The Philosophy Of Charlie Kaufman

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from the academy award winning eternal sunshine of the spotless mind 2004 and academy award nominated adaptation 2002 to the cult classic being john malkovich 1999 writer charlie kaufman is widely admired for his innovative philosophically resonant films although he only recently made his directorial debut with synecdoche new york 2008 most fans and critics refer to kaufman films the way they would otherwise discuss works by directors woody allen martin scorsese or the coen brothers not only has kaufman transformed our sense of what can take place in a film but he also has made a significant impact on our understanding of the role of the screenwriter the philosophy of charlie kaufman edited by david larocca is the first collection of essays devoted to a rigorous philosophical exploration of kaufman s work by a team of capable and critical scholars from a wide range of disciplines from political theorists to philosophers classicists to theologians professors of literature to filmmakers the contributing authors delve into the heart of kaufman s innovative screenplays offering not only original philosophical analyses but also extended reflections on the nature of film and film criticism

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this revealing study looks at the influences and creative impulses that shape one of today s most progressive thoughtful filmmakers charlie kaufman got his start in television but it was his first film the eccentric being john malkovich that won notice for his unique storytelling style with the aid of a plethora of contributions from those with whom the writer has worked charlie kaufman confessions of an original mind presents the intriguing story of that movie and others as it examines one of the most innovative voices in modern film this exhaustive study of kaufman s life and work is organized chronologically to cover his early influences as well as his most recent ventures highlights include explorations of kaufman s collaboration with being john malkovich director spike jonze who stood him up for their first meeting and the writer s conflict with george clooney about whom kaufman says i can tell you that george clooney is my least favorite person there are analyses of human nature adaptation and the hauntingly beautiful eternal sunshine of the spotless mind which led to an academy award the book also studies kaufman s sound plays for theatre of the new ear and his directorial debut synecdoche new york

since the late 1990s a subtle subversive element has been at work within the staid confines of the hollywood dream factory young filmmakers like spike jonze wes anderson michel gondry david o russell richard linklater and sofia coppola rode in on the coattails of the independent film movement that blossomed in the early 1990s and have managed to wage an aesthetic campaign against imaginative cowardice of all persuasions much like their artistic forebears the so called movie brats coppola scorsese de palma altman and ashby among others did in the 1970s but their true pedigree can be traced back to the cinematic provocateurs of the nouvelle vague truffaut goddard chabrol rohmer rivette et al who in the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s liberated screens around the world with a series of films that challenged our assumptions of what the medium could offer and how stories could be told all of them snapping with style as much as they delivered on ideas highly idiosyncratic yet intricately realised accessible yet willing to overthrow the constraints of formal storytelling surreal yet always grounded in human emotions this new breed of american film captures the angst of its characters and the times in which we live but with a wryness imagination earnestness irony and stylish wit that makes the slide into existential despair a little more amusing than it should be this book analyzes and traces the origins of the pivotal films and directors in this undeclared war on the mundane

examining films about writers and acts of writing the writer on film brilliantly refreshes some of the well worn adaptation debates by inviting film and literature to engage with each other trenchantly and anew through acts of explicit configuration not adaptation

nicolas cage his life and moviescompiled from wikipedia entries and published by dr googelberg read interesting details about the life and the movies of this popular actor

the passing of postmodernism addresses the increasingly prevalent assumption that a period marked by poststructuralism and metafiction has passed and that literature and film are once again engaging sincerely with issues of ethics and politics in discussions of various twentieth and twenty first century writers directors and theorists from michel foucault and slavoj [section of various twentieth and david lynch josh toth demonstrates that a certain utopian spirit persisted within and actually defined the postmodern project just as modernism was animated by an idealistic belief that it could finally realize the utopia beckening on the horizon postmodernism was compelled by an equally utopian belief that it could finally reject the possibility of all such illusory ideals toth argues that this specter of an impossible future is and must remain both possible and impossible a ghostly promise of what is always still to come josh toth teaches literature and critical theory at grant macewan college and is coeditor with neil brooks of the mourning after attending the wake of postmodernism

