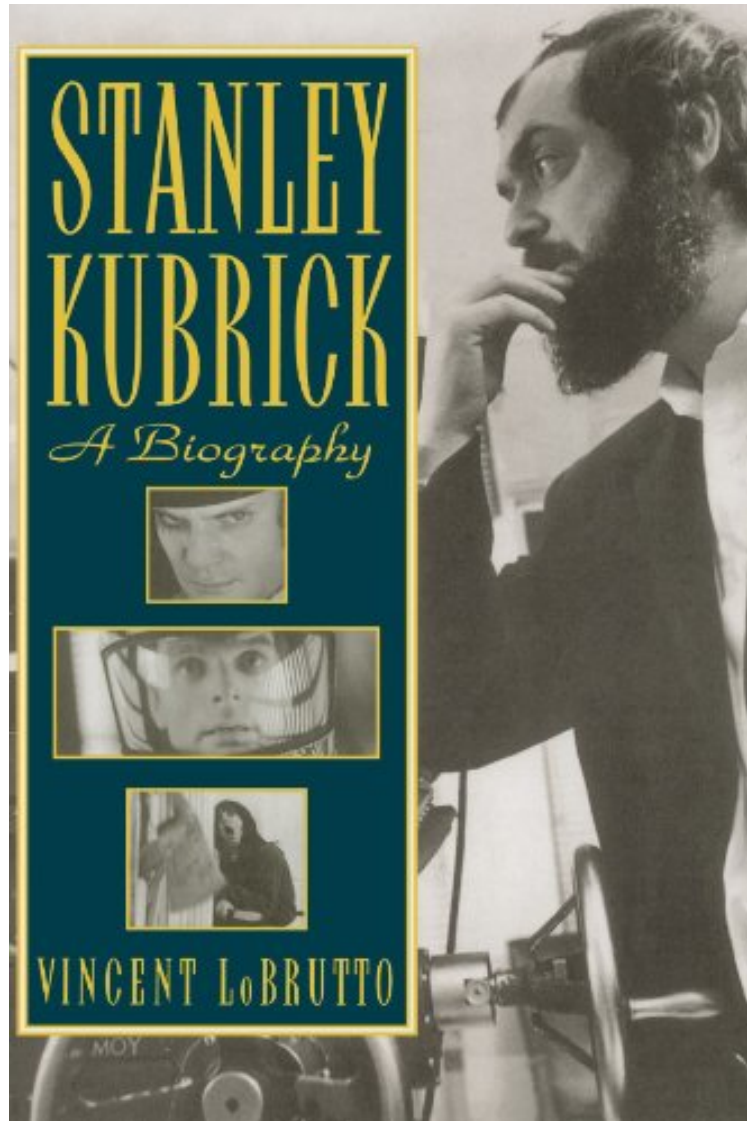


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## Stanley Kubrick: A Biography

*Vincent Lobrutto*

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**Vincent Lobrutto : Stanley Kubrick: A Biography** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stanley Kubrick: A Biography:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Really little accessBy Richard steingesserDisappointing. Obviously not enough access in depth to people who knew Kubrick. So, early part of book, say, is filled with his activities in school, stuff taken from the yearbook mainly, and gone on much too long; or when he joins Life (or maybe Look, I forget) his assignments and photos are gone over one by one for many too many pages. And what is missing is any

intimate sense of his, his marriages, children, mostly a blank here. We know he is a perfectionist, repeated on every page, does 5,000 takes on every scene, repeated on every page, but that mainly actors loved him because he brought out the depth of a performance, repeated on every page. Still, some good things here in so many pages. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Greatest Book On Kubrick Ever! By Paulo E Miranda I've read this book for the first time in the first semester of 1998, when Kubrick was still alive, finishing his latest film, "Eyes Wide Shut". You get a feeling like if you were following Kubrick since he was born until he latest film (in the case of this book at its release time, "Full Metal Jacket"). I'd highly recommend this book for anyone seriously thinking into pursue a filmmaking career - besides, Kubrick himself liked very much this book, just Google about this. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The best Kubrick Bio (that i've read, so far) By M. vitka Upfront: I'm not an expert, but I've been a fan of Kubrick and his films for decades. Stanley Kubrick is a remarkable subject but I hate the biographies that fawn over him as some perfect god-like wunderkind. What's the truth about Stanley Kubrick? Lofbrutto does a good job here relying on interviews from people who worked with or knew Kubrick personally, that are mined from a variety of sources, and overall provide the most detailed and best documented personal history I've read to date. A clearer portrait emerges of who Stanley Kubrick was and how he accomplished some of his filmmaking art. I believe Lofbrutto shoots straight most of the time - and even includes some of the dark side of Kubrick's obsessive work ethic, but his bias is more often: jaw dropping awe over Stanley Kubrick the superman. In any event this is a must read for any serious student of Stanley Kubrick. It contains so much amazing stuff that I felt compelled to buy and own it - so I could use it as a reference work - and savor some of the more fascinating pieces of the Kubrick puzzle. I wish there were several more good books on Kubrick but I can only recommend one: Kubrick by Michael Herr. Maybe some day...

