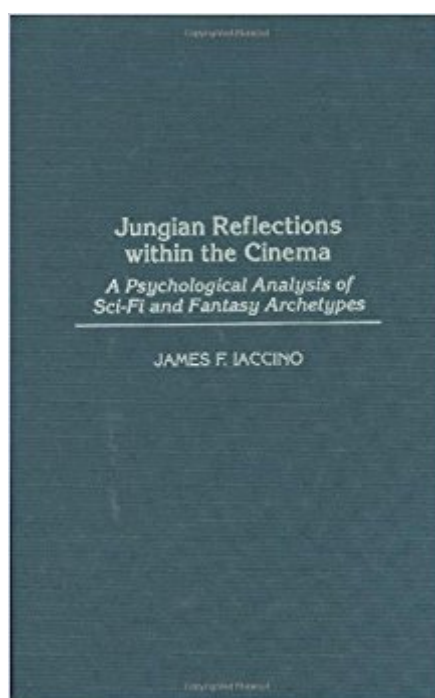


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Jungian Reflections Within The Cinema: A Psychological Analysis Of Sci-Fi And Fantasy Archetypes (Events Of The Twentieth Century)



Synopsis

Exploring the relevance of Jungian theory as it applies to science fiction, horror and fantasy films, this text demonstrates the remarkable correlation existing between Jung's major archetypes and recurring themes in various film genres. An introduction acquaints readers with basic Jungian theory archetypes before proceeding to film analysis. A diverse selection of movie and television summaries illustrate the relationship between a particular Jungian image and the examined films. Among the various Jungian patterns studied are the father archetype, the split between persona and shadow, the search for the grail, the alchemist traveler, and the development of the child archetype. From Star Wars and Planet of the Apes to Back to the Future and Indiana Jones, the interdependence of Jungian theory and film themes and contents unfold. Creative and innovative, this text unearths new Jungian territory that will appeal not only to psychology and film studies scholars and researchers, but also to those studying communication and literature.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Recommended for all students of film and psychology at all levels."-Choice? Recommended for all students of film and psychology at all levels.?-Choice

JAMES F. IACCINO is Professor of Psychology at Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois. Extensive publications in psychology include his recent title, Psychological Reflections on Cinematic Terror (Praeger, 1994) and his comprehensive physiological text, Left Brain-Right Brain Differences:

Inquiries, Evidence, New Approaches (1993).

Great book - exactly what I was looking for!!

I found the correlations between Jung's archetypes & the sci-fi film contents to be striking. As I read through the text, I found that there was a great deal more in Star Wars than I first thought. Its more than just a series about good and evil. Its also about a farmboy who comes of age to become one of the greatest Jedi Knights in the galaxy...but first he must reconcile the bad relations he has with his apparently deceased father, Anakin Skywalker. I didn't realize just how much of the father-son relationship (or lack of one) permeated the movie until I read Iaccino's approach to Star Wars. But Iaccino doesn't stop there. Each Chapter is full of useful information and psychoanalysis. For instance, Iaccino links all of the Star Trek films around the Creator archetype; Battlestar: Galactica & Logan's Run are flights away from robotic races & computer-controlled societies; the Back to the Future trilogy is all about alchemic travelers who find their place in society; Superman and Batman have to come to terms with their divided natures or become psychotic in the process; Indiana Jones & The Highlander are on quests to find their own Grails; demon children abound in The Omen & Its Alive. Wow! I can hardly wait for Iaccino's next text. If you are a lover of classic sci-fi or are interested in a new psychological approach to an old topic, you must read this text. I also refer you to an earlier work of Iaccino's, Psychological Reflections of Cinematic Terror (also published by Praeger press). Good job, Dr. Iaccino.

This book does a good job to describe the major Jungian archetypes in the beginning, but in actually uncovering and explaining them in various movies (etc.) it falls a bit short. The book seems to provide plot summaries more than psychoanalytical explanations (how many of us need a description of what really happens in star wars??!!) You should buy it if you are new to both Jung and Sci Fi, and if not both then borrow this book from your library!!

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