



Profoundly Disturbing: The Shocking Movies that Changed History

Joe Bob Briggs

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What the critics are saying:

"Beyond the bounds of depravity!"—London Evening Standard

"Despicable . . . ugly and obscene . . . a degrading, senseless misuse of film and time." —The Los Angeles Times

"People are right to be shocked." —The New Yorker

From the murky depths can come the most extraordinary things. . . . *Profoundly Disturbing* examines the underground cult movies that have—unexpectedly and unintentionally—revolutionized the way that all movies would be made. Called "exploitation films" because they often exploit our most primal fears and desires, these overlooked movies pioneered new cinematographic techniques, subversive narrative structuring, and guerrilla marketing strategies that would eventually trickle up into mainstream cinema. In this book Joe Bob Briggs uncovers the most seminal cult movies of the twentieth century and reveals the fascinating untold stories behind their making.

Briggs is best known as the cowboy-hat wearing, Texas-drawling host of Joe Bob's Drive-in Theater and Monstervision, which ran for fourteen years on cable TV. His goofy, disarming take offers a refreshingly different perspective on movies and film making. He will make you laugh out loud but then surprise you with some truly insightful analysis. And, with more than three decades of immersion in the cult movie business, Briggs has a wealth of behind-the-scenes knowledge about the people who starred in, and made these movies. There is no one better qualified or more engaging to write about this subject.

All the subgenres in cult cinema are covered, with essays centering around twenty movies including *Triumph of the Will* (1938), *Mudhoney* (1965), *Night of the Living Dead* (1967), *Deep Throat* (1973), *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre* (1974), *Drunken Master* (1978), and *Crash* (1996). Accompanying the text are dozens of capsule reviews providing ideas for related films to discover, as well as kitschy and fun archival film stills. An essential reference and guide to this overlooked side of cinema, *Profoundly Disturbing* should be in the home of every movie fan, especially those who think they've seen everything.

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