

Contents

INTRODUCTION: OTHER ROADS, OTHER TRACKS xv

1942–1947

With Camera and Gun	3
Three's a Crowd	4
The Little Fellow	6
Gabin in Hollywood	7
Blaboteur	9
The Naked Truth	10
Not by the Book	11
War Horses	13
Hollywood Blues	15
Saccharine Symphony	16
The Grapes, Alas	18
True and False	19
Gehrig to Cooper to Chance	21
Twice Over Heavily	22
A British Movie Biography	24
Real War	26
The Logic of Lunacy	27
Memorandum for Hollywood	28
Black Tails and White Lies	30
Fiction and Fact	31
The Movie Art	33
Between Two Worlds	34
The Journey, Cont.	36
Witches' Brew	37
The Warner Boys in Africa	38
Preston Sturges: Satirist	40
Movie of the Year	42
Children's War	44
Mystery Movie	46
Our Town	47
History and Hollywood	49
Hitchcock in Stride	51
Wartime Documentaries	53
The Heroes of the Mary Ann	54
To What Base Uses	56
Native Fascist, MGM Style	57
The Too Beautiful People	59
Young Mr. Pitt	60
"The Hard Way"	62
Zanuck at the Front	63
One for the Ages	65

The Trouble with Movies	66
Writers as Producers	67
The Nazis Again	69
Mishmash	70
Let Us Now Praise Movies	72
Less Talk and More Mail	74
Education for War	76
The Trouble With Movies: II	78
The Sea Without Salt	80
The Expendables	81
Columbia Cooler	83
The Great White Way	84
Between Two Words	86
Tinkle	88
When the Pie Was Opened	91
The Production Line	92
Method in Its Badness	95
Tessa's Last Stand?	97
Seeing Zero	98
Not So Sound as Furious	100
Parting Is Such Sweet Sorrow	102
Short and Happy	103
Love in the Foxholes	106
Exterior Decorating	107
Russian Victory	109
The Hero	111
The Perils of Tartu	114
Whimsy Gets the Whammy	115
The Cardboard Star	117
Two Shorts and a Wrongo	119
Newsreel	121
Heaven, American Style	123
"The Cross of Lorraine"	125
Movies in Wartime	127
Earth on Heaven	136
Among the Missing: Hitchcock	138
Pow, Bam and Sock	141
Theatrical Movies	143
The Happiness Boys	145
The Great Cardboard Event	147
Two Phantoms	149
B Plus	150
Hate for Sale	152
Men in Battle	154
The Lady and the Belle	155
Up from Slavery	157
The Great Brain Robbery	159
Fathers and Songs	161
Personnel Department	162

Creep House	164
Boys in the Back Room	166
Quick Dissolve	167
Andersen's Fairy Tale	169
The Unholy Three	171
Three New Ones	173
Warners' Boys in the Balkans	174
Home Sweet Home	176
Hard-as-Nails Dept.	178
The Water's Fine	180
It Comes Up Corn	181
For He's a Jolly, Good Fellow	183
To Be and Not to Be	186
Independents' Day	188
The Straight and Narrow	190
Against the Grain	191
More Notes on Newsreels	193
Marie the Magician	195
Murdered Movie	197
The Red and the Black	198
The Miracle of Morton	200
B-Plus	202
Rich Creamy Lather	204
Flesh and Enamel	206
To Have and Have Not	208
The Case of the Hidden Camera	210
Day of Reckoning	212
Just Plain Folks	214
Crazy Over Horses	216
Fact and Application	217
The Gold Rush	219
Crime Does Pay	221
Close Shave in Burma	223
The Brooklyn Dodger	224
Petrified Youth	226
Through Thin and Thick	228
Returning Soldiers	230
Sweet and Low	232
Four Flats	234
Dream Furlough	236
Skin Deep	238
Signs of the Double-Cross	240
Seven Who Were Harangued	242
Plenty of Nothin'	243
War Without Glamour	245
Gag Rule	247
The Hard Way	249
Postwar Movies	251
Coat of Navy Goo	254

