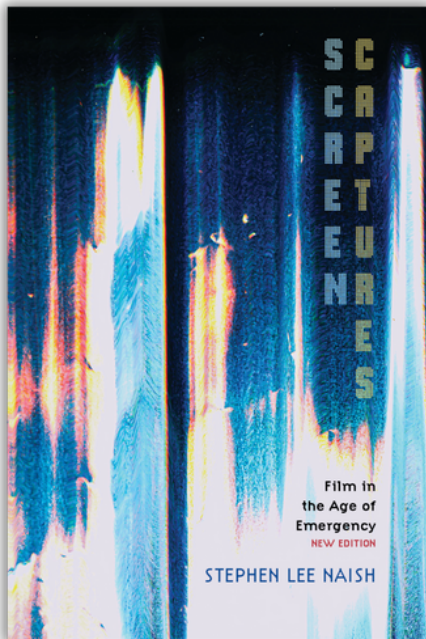




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SCREEN CAPTURES

Film in the Age of Emergency

By Stephen Lee Naish

Screen Captures: Film in the Age of Emergency offers a vibrant and accessible collection of essays that explore how films and changes in the media industries reflect and influence our political, cultural, technological, and ecological moment. Critic Stephen Lee Naish reveals what lies just out of frame: the climate crisis, the ongoing Disney-fication of franchises, the audience's active participation in the rewriting and reproduction of their attention, and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the movie theaters. *Screen Captures* explores these tensions from the rebooted *Star Wars* franchise to the dominance of superheroes, the pop cultural memeification of Nicholas Cage to the artistic worlds of David Lynch, the failing American Dream in the *American Pie* franchise, and the female interpretation of toxic masculinity on screen and in public life. Naish argues that film isn't merely escapism and entertainment—it's a political space that bleeds into our daily lives. Appealing to pop culture fans and film critics alike, these essays challenge the reader to question, critique, and go beyond passive consumption of what we see on our screens.

“

Original, sharp, and thought-provoking, *Screen Captures: Film in the Age of Emergency* is a kaleidoscopic blending of cinema, politics, and pop-culture.”

- Iain Reid, author of *I'm Thinking of Ending Things* and *Foe*

“Stephen Lee Naish is a perceptive social critic and a genuine movie enthusiast. This book marries both in fruitful tension. Fresh readings of familiar films abound. His examination of the powerful influence of fan culture is illuminating. The business dynamics of this rapidly evolving industry are well researched and articulated. *Screen Captures* is an elegantly written call to see popular cinema as a rich window into the complex, precarious and confusing world we all share.”

—Clarke Mackey, filmmaker and author of *Random Acts of Culture: Reclaiming Art and Community in the 21st Century*