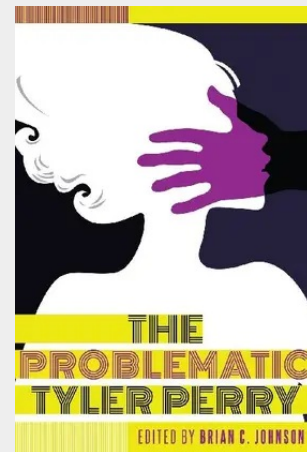


The Problematic Tyler Perry

For the past decade or more, few Hollywood stars have experienced a more meteoric rise than Tyler Perry. As much as he is lauded by fans, Perry is panned by cultural critics who reject his work as overtly preachy and rife with racially stereotypical characterizations and controversial themes. This book explores the vast chasm between his fans' adoration and the critical reception of his work: while some argue that Perry's brand of 'blackness' is little more than buffoonery, others claim he offers representations that are missing in entertainment choices, especially among niche audiences. He is applauded by some for offering films and television shows that are 'good entertainment', while others label his work trashy. He can be seen either as an oracle whose morality plays provide a gospel message of family healing, or as an actor with a misaligned worldview. This book asks: what are we to do with the 'problem' of Tyler Perry?

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45,65 €

42,66 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9781433130182

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-1-4331-3018-2

Verlag: Peter Lang

Erscheinungstermin: 24.02.2016

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: 1. Auflage 2016

Serie: Black studies & critical thinking

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 368 g

Seiten: 251

Format (B x H): 150 x 225 mm

