

Movies and Mass Culture
Edited by John Belton

The essays in *Movies and Mass Culture* examine the two-way process, of action and reaction, by which films shape the identity of society, its culture and its sense of nationhood; and, in turn, how films are themselves shaped by these forces and matrices. The nation here is America, in which films both effect and reflect changes in the national self-image, the transformation from one kind of nation to another: from an agrarian to an industrial economy; from a nation of producers to one of consumers; from a community of individuals to a mass society.

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