from camera lens to critical lens a collection of best essays on film adaptation edited by rebecca housel takes the reader through films by directors like alfred hitchcock to examining the relevance of twenty first century british politics with current film from screenwriter charlie kaufman to author virginia woolf and examining new theoretical approaches to international film adaptations from china japan britain canada and france as well as films like eternal sunshine of the spotless mind and daughters of the dust the collection is derived from the popular culture association pca film adaptation area conference papers researched and written by fourteen diverse scholars from all over the world who gathered together in san diego california in april 2005 to further their research by presenting their ideas on film adaptation now in full text versions within this exciting new volume accessible engaging and informative any audience may read and enjoy this edited collection on film adaptation the volume would also work well for pedagogical purposes both in and out of the classroom such a volume may easily be used in courses for english film studies gender studies women s studies fine art psychology political science history and more a work of diverse international voices this collection represents the very best on film adaptation today

the oxford handbook of adaptation studies provides a comprehensive and forward looking treatment of adaptation in its many guises by looking at movies based on sources other than novels including television series and radio adaptations comic book adaptations of literary texts novelizations opera librettos popular songs and even video games

one possible description of the contemporary medial landscape in western culture is that it has gone meta to an unprecedented extent so that a remarkable meta culture has emerged indeed metareference i e self reflexive comments on or references to various kinds of media related aspects of a given medial artefact or performance specific media and arts or the media in general is omnipresent and can nowadays be encountered in high art and literature as frequently as in their popular counterparts in the traditional media as well as in new media from the simpsons pop music children s literature computer games and pornography to the contemporary visual arts feature film postmodern fiction drama and even architecture everywhere one can find metareferential explorations comments on or criticism of representation medial conventions or modes of production and reception and related issues within individual media and genres notably in research on postmodernist metafiction this outspoken tendency towards metaization is known well enough and various reasons have been given for it yet never has there been an attempt to account for what one may aptly term the current metareferential turn on a larger transmedial scale this is what the metareferential turn in contemporary arts and media forms functions attempts at explanation undertakes to do as a sequel to its predecessor the volume metareference across media vol 4 in the series studies in intermediality which was dedicated to theoretical issues and transhistorical case studies coming from diverse disciplinary and methodological backgrounds the contributors to the present volume propose explanations of impressive subtlety breadth and depth for the current situation in addition to exploring individual forms and functions of metareference which may be linked with particular explanations as expected there is no monocausal reason to be found for the situation under scrutiny yet the proposals made have in their compination a remarkable explanatory power which contributes to a better

starting in the early 1990s artists such as quentin tarantino david foster wallace and kurt cobain contributed to a swelling cultural tide of pop postmodernism that swept through music film literature and fashion in cinema in particular some of the arts most fundamental aspects stories characters and genres for instance assumed such a trite and trivialized appearance that only rarely could they take their places on the screen without provoking an inward smirk or a wink from the audience out of this highly self conscious and world weary environment however a new group of filmmakers began to develop as the decade wore on with a new set of styles and sensibilities to match in post pop cinema author jesse fox mayshark takes us on a film by film tour of the works of these filmmakers including wes and p t anderson sofia coppolarichard linklater alexander payne and david o russell and seeks to reveal how a common pool of styles collaborators and personal connections helps them to confront the unifying problem of meaning in american film wes anderson s bottle rocket 1996 and paul thomas anderson s boogie nights 1997 were ultimately about their characters lives even though their characters often dealt with highly contrived environments and

