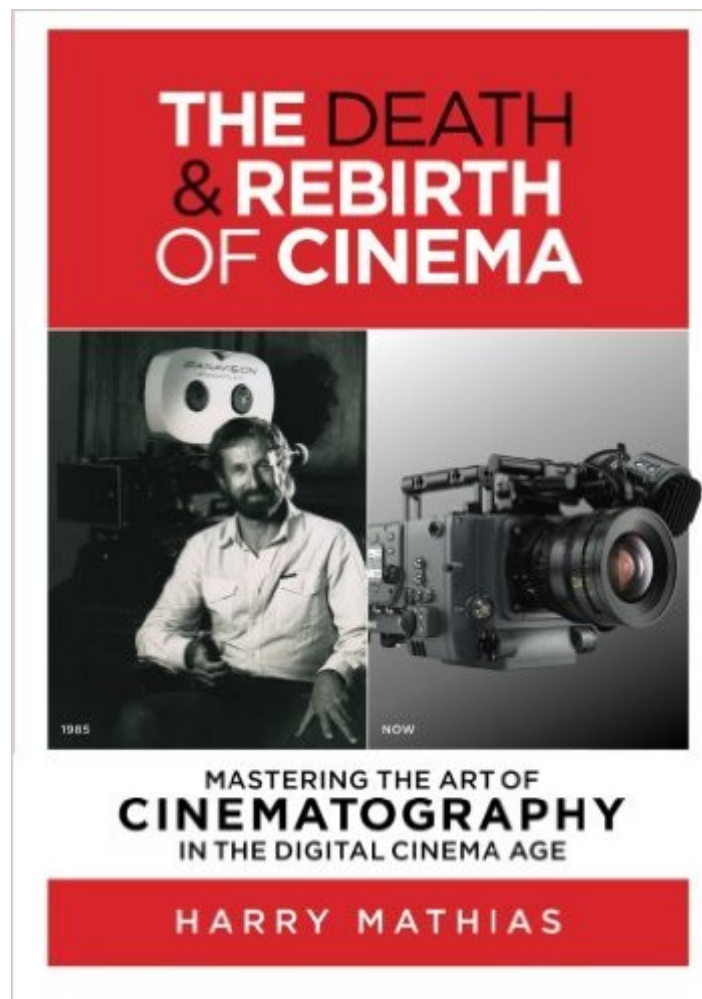


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# The Death & Rebirth Of Cinema: MASTERING THE ART OF CINEMATOGRAPHY IN THE DIGITAL CINEMA AGE



## Synopsis

"Simply put, Harry Mathias has done it again. "The Death & Rebirth of Cinema" solidifies Mathias's standing as THE great translator of film-to-digital imaging technology." The world's cinema has mostly left behind its 100-year tradition of cinematography on film, and begins its search for a new visual foundation. What is next for cinema, is what this book is about. This book discusses the big questions of the future of cinematography, in a cinema that is increasingly preoccupied with technology and not with artistic moving images. "Just as he did with "Electronic Cinematography" 30 years ago, Mathias cuts through the web of misinformation and lays out a brilliant method to gain control over new and constantly changing imaging technologies without losing sight of the valuable lessons cinematographers have taught us for over 100 years. Harry Mathias has the professional experience, technological savvy, and artistic integrity to connect the rich, foundational knowledge of past photographic systems to today's rapidly changing "technology of the month" attitude.--William McDonald, "UCLA Professor & Chair", Department of Film, Television and Digital Media, said about this book. This book teaches the vital new cinematography skills that are needed to make great films in a digital cinema world. It covers lighting, lens selection, image control methods, and much more--whether using digital cinema or (photochemical) film with today's technology-driven cinema. Mathias is a very experienced film cinematographer, one who also is a pioneer of digital cinema cinematography. He outlines concrete plans to take the best path forward to a digital imaging future, without leaving behind the photographic skills and lighting arts of films of the past. Exploring the path from our past to the future, this book is not only for cinematographers; it is for anyone who cares about telling dramatic stories visually to film audiences. Film directors, producers, production designers, art directors, editors, colorists, and film critics are all concerned with communicating cinematic images effectively to a theatre audience. Often the issue today is not how can this be done effectively with digital cinema, but how can it be done in spite of all this new technology. In this book, Mathias boldly sets out the plan to reach that cinematography of the future. What is important to cinema is image quality and the art of cinematography--and that is why the major skills required are the same whether a Director of Photography is using film or digital cinema. This book is about making images the right way, regardless of the camera technology being used. Cinema is, after all, technology in the service of art, not the other way around...

