

Apocalypse Then: American and Japanese Atomic Cinema 1951-1967

Journey into the Atomic Age through the Lens of Cinema

The detonation of atomic bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945 marked a cataclysmic turning point in human history. The unimaginable destruction and suffering unleashed by the atomic bomb not only devastated countless lives but also left an enduring imprint on the global psyche. The profound impact of this event reverberated throughout society, including the world of cinema.



Apocalypse Then: American and Japanese Atomic Cinema, 1951-1967 by Mike Bogue

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 13981 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 314 pages



In the years that followed the war, the atomic bomb became a potent symbol of both the destructive power of technology and the anxieties of the Cold War era. American and Japanese filmmakers alike grappled with the implications of the atomic age, using cinema as a medium to explore the

complex social, political, and psychological consequences of nuclear weapons.

Apocalypse Then: A Cinematic Exploration of the Atomic Age

Apocalypse Then: American and Japanese Atomic Cinema 1951-1967 is a comprehensive and meticulously researched exploration of this fascinating and important cinematic genre. Edited by esteemed scholars Thomas J. Atkins and Jessica C. Wilkerson, this monumental work brings together a diverse range of essays from leading experts in the field.

The book spans two decades, from the immediate aftermath of the war in 1951 to the height of the Cold War in 1967. It encompasses a wide range of cinematic genres, including science fiction, horror, drama, and documentary, showcasing the diverse ways in which filmmakers engaged with the atomic bomb.

Unveiling the Cultural Impact of the Atomic Bomb

Through in-depth analysis of iconic films such as *Gojira* (1954), *Them!* (1954), *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (1964), and *Hiroshima mon amour* (1959), *Apocalypse Then* examines how the atomic bomb shaped cultural landscapes, influenced societal norms, and fueled artistic expression.

The book reveals the ways in which atomic cinema reflected post-war anxieties about the threat of nuclear annihilation, the rise of nuclear technology, and the impact of radiation on human health and the environment. It also explores the role of cinema in shaping public opinion,

challenging government policies, and promoting peace and nuclear disarmament.

Exploring the Themes and Motifs of Atomic Cinema

Apocalypse Then delves deeply into the recurring themes and motifs that emerged in atomic cinema. These include:

- **The fear of annihilation:** Films such as *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (1951) and *Fail-Safe* (1964) depicted the potential for nuclear war to destroy civilization and end human existence.
- **The threat of nuclear technology:** Films such as *Them!* and *Godzilla* explored the dangers of nuclear radiation and the unintended consequences of scientific advancements.
- **The impact of radiation on human health and the environment:** Films such as *Hiroshima mon amour* and *The Children of Hiroshima* (1952) depicted the devastating effects of radiation on human bodies and ecosystems.
- **The search for meaning and hope in a post-apocalyptic world:** Films such as *On the Beach* (1959) and *The World, the Flesh and the Devil* (1959) explored the human capacity for survival and the possibility of hope in the face of nuclear devastation.

A Comprehensive and Indispensable Resource

With its insightful essays, stunning visuals, and comprehensive filmography, *Apocalypse Then: American and Japanese Atomic Cinema*

1951-1967 is an indispensable resource for anyone interested in the history of cinema, the atomic age, and the enduring legacy of nuclear weapons.

Whether you are a scholar, a film enthusiast, or simply someone fascinated by the intersection of history, technology, and human experience, *Apocalypse Then* offers a captivating and thought-provoking journey into the cinematic landscapes of the atomic age.

Free Download your copy today and delve into the explosive and unforgettable world of Apocalypse Then.



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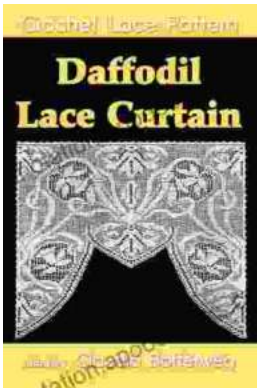
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