The Hour of Charm	255
Renoir on Tenant Farmers	257
Dark Victory	258
Psychological Melodrama	260
Suburban Badlands	262
Drooping Spirits	264
Dream Manors	265
Liquor Flicker	267
Hamburger Hell	269
Make Mine Muzak	271
Crime Without Passion	273
French Primitive	275
Olivier's "Henry V"	277
"Open City"	278
At Home Abroad	280
Hellman's Movietone News	281
Iverstown Slaughter	283
Hollywood Barnum	285
Journey into the Night	287
Caper of the Week	289
Middle-Aged Fling	290
Maya Deren's Films	292
"The Well-Digger's Daughter"	293
Very Sweet Sixteen	295
Twisted Terry	296
Paranoia Unlimited	297
Nervous from the Service	298
Never Sharp	300
Portrait of the Artist	301
Dixie Corn	303
Stranglers and Treadors	305
Mugging Main Street	307

1949–1954

Fight Films	313
Home of the Brave	315
John Huston	317
[<i>Devil in the Flesh</i>]	321
[The "Psychiatry Movie"]	323
[<i>Lost Boundaries</i>]	325
[<i>The Great Gatsby</i>]	327
The Third Man	329
Frank Capra	332
["movies are <i>worse</i> than ever"]	334
[<i>The Men; Panic in the Streets</i>]	336
[<i>Sunset Boulevard</i>]	337
Ugly Spotting	339
[<i>Ways of Love; Oliver Twist; Manon; Union Station; etc.</i>]	341

[<i>Born Yesterday; The Magnificent Yankee; Branded; Operation Disaster</i>]	344
[<i>The Sound of Fury</i>]	345
[<i>Teresa; The Magnet; I'd Climb the Highest Mountain</i>]	347
[<i>Fourteen Hours</i>]	349
Val Lewton	351
[<i>The Thing; The Brave Bulls; The Scarf; The Bullfighter and the Lady; Appointment With Danger</i>]	354
[<i>A Place in the Sun</i>]	356
[<i>The Frogmen; Ace in the Hole; M; He Ran All the Way</i>]	357
[<i>Strangers on a Train</i>]	359
[<i>Bright Victory; The Well; Take Care of My Little Girl; Night Into Morning</i>]	361
[<i>That's My Boy; Women Without Names</i>]	362
[<i>Force of Arms</i>]	364
[<i>People Will Talk; Saturday's Hero</i>]	366
[<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>]	369
[<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>]	370
Detective Story	372
"Best Films" of 1951	374
[<i>Miracle in Milan; Rashomon; I Want You; Behave Yourself; etc.</i>]	376
[<i>My Son John; The Big Night; On Dangerous Ground</i>]	378
[<i>Boots Malone</i>]	380
[<i>In the Street; High Noon; The Marrying Kind; The Fighter</i>]	382
[<i>Carrie; Outcast of the Islands</i>]	384
[<i>The Sniper; The Pride of Saint Louis</i>]	387
The Gimp	388
[<i>Walk East on Beacon</i>]	398
[<i>Clash By Night</i>]	400
[<i>Pat and Mike; The Ring; Shadow in the Sky</i>]	402
[<i>Don't Bother to Knock, Glory Alley; Olympics newsreels</i>]	404
Parade Floats	406
[<i>The Leopard Man, My Man and I; Young Man with Ideas; Sudden Fear; The Big Sky; etc.</i>]	410
[<i>Apex Hotel; This Is Cinerama; What Price Glory?; The Happy Time</i>]	412
[<i>Limelight</i>]	414
[<i>Come Back Little Sheba; The Thief; The Lusty Men; Kansas City Confidential; The Four Poster</i>]	416
[<i>The Promoter; Park Row; Thunder in the East; O. Henry's Full House</i>]	418
[<i>The Turning Point; Peter Pan; The Steel Trap; Babes in Bagdad</i>]	420
Blame the Audience	423
[<i>My Cousin Rachel; Above and Beyond; Jeux Interdits</i>]	425
[Best films of 1952]	428
[<i>The Member of the Wedding</i>]	430
[<i>The Little World of Don Camillo; Niagara; Taxi; Curtain Up</i>]	431
[<i>Moulin Rouge</i>]	433
[<i>The Naked Spur; Jeopardy</i>]	435

