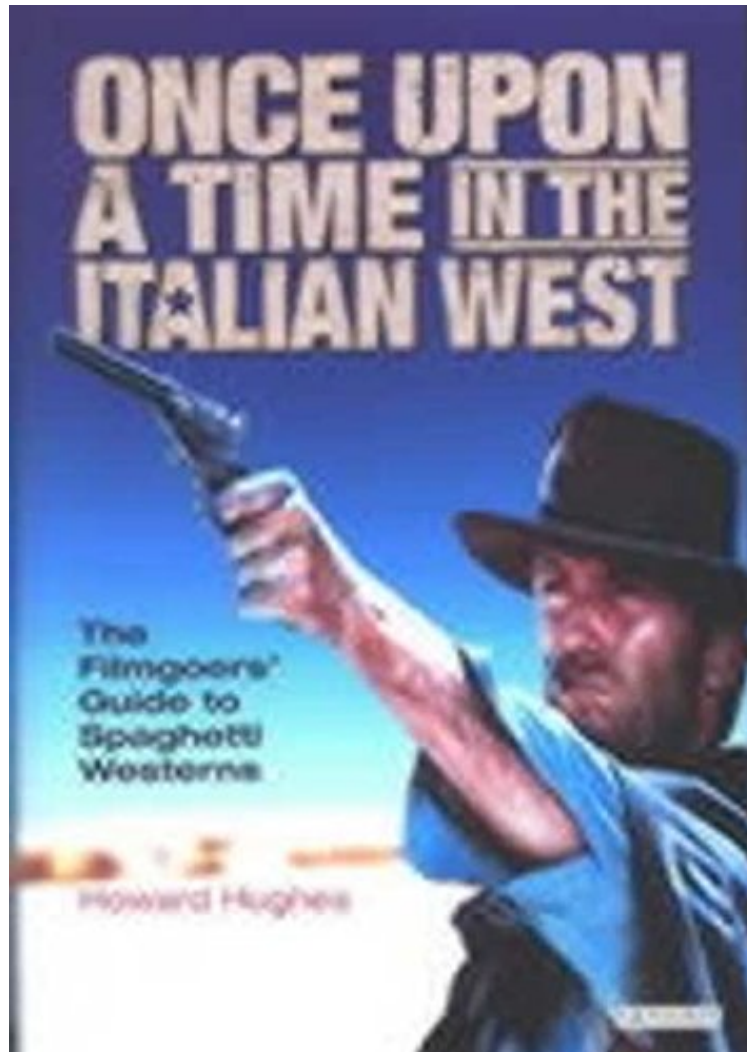


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Once Upon a Time in the Italian West: A Filmgoer's Guide to Spaghetti Westerns

Howard Hughes

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#2045500 in Books I. B. Tauris 2005-01-01 2004-12-09Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.34 x 1.04 x 6.56l, 1.96 #File Name: 1850434301288 pages | File size: 60.Mb

Howard Hughes : Once Upon a Time in the Italian West: A Filmgoer's Guide to Spaghetti Westerns before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Once Upon a Time in the Italian West: A Filmgoer's Guide to Spaghetti Westerns:

10 of 12 people found the following review helpful. My favorite title on the subjectBy HondoI have read Frayling's book, Cox's book and now this contribution and it is my favorite of the bunch. Hughes has taken 20 important films and devoted a chapter to each, though not neglecting to mention many other examples of the genre. With the exception of Frayling's coverage of the Leone films, this book provides more information on the films than the others do,

including notes on the actors, shooting locations and music. Remarkably free of politics-- no boring communist (marxist) theory/criticism and no over-the-top political correctness-- it is a fun and entertaining read. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Focus on 20 of the Top Spaghetti Westerns Produced Between '65-'73. By Eddie Coyle Author Howard Hughes has compiled the essentials of Spaghetti Westerns in Once Upon a Time in the Italian West-- If you want to delve deeper then purchase Once Upon a Time in the Italian West by Sir Christopher Frayling (recommended) Once Upon a Time in Italy: The Westerns of Sergio Leone. Incidentally, Frayling gave a nice endorsement on the back of Hughes book citing it as: "well researched, detailed, no-nonsense and above all enthusiastic guide to twenty of the best Italian westerns..." As a long time, die hard fan of these films myself, especially the 'Dollars' Trilogy, 'Once Upon a Time in the West' and 'Django,' I found Hughes' narrowcasting on the subject is on target for myself/you, the Spaghetti Western enthusiast, and offers extensive background on the evolution of this popular genre; the author zeros in on his Top 20 from '65-'73. The term "Spaghetti Western" was derived from American Film Critiques for these predominately Italian or Italian/Spanish productions produced between 63-'77. Hughes explains that it was a cinema of contradictions, with abstract cartoon titles sequences, blood-drenched violence and echoing, ethereal music (Once Upon a Time in the West is still one of the most beautifully haunting scores Once Upon A Time In The West: The Original Soundtrack Recording). Nice book design choice with glossy pages and illustrations provided by Tom Betts of US Fanzine Westerns All' Italiana, from his private collection that are rare and worth the price of the book. With the advent of Quentin Tarantino's 'Django Unchained' around the corner, I have little doubt that Once Upon a Time in the Italian West is going to be flying off the book shelves and customers will be clicking their mouse as fast as Van Cleef's trigger on his Buntline Special. 10 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Not a complete Spaghetti Western filmography By Court Thompson I haven't read the book... But I checked out it's Index, and browsed for several of my favorite (moderately obscure) Spaghetti Westerns and directors. It didn't have any of them listed. So take that as a warning I guess... the discription seems to make this book seem more comprehensive than my brief overview of the Index. I would recommend you too check out the Table of Contents and Index page to make sure this is the book you're expecting.

Covering every Italian Spaghetti Western--mainly the good but also the bad and the ugly--this is an authoritative, entertaining and comprehensive companion to the implausible international fusion of producers, directors, actors and composers who created the mythical Spaghetti West under the most improbable circumstances. Sergio Leone's Dollars Trilogy led the field but many more major Spaghetti Westerns were made by important directors, including Sergio Corbucci's Navajo Joe, Carlo Lizzani's The Hills Run Red, Duccio Tessari's A Pistol for Ringo. Combining analysis, information and lively anecdotes, this popular guide explores all of these films through the biographies and filmographies of key personnel, stories of the films' making, their locations and sets, sources, musical scores, detailed cast information and many illustrations, including original posters and stills.

"Howard Hughes has written a well-researched, detailed, no-nonsense and above all enthusiastic guide to twenty of the best Italian Westerns from A Fistful of Dollars to My Name is Nobody. He has aimed for the heart, and unlike the bad guy in Fistful, he has hit it."--Christopher Frayling, author of Spaghetti Westerns