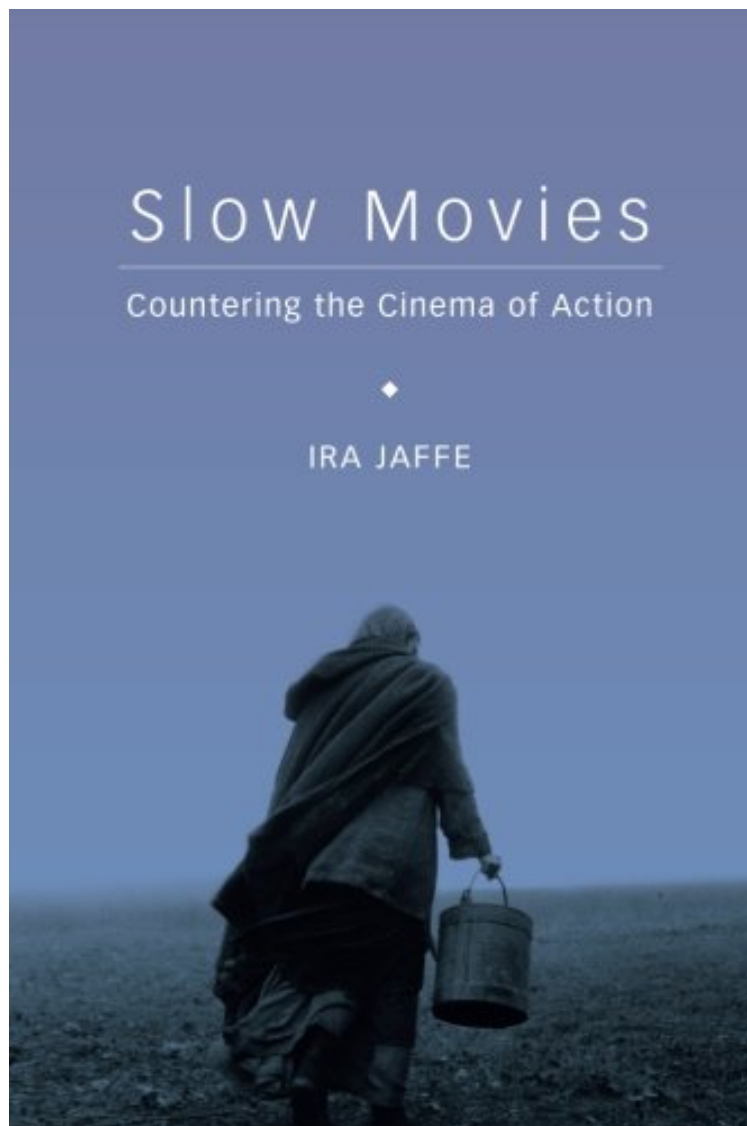


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Slow Movies: Countering the Cinema of Action

Ira Jaffe

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Ira Jaffe : Slow Movies: Countering the Cinema of Action before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slow Movies: Countering the Cinema of Action:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. toward a new cinema:By Floyce AlexanderSLOW MOVIES is a strong follow-up to Ira Jaffe's first book, HOLLYWOOD HYBRIDS. This new study offers a remarkably useful introduction to its subject, one that might not only inform but inspire tyros and seasoned filmmakers alike. Films like those by Portugal's Pedro Costa--OSSOS (BONES)--and Hungary's Bela Tarr--WERCKMEISTER HARMONIES and THE TURIN HORSE--offer models for future efforts to embody Jaffe's incisive, always provocative ideas. Who can

deny that such films may prove to be the cinema's best models for breaking even newer ground in what promises early on to become "our worst century so far," as the late poet Elizabeth Bishop called the twentieth . . . 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. crash course in cinematic seriousnessBy michael annandA good crash course in much of the best serious cinema of the past 30 years or so. There is, however, one glaring omission, the great Hou Hsiao Hsien. My one quibble about the book is that it makes many of these films sound depressing which they are not. Art, no matter what it is about, is never depressing. Also, the author doesn't speculate as to why so many serious filmmakers have elected to make slow cinema rather than highly edited, "fast" cinema like Resnais was making in the 60s. Only Malick has followed in Resnais footsteps. Interesting that he has elected to buck the slow cinema trend.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable and hought-provoking investigation within a field of cinema that ...By caritocleaEnjoyable and hought-provoking investigation within a field of cinema that deserved to be explored.

"In all film there is the desire to capture the motion of life, to refuse immobility," Agnes Varda has noted. But to capture the reality of human experience, cinema must fasten on stillness and inaction as much as motion. *Slow Movies* investigates movies by acclaimed international directors who in the past three decades have challenged mainstream cinema's reliance on motion and action. More than other realist art cinema, slow movies by Lisandro Alonso, Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Pedro Costa, Jia Zhang-ke, Abbas Kiarostami, Cristian Mungiu, Alexander Sokurov, Bela Tarr, Gus Van Sant and others radically adhere to space-times in which emotion is repressed along with motion; editing and dialogue yield to stasis and contemplation; action surrenders to emptiness if not death.

Superb... A brilliant writer, Jaffe deftly... [gives] the reader a window into a much wider world of cinema. Yet another excellent film book from Wallflower Press... commands the reader's attention. (Choice)About the AuthorIra Jaffe is founder and former chair of the Department of Cinematic Arts at the University of New Mexico. He is author of *Hollywood Hybrids: Mixing Genres in Contemporary Films* (2008) and co-editor of *Redirecting the Gaze: Gender, Theory and Cinema in the Third World* (1999).