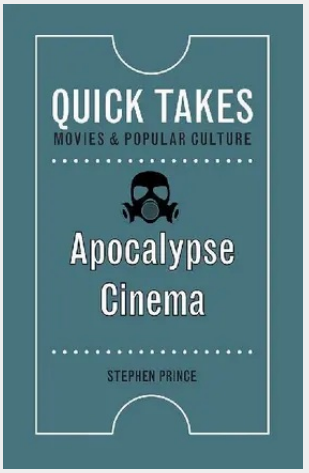
Rutgers University Press

Apocalypse Cinema



Movie audiences know exactly how the world will end because popular cinema has never stopped rehearsing the apocalypse. In this clear, concise account, Stephen Prince illuminates the appeal of apocalypse cinema, its roots in literary and religious tradition, its presence throughout cinema history, and the existential fears and anxieties that motivate it. In four elegant chapters, Prince examines the key threats to human existence that bring about world's end – collisions with giant asteroids, invasions by planet-devouring aliens, nuclear war, global warming and deadly pandemics. Touching on films ranging from The End of the World (1916), The Rapture (1991), Signs (2002), Armageddon (1998), Deep Impact (1998), Melancholia (2011), These Final Hours (2015), The War of the Worlds (1953), Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956), Independence Day (1996), Annihilation (2018), Avengers: Infinity War (2018), Avengers: Endgame (2019) and many more, Apocalypse Cinema shows how apocalypse movies explore fundamental questions of existence that never go out of fashion.

Vivid images of the apocalypse proliferate throughout contemporary cinema, which pictures the death of civilization in wildly different ways. Some films imagine a future where humanity is wiped out entirely, while others envision humans as an endangered species, enslaved by alien invaders or hunted by zombie hordes.

This book provides a lively overview of apocalypse cinema, including alien invasions, nuclear annihilation, asteroid collisions, climate change, and terrifying plagues. Covering pivotal films from the silent era to the present day, including *Metropolis*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, *Dr. Strangelove*, *Contagion*, and *Avengers: Endgame*, Stephen Prince explores how these dark visions are rooted in religious and prophetic traditions, and he considers how our love for apocalypse cinema is tied to fundamental existential questions and anxieties that never go out of fashion.

64,50 €
64,50 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Nicht mehr lieferbar

Artikelnummer: 9781978819856
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-1-9788-1985-6
Verlag: Rutgers University Press
Erscheinungstermin: 16.07.2021
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2021
Serie: Quick Takes: Movies and Popular Culture
Produktform: Gebunden
Gewicht: 210 g
Seiten: 114
Format (B x H): 116 x 180 mm

Kundenservice Verlag Dr. Otto Schmidt KG
Neumannstraße 10, 40235 Düsseldorf | kundenservice@otto-schmidt.de | 0221-93738-997 (Inland)