

Cinematic Mythmaking

Philosophy in Film

Irving Singer

The MIT Press
Cambridge, Massachusetts
London, England

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This book was set in Palatino by Graphic Composition, Inc. and was printed and bound in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Singer, Irving.

Cinematic mythmaking : philosophy in film / Irving Singer.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-262-19589-8 (hardcover : alk. paper) 1. Myth in motion pictures.

I. Title.

PN1995.9.M96S56 2008

791.43'615—dc22

2008017023

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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In *Cinematic Mythmaking*, Irving Singer explores the hidden and overt use of myth in various films and, in general, the philosophical elements of a film's meaning. Mythological themes, Singer writes, perform a crucial role in cinematic art and even philosophy itself. Singer incisively disentangles the strands of different myths in the films he discusses. In *Cinematic Mythmaking: Philosophy in Film*, Irving Singer continues his philosophical exploration of the nature of love by posing the interesting question: How do movies modernize mythology.Â *Cinematic Mythmaking* is an important addition to Irving Singer's on-going studies of the art of the filmmaker as an exploration of perennial philosophic questions embodied in a new imaginative form. At other times, Singer's evident love of cinema leads him into special pleading, as when he claims that certain cinematic techniques such as montage, which compress or distort time, are therefore "inherently mythical" (Singer's italics). Nor is he always as tolerantly unpreceptive as his prefatory note might suggest.