagement with these screen works, suggests that this critical silence "arises at least partly from the difficulty in accounting for [them] within contemporary frameworks." These are films, he argues, that operate as "solutions to problems that have only now become apparent as such"-films whose significance and resonance we can now, from the vantage point of intervening decades, begin to unpack. Drawing inspiration from (among others) Siegfried Zielinski's notion of an archaeology and Michel Foucault's archaeological investigations of sociocultural stutters and abrasions, Piggott proposes positioning Cornell as a central figure in "an alternate history of the twentieth century." In this Cornelian century, the filmmaker takes his rightful place as a key antecedent of, or influential figure within, numerous movements or strains of practice: "revelationist" film, remix culture, slow cinema. *Cinema Journal*

About the Author Michael Piggott is Assistant Professor of Video Art and Digital Media, a post shared equally across the departments of History of Art, Film and Television Studies and the School of Theatre, Performance and Cultural Policy Studies at the University of Warwick, UK.