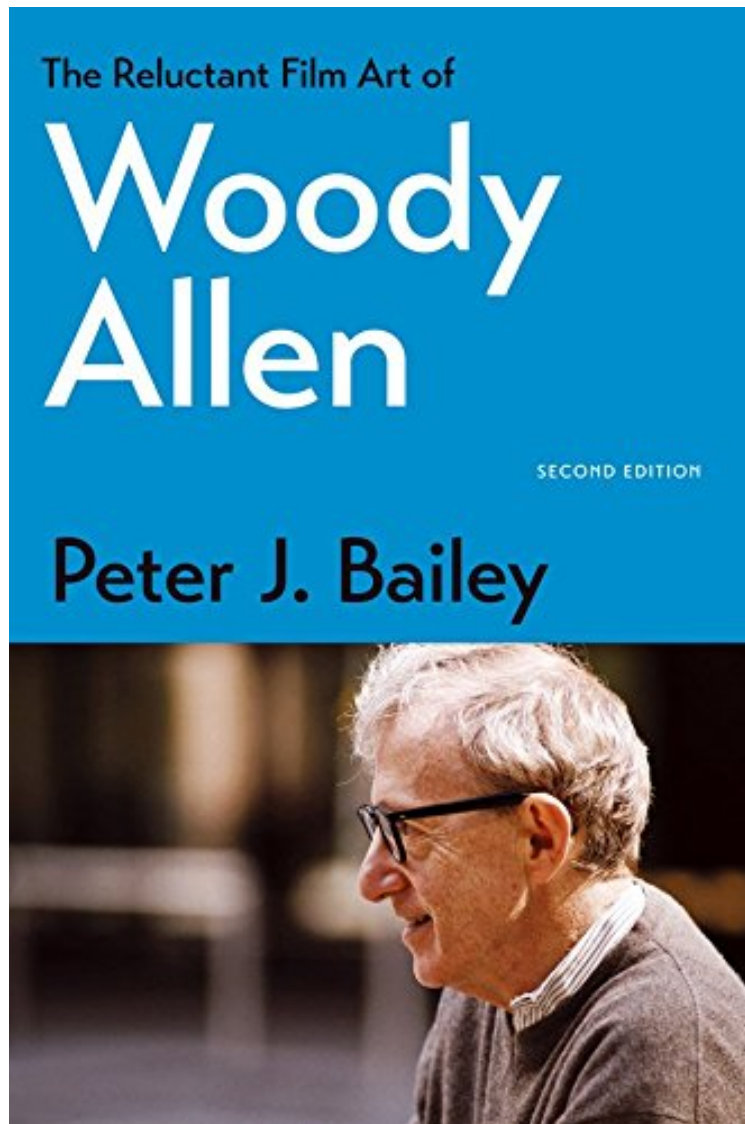


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The Reluctant Film Art of Woody Allen

Peter J. Bailey

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Peter J. Bailey : The Reluctant Film Art of Woody Allen before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Reluctant Film Art of Woody Allen:

For five decades, no American filmmaker has been as prolific -- or as paradoxical -- as Woody Allen. From Play It Again, Sam (1972) to Midnight in Paris (2011) and Blue Jasmine (2013), Allen has produced an average of one film a year; yet in many of these movies Allen reveals a progressively skeptical attitude toward both the value of art and the cultural contributions of artists. In this second edition Peter J. Bailey extends his classic study to consider Allen's work

during the twenty-first century. He illuminates how the director's decision to leave New York to shoot in European cities such as London, Paris, Rome, and Barcelona has affected his craft. He also explores Allen's shift toward younger actors and interprets the evolving critical reaction to his films -- authoritatively demonstrating why the director's lifelong project of moviemaking remains endlessly deserving of careful attention.

"Bailey's rigorous study will please the serious student of film and of 20th-century artistic impression."?Virginia Quarterly, reviewing a previous edition or volume "Bailey's investigation of Allen's debate over the redemptive powers of art ultimately addresses crucial questions about American popular culture and entertainment. An important contribution to American film studies."?American Studies, reviewing a previous edition or volume "Bailey knows Woody Allen's work backwards and forwards, and his book makes many illuminating connections among the films in the Allen canon. In particular, Bailey reveals the significance of Allen's treatment of the role of the artist and the cultural function of movies in American life."?Christopher Ames, author of *Movies About the Movies: Hollywood Reflected*, reviewing a previous edition or volume About the Author Peter J. Bailey is emeritus Piskor Professor of English at St. Lawrence University. He is the author of *Reading Stanley Elkin and Rabbit (Un)Redeemed: The Drama of Belief in John Updike's Fiction* as well as coeditor of *A Companion to Woody Allen*.