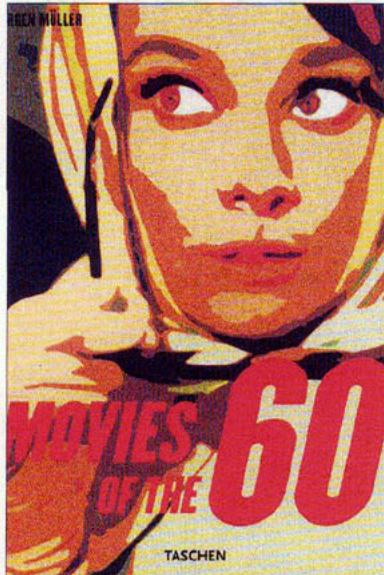


MOVIES OF THE '60s

Jürgen Müller, Taschen, STBC, 642 pages



THE FOURTH IN TASCHEN'S SERIES OF PICTURE-heavy decadal studies, *Movies Of The '60s* follows the same successful format as the other books in the series. Superb pictures including remarkable seldom-seen shots, decent thumbnail sketches, a brave selection of films - it's all here, bound in an annoyingly limp cover which is one of the few faults with this truly epic tome.

The book's other failings are almost all entirely subjective. Some might wonder how you can write a book on the cinema of the 1960s without including the superb caper movie *The Italian Job* or the superb surrealist gangster film *Performance*, but others

wouldn't notice let alone care about their absence. The absence of some of the period's most popular films also tempts fate (*M*A*S*H* and *The Lion In Winter* are both completely overlooked), but in the final balance, Jürgen Müller's idiosyncratic approach to film selection is more attractive than another trek through the often safe and frequently boring films that received Best Picture nominations (all of which said, the book's year-by-year guide to the Academy Awards is very useful).

The extent of Müller's eclectic, eccentric taste is highlighted by his choices for the year, which include the underrated Spaghetti Western *Django*, the Peter Fonda motorcycle movie *The Wild Angels*, and the fun-

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if-hokey sci-fi thriller *Fantastic Voyage*. And while the photo selection is inspired, Müller's text also contains many gems, including a tribute to Ursula Andress and a piece on whatever became of Steve McQueen's ex-wife, the model and actress Ali MacGraw.

A compendium of remarkable pictures (highlights include the "team photo" for Disney's *The Jungle Book* and a nightcap-sporting David Niven from 007 spoof *Casino Royale*) and concise reviews topped off with some choice lines of dialogue and revealing reviews, *Movies Of The '60s* is a pleasure to spend time with, like a good friend or a great movie. ★★★★★

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