situations and soon after wes anderson scored his first success others like david o russell flirting with disaster three kings the screenwriter charlie kaufman who collaborated with spike jonze on such projects as being john malkovich and adaptation alexander payne election sideways richard kelly donnie darko and sofia coppola lost in translation began to tread their own paths over this same ground although these men and women represent a wide range of styles and subject matter all their films revolve in different ways around the difficulty of establishing and maintaining connections this theme of connection also runs deeper than the films made the directors share actors mark wahlberg bill murray ben stiller jason schwartzman collaborators the musician jon brion and sometimes even personal connections spike jonze starred in russell s three kings and was married to coppola together these filmmakers form a loose and distinctly american school of filmmaking one informed by postmodernism but not in thrall to it and one that every year becomes more important to the world of cinema both within and beyond the united states

drawing upon the expertise of film scholars from around the world puzzle films investigates a number of films that sport complex storytelling from memento old boy and run lola run to the infernal affairs trilogy and in the mood for love unites american independent cinema the european and international art film and certain modes of avant garde filmmaking on the basis of their shared storytelling complexity draws upon the expertise of film scholars from north america britain china poland holland italy greece new zealand and australia

in the first book length study of romanticism in relation to american film michelle devereaux takes established theories of contemporary american independent cinema as a point of entry exploring the underlying philosophical and aesthetic romantic connections between a selection of seven films from four popular filmmakers wes anderson sofia coppola spike jonze and charlie kaufman primarily dealing with questions of identity imagination and the relation between self and world these films also emphasise the anxieties of our own time the nostalgia for an imaginary past and the fear of an uncertain future

los angeles magazine is a regional magazine of national stature our combination of award winning feature writing investigative reporting service journalism and design covers the people lifestyle culture entertainment fashion art and architecture and news that define southern california started in the spring of 1961 los angeles magazine has been addressing the needs and interests of our region for 48 years the magazine continues to be the definitive resource for an affluent population that is intensely interested in a lifestyle that is uniquely southern californian

imagine you learn that your lover has had you erased from their memory and in a moment of despair you have your lover erased from your memory too imagine that as you lose your recollections of the bad times together you realise that you don t want to forget them after all that s the premise for charlie kaufman s oscar winning script for eternal sunshine of the spotless mind an instant cult classic the film s distinctive ambiguity and tangled narrative demands audience engagement and repeated watching delving into the central themes of the film andrew m butler foregrounds its play with genre and audience expectations its psychoanalytic underpinnings and its debt to philip k dick also examining its production processes butler explores the against type casting of jim carrey and kate winslet in lead roles and the intertwined careers of kaufman and director michel gondry this special edition features original cover artwork by patricia derks

the acclaimed french auteur behind the mind bending modern classic eternal sunshine of the spotless mind for which he won an academy award for best original screenplay michel gondry has directed a number of innovative ground breaking films and documentaries episodes of the acclaimed television show kidding and some of the most influential music videos in the history of the medium in this collection a range of international scholars offers a comprehensive study of this significant and influential figure covering his french and english language films and videos and framing gondry as a transnational auteur whose work provides insight into both french european and american cinematic and cultural identity with detailed case studies of films such as eternal sunshine of the spotless mind 2004 the science of sleep 2006 microbe gasoline 2015 and mood indigo 2013 this collection will appeal to readers interested in the various media in which gondry has worked and in contemporary post modern french and american cinema in general

fostering a dialog between critical disability studies american studies interamerican studies and global health studies the edited compilation conceptualizes disability and mental illnesses as a cultural narrative enabling a deeper social critique by looking at contemporary cultural productions primarily from the usa canada and the caribbean the books objective is to explore how literary texts and other cultural productions from the americas conceptualize construct and represent disability as a narrative and to investigate the deep structures underlying the literary and cultural discourses on and representations of disability including parameters such as disease racism and sexism among others disability is read as a shifting phenomenon rooted in the cultures and histories of the americas

stories of twins are told with astonishing frequency in contemporary culture films and novels from recent decades repeatedly tell of the stranglehold of brotherly love the evil twin who steals her sister s lover the homicidal mutant twin the reunion of twins separated at birth warring twins and confusion between look alikes twins in contemporary literature and culture asks why we keep telling twin tales and how these have been transformed in recent retellings to reflect the preoccupations of the times

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