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Cinematography truly is a fascinating area, although I admit that it isn't one that I know a lot about. In this book, Harry Mathias provides a large amount of insight and information into this topic, with a focus on our modern age of digital cinematography. The book appears to be targeted at people interested in actually getting involved in the field but, at the same time, the book is also perfect for anyone who simply wants to know more about cinema and all that is associated with it. One of the most important thing that I have to say about this book is that it is simply fascinating. Now, I don't know anything at all about the author, although it is clear from the writing and from his biography that he has considerable experience in this field. In many ways, the book is a love letter to more traditional cinematography approaches along with a focus on how these can be applied in our much more digital modern world. The book is certainly information-dense, so it might not be something that anyone sits down and reads in a few sittings. That's a good thing though as I imagine that this book is one that people would come back to time and time again for more information.

The Death and Rebirth of Cinema by Henry Mathias it is a book that tells the story about the changes that the Cinema has suffer because of technology. The author, that is very well versed in the theme presents the actual scenario of Cinema, where big producers are not producing anymore because they have not dabbled in the world of technology and how all the new technology experts do not have the experience of the great masters; so the book tells how the Cinema as most of us

know it, is slowly dying and how the new cinema, the one with the great technology effects is going up mean like a rebirth, he explains all these changes with his title. The book is very well written, has a lot of cinema history and special remarks only a person who knows well the subject could be able to do. If you like the history of cinema and what happens around it, this is the book for you, you will love it.

This is a great resource to use if you want to become a cinematographer because of all the content that is on the pages. Not only does it tell you pretty much everything you need to know about cameras, video formats, lighting, makeup, and other necessary aspects of film, but it also gives you some prime examples of each aspect. Everything is broken down in an easy to understand way, so even if you are just starting out, you won't feel like it's too complicated to figure out. There is a bit of history in this book as well, which is just as interesting. My favorite part was the explanation of facial expressions and how lighting can change everything, even in black and white movies. I would recommend reading this if you are into photography, taking videos, or really anything that is artistic, as it could help you out immensely.

The art of film requires a masterful storyteller, a daring genius who is not afraid to make use of what innovative tools are around him without losing sight of the essentials of narrative that draw in the audience. In this book, Harry Mathias is able to accomplish in writing what he discusses in cinema. His writing is almost visual in quality as he dissects and analyzes the most critical and creative parts of cinema over the past century. As the reader, you will feel a sense of directorial authority yourself as you learn what is superfluous and what necessary for the telling of a story. The cinematic arts can be a community of seemingly pretentious people, but Mathias is genuine and emotive in this book which attempts to capture for both the cinephile and common viewer. Especially in this digital age, cinematic arts bind us as people together with strong ties, and Mathias explains how to function within this new, dangerous, and exciting world of film.

“The death of the film need not be the death of the cinema.” •Harry Mathias is clearly a genius when it comes to teaching the art of cinematography. Clearly he knows his subject distinctively helping cinematographers to make that clear transition from film to digital proving that cinematography is very much alive and necessary in the world of today's advance film-making. I greatly enjoyed the historical aspect of this outstanding book; nevertheless it is more than that which was a great surprise. Covering such subjects as the current challenges, how to create compelling

images, light meters and so much more. Informative and comprehensive this is a great resource to return to again and again. Fantastically written, definitely a must read for cinematographers everywhere, whether amateur or professional this is the must go to guide to learning the necessary skills in today's digital world of film-making. "Modern art is creative and interesting, but it doesn't hold as many lessons for cinematographers as the old masters do" "they were doing what we do, they were painting with light." •

What a great read! This book was surprisingly good! I say surprisingly because I always come a bit skeptically to books that are about art. This is an outstanding piece of work; and enjoyable to read as well. The well documented details are so thorough that it seems there is not too much left to know. The book discusses the vital new cinematography skills that are needed to make great films in a digital cinema world. It covers lighting, lens selection, image control methods, and much more-whether using digital cinema or (photochemical) film with today's technology-driven cinema. The author, Harry Mathias, achieved what is nearly impossible, expressing in words an art with tremendous clarity. I even liked the cover design. That should give you a hint of the attention to detail that follows. I can't recommend it enough. It's one of those books that will stick with me. It's timeless and really helpful. Do yourself a favor and read this book.

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