Stanley Kubrick, director of the acclaimed films *Paths of Glory*, *Spartacus*, *Lolita*, *Dr. Strangelove*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *A Clockwork Orange*, *The Shining*, and *Full Metal Jacket*, is arguably one of the greatest American filmmakers. Yet, despite being hailed as a giant by Orson Welles, little is known about the reclusive director. Stanley Kubrick: The first full-length study of his life is based on assiduous archival research as well as new interviews with friends, family, and colleagues. Film scholar Vincent Lofbrutto provides a comprehensive portrait of the director, from his high school days, in the Bronx and his stint as a photographer for *Look* magazine, through the creation of his wide-ranging movies, including the long-awaited *Eyes Wide Shut*. The author provides behind-the-scenes details about writing, filming, financing, and reception of the director's entire output, paying close attention to the technical innovations and to his often contentious relationships with actors. This fascinating biography exposes the enigma that is Stanley Kubrick while placing him in context of film history.

.com In 1962, an MGM trailer teased its audience by asking "How Did They Ever Make a Movie Out of *Lolita*?" Readers of this book, which recounts the life of *Lolita*'s director, might ask, "How Did They Ever Write a Biography of Stanley Kubrick?" Kubrick is the most reclusive of celebrities, a man who seems mysterious even to those who have known and worked with him. Vincent Lofbrutto's engrossing and beautifully researched biography succeeds in tracing this meticulous and brilliant visionary from his childhood and early career as a photographer for *Look* magazine to his creation of masterpieces such as *Dr. Strangelove*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *A Clockwork Orange*, and *Full Metal Jacket*. Lofbrutto concludes his book by discussing projects that have not yet been realized: *Eyes Wide Shut*, a film about sexual obsession, the Holocaust drama *Aryan Papers*, and the most eagerly awaited of Kubrick's prospective movies, the science fiction film *A.I.* From Publishers Weekly Despite making only 12 feature films in 40 years, Stanley Kubrick (b. 1928) is arguably the greatest living American filmmaker, the principal creative force behind such movies as *Paths of Glory*, *Dr. Strangelove*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *A Clockwork Orange* and *The Shining*. He is famous for his reclusiveness and eccentricity. Although this biography falls short of its stated purpose to be the first complete account of Kubrick's private life, it succeeds in presenting a convincing portrait of a man who is utterly devoted to every aspect of filmmaking, down to poster design. Lofbrutto (Elia Kazan: Film Director), a film professor at the School of Visual Arts in N.Y.C., provides an exhaustively researched and detailed account of the making of Kubrick's films, including long interviews with many of the actors, writers and film craftsmen who have worked with the director over the years. Kubrick comes across as a soft-spoken tyrant in full command of every detail who somehow manages to win and keep the respect of those who work for him. For the true film buff, there's an astonishing amount of technical information, but there's also a good deal of illuminating backstage human interest? Kubrick cutting Kirk Douglas's final close-up in *Spartacus* as a joke, beating George C. Scott at chess between takes of *Dr. Strangelove*, asking Malcolm McDowell if he knew any songs he might sing during the rape scene in *A Clockwork Orange*. The tone of the book is a bit gee-whiz at times, but it's hard to fault Lofbrutto for that: from the evidence here, Kubrick's boundless energy and passion for film are as breathtaking as the best of his movies. Photos and filmography. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Perspectives on Stanley Kubrick. Stanley Kubrick is the acclaimed Bronx-born, British-based director of such notable films as *Paths of Glory*, *Spartacus*, and *Dr. Strangelove*. Among those who have admirably analyzed his oeuvre are Michael Ciment (Kubrick,

1980. o.p.) and Thomas Allen Nelson (Kubrick: Inside a Film Artist's Maze, LJ 4/15/82). Because Kubrick has directed only Full Metal Jacket (1987) since those books were published, these new evaluations will supplement rather than supersede them. Falsetto's work contains an introduction to Kubrick's career, a complete filmography, 22 essays (one by Kubrick himself), and four interviews, including the 1968 Playboy discussion of 2001: A Space Odyssey. Academic evaluations are complemented by nuts-and-bolts articles about the groundbreaking special effects of 2001 and use of the Steadicam camera on The Shining. The only sour note is "Full Metal Jacket: The Unravelling of Patriarchy," used by its author to snipe at Margaret Thatcher and a British commission on language. Contrast this with its intelligible companion piece, Thomas Doherty's "Full Metal Genre: Kubrick's Vietnam Combat Movie." LoBrutto's book is the first full biography of its subject. Although the reclusive director did not grant him an interview, LoBrutto gained the cooperation of childhood and adult friends and associates and gathered a truly vast amount of background material from primary sources (school records, marriage certificates, letters) and secondary sources (books, obituaries, reviews). Regrettably, his editors have allowed every bit of the information LoBrutto collected to remain in the text. Although much of the detail is welcome, the needless adjectives ("masterful Hamlet"), minutiae (hour of birth of his first wife), and plot synopses that should have been in the filmography often make this tedious reading. Buy where completeness is a goal. Kim R. Holston, American. Inst. for Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters, Malvern, Pa. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.