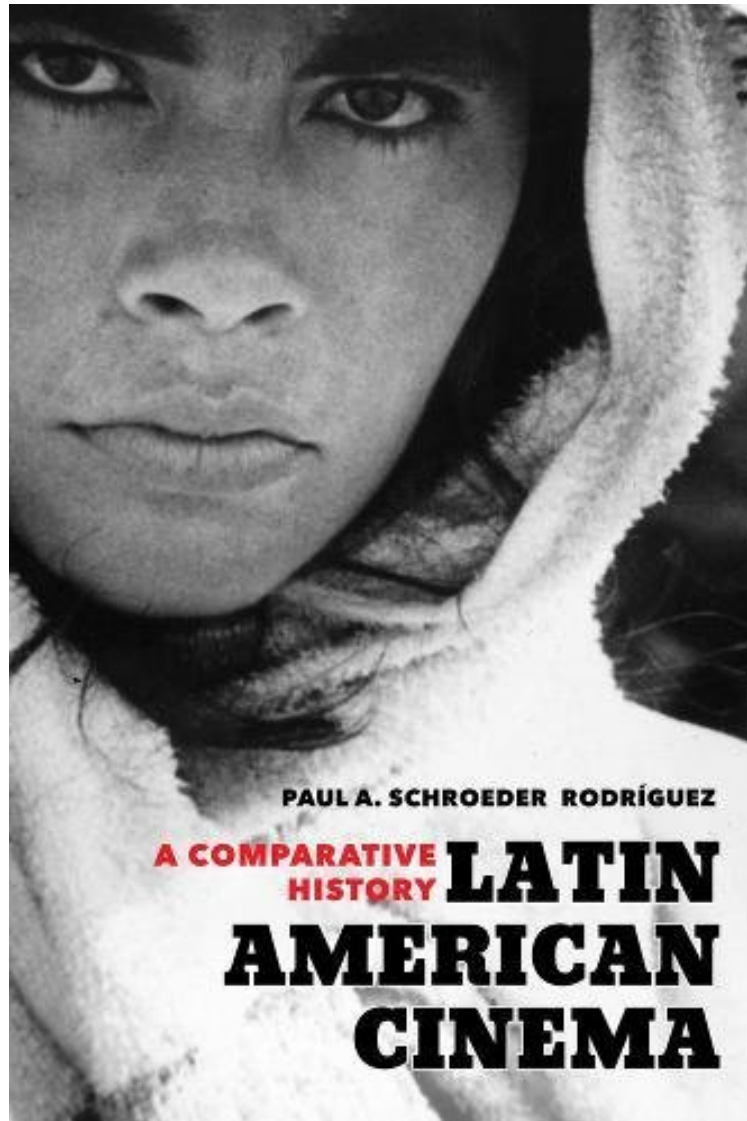


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## Latin American Cinema: A Comparative History

*Paul A. Schroeder Rodriguez*

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**Paul A. Schroeder Rodriguez : Latin American Cinema: A Comparative History** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Latin American Cinema: A Comparative History:

This book charts a comparative history of Latin Americas national cinemas through ten chapters that cover every major cinematic period in the region: silent cinema, studio cinema, neorealism and art cinema, the New Latin American Cinema, and contemporary cinema. Schroeder Rodriguez weaves close readings of approximately fifty

paradigmatic films into a lucid narrative history that is rigorous in its scholarship and framed by a compelling theorization of the multiple discourses of modernity. The result is an essential guide that promises to transform our understanding of the regions cultural history in the last hundred years by highlighting how key players such as the church and the state have affected cinemas unique ability to help shape public discourse and construct modern identities in a region marked by ongoing struggles for social justice and liberation.

"The comparative approach here serves not to erase the specificities of national experience in favour of some sort of homogenous Pan-American depiction of cinemas role in Latin America. Rather, it allows a nuanced understanding of the wider ideological developments that underscored the shifts in cinema across the region. It also allows the author eloquently to bring together local, national, and transnational productions in what he refers to as a triangulated view of cinemas trajectory in the region."