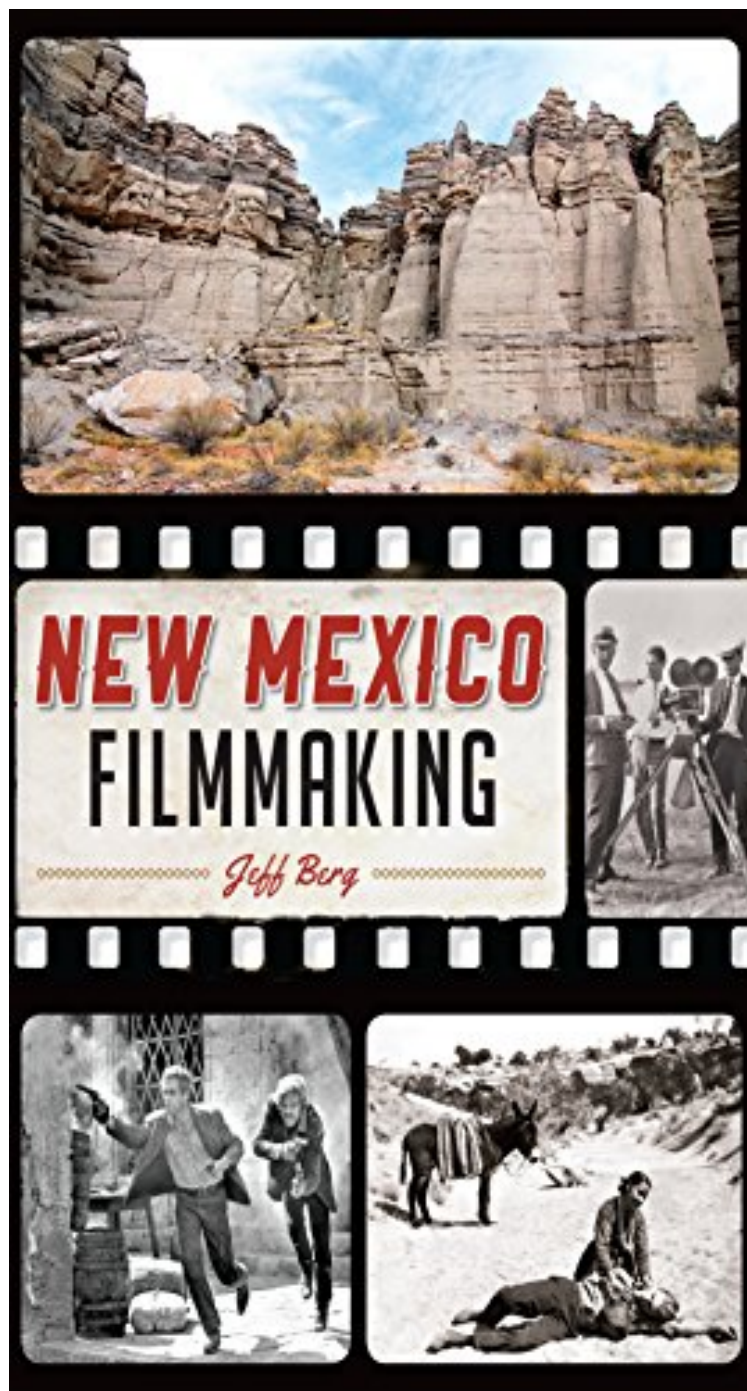


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New Mexico Filmmaking

Jeff Berg

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time, and all praised New Mexico Filmmaking:

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy RTGreat new book! Arrived right on time.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very nicely done!By G. McFarlandThis survey of filmmaking in New Mexico is jammed with fascinating details. From 1897 in the silent era to the present more than eight hundred short films, feature films, and television episodes included at least some scenes filmed in New Mexico. Readers will be surprised at the numerous major films and well-known stars that figure in Berg's account. Another detail of interest is the fact that New Mexico was the first state to establish a government office to attract Hollywood companies to work in the state. Although much of the text consists of straightforward descriptions of the films in question, these are enlivened throughout by Berg's thoughtful commentaries on individual films and criticism of the failure of many filmmakers to do justice to women and people of color. The many illustrations, both photographs taken on site and reproductions of publicity posters, add to the pleasure of reading this book.

The moderate climate and majestic western landscapes of New Mexico make it an enchanting locale for the motion picture industry. Thomas A. Edison's crew shot the very first film in the state at the Isleta Indian Pueblo in 1897. Silent-era icons like directors Romaine Fielding and Tom Mix shortly followed to take over the small town of Las Vegas, setting the stage for an explosion of western movies. Today, New Mexico's generous incentive programs and quality facilities make it one of the top filming destinations in the country, attracting big projects like the Academy Award-winning *No Country for Old Men* and AMC's critically acclaimed television series *Breaking Bad*. In this comprehensive volume, local author and film historian Jeff Berg explores the history and legacy of New Mexico on the big screen.

About the AuthorJeff Berg is a freelance writer, journalist and New Mexico film historian living in Santa Fe. He has traveled around New Mexico from corner to corner presenting his noted *Made in New Mexico* film clip series, doing live narration for each show. Previously, he served on the board of the Mesilla Valley Film Society and was an assistant manager at the Jean Cocteau Cinema in Santa Fe.