[<i>Destination Gobi</i> ; <i>I Confess</i> ; <i>The President's Lady</i> ; <i>Angel Face</i>]	436
[<i>Off Limits</i>]	438
[<i>Bright Road</i>]	439
[Times Square Audiences; <i>The Moon Is Blue</i>]	440
[<i>Stalag 17</i> ; etc.]	442
[3-D Films; <i>Second Chance</i> ; <i>The Band Wagon</i> ; <i>Night Without Stars</i> ; <i>From Here to Eternity</i>]	444
[<i>From Here to Eternity</i> ; <i>The Cruel Sea</i>]	446
[<i>Roman Holiday</i> ; <i>The Beggar's Opera</i>]	448
[<i>Martin Luther</i> ; <i>Island in the Sky</i> ; <i>99 River Street</i>]	449
[<i>The Robe</i>]	451
[<i>Little Fugitive</i>]	453
[<i>The Joe Louis Story</i> ; <i>The Big Heat</i> ; <i>Mogambo</i> ; etc.]	454
[<i>The Living Desert</i> ; <i>How to Marry a Millionaire</i> ; <i>The Man Between</i>]	456
[Movie gimmicks; seven films of 1953]	457
Preston Sturges: Success in the Movies	460

1957–1977

Hard-Sell Cinema	477
Underground Films	486
Nearer My Agee to Thee	497
Bathroom Mirror Sinceratease	500
Hollywood's New Peepshow Naturalism	502
'That's It, Boy. I Mean, That's It.'	504
Three Art-y Films	506
Home Screen Jabberwocky	509
Underground Magic, Eccentric Vitality and Artful Direction Salvage Banal Stories	512
Big-Studio 'Supers'—Monumental Art Baked in a Pittsburgh Blast Furnace	515
Getting Inside 'Inside Humor'	519
Hollywood's Plot Against the Plot	522
Compromise in a Closed Medium	524
Wild 'Wild Strawberries'	526
Corny Anti-Philistinism	528
Culture With a Price Tag	530
A Director's Skill With Terror, Geography and Truth	532
White Elephant Art vs. Termite Art	533
The Decline of the Actor	542
Nearer My Agee to Thee	550
[<i>The Married Woman</i>]	553
The Wizard of Gauze	555
Pish-Tush	559
The Cold That Came Into the Spy	562
Day of the Lesteroid	566
Lambs Without Mary / Lumet Looms Again	570
The Subverters	573
Rain in the Face, Dry Gulch, and Squalling Mouth	576

[<i>Red Desert; Mademoiselle; A Man and a Woman; Masculine Feminine</i>]	580	
New York Film Festival: 1967	584	
Cartooned Hip Acting	588	
How I Won the War	592	
Experimental Films	596	
One-to-One	599	
Clutter	602	
<i>La Chinoise</i> and <i>Belle de Jour</i>	615	
Carbonated Dyspepsia	620	
Jean-Luc Godard	626	
New York Film Festival: 1968	633	
New York Film Festival 1968, Afterthoughts	637	
Canadian Underground	642	
Films at Canadian Artists '68	647	
Shame	651	
Howard Hawks	635	
[<i>Two Rode Together; Coogan's Bluff; Bullitt; etc.</i>]	658	
Luis Buñuel	662	
Samuel Fuller	668	
New York Film Festival: 1969	671	
Don Siegel	675	
Michael Snow	678	
[Ten best films of 1969]	680	
[<i>Loving; Zabriskie Point; Topaz; The Damned; Au Hasard Balthazar</i>]	684	
[Ozu's films]	688	
Introduction to <i>Negative Space</i>	691	
Raoul Walsh	698	
The Venice Film Festival	704	
Werner Herzog	711	
The New Breed of Filmmakers: A Multiplication of Myths	716	
Rainer Werner Fassbinder	721	
<i>Nashville: Good Ole Country Porn</i>	727	
Nicolas Roeg	731	
<i>Badlands, Mean Streets, and The Wind and the Lion</i>	738	
New York Film Festival: 1975	745	
The Power and the Gory	752	
Kitchen Without Kitsch	762	
Munich Films, 1967–1977: Ten Years That Shook the Film World	770	
APPENDIX		
Mrs. Parsons, etc.	773	
The Hidden and the Plain	775	
<i>Timeline</i>	779	
<i>Sources & Acknowledgments</i>	786	
<i>Notes</i>	790	
<i>Index</i>	799	