

The Lust Picture Show

Putting the buff in film-buff, this lavishly illustrated volume catalogues the history of on-screen carnality. Organised by amorous activities, from kissing to cunnilingus, sodomy to sadomasochism, incest to orgies and finally even plain old vanilla intercourse, the text seems dedicated to mentioning as many movies as possible — both mainstream and obscure — as if author Keesey's own fetish is for film itself.

He describes examples from the earliest silents through the glamorous golden age of Garbo and Gable to current explicit arthouse offerings such as *9 Songs* and *The Brown Bunny*, but is woefully inadequate when it comes to hardcore and even sexploitation, which is ironic as the porn pioneers helped push Hollywood towards a less coy presentation of rumpy-pumpy. Indeed, the book's philosophy seems to be summed up by the sentence, 'When it comes to sex on screen, less can be more'.

Having said that, this bargain-priced glossy coffee-table book offers an incisive overview of how sex has been represented with varying levels of explicitness on the silver screen. And it's accompanied by oodles of of stills from numerous acknowledged erotic classics such as *Betty Blue*, *Ai No Corrida*, *Caligula*, *The Key* and *Last Tango in Paris*, as well as sexy scenes from mainstream movies such as *Scandal*, *Shampoo* and *The Graduate*.

Ben Bond



Erotic Cinema
 edited by
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 & **Paul Duncan**
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