Satyajit Ray's Ravi Shankar

Satyajit Ray, one of the greatest auteurs of twentieth century cinema, was a Bengali motion-picture director, writer, and illustrator who set a new standard for Indian cinema with his A pu Trilogy: Pather Panchali (Song of the Little Road) (1955), A parajito (The Unvanquished) (1956), and A pur Sansar (The World of A pu) (1959). His work was admired for its humanism, versatility, attention to detail, and skilled use of music. He was also widely praised for his critical and intellectual writings, which mirror his filmmaking in their precision and wide-ranging grasp of history, culture, and aesthetics. Spanning forty years of Ray's career, these essays, for the first time collected in one volume, present the filmmaker's reflections on the art and craft of the cinematic medium and include his thoughts on sentimentalism, mass culture, silent films, the influence of the...
French New Wave, and the experience of being a successful director. Ray speaks on the difficulty of adapting literary works to screen, the nature of the modern film festival, and the phenomenal contributions of Jean-Luc Godard and the Indian actor, director, producer, and singer Uttam Kumar. The collection also features an excerpt from Ray's diaries and reproduces his sketches of famous film personalities, such as Sergei Eisenstein, Charlie Chaplin, and Akira Kurosawa, in addition to film posters, photographs by and of the artist, film stills, and a filmography. Altogether, the volume relays the full extent of Ray's engagement with film and offers extensive access to the thought of one of the twentieth-century's leading Indian intellectuals.

The Criminals of Kathmandu


Satyajit Ray on Cinema

Cooper's study of Satyajit Ray examines his work from a social and historical perspective.

Speaking of Films

An NYRB Classics Original First published in 1956, Zama is now universally recognized as one of the masterpieces of modern Argentine and Spanish-language literature. Written in a style that is both precise and sumptuous, weirdly archaic and powerfully novel, Zama takes place in the last decade of the eighteenth century and describes the solitary, suspended existence of Don Diego de Zama, a highly placed servant of the Spanish crown who has been posted to A sunción, the capital of remote Paraguay. There, eaten up by pride, lust, petty grudges, and paranoid fantasies, he does as little as he possibly can while plotting his eventual transfer to Buenos Aires, where everything about his hopeless existence
will, he is confident, be miraculously transformed and made good. Don Diego's slow, nightmarish slide into the abyss is not just a tale of one man's perdition but an exploration of existential, and very American, loneliness. Zama, with its stark dreamlike prose and spare imagery, is at once dense and unforeseen, terse and fateful, marked throughout by a haunting movement between sentences, paragraphs, and sections, so that every word seems to emerge from an ocean of things left unsaid. The philosophical depths of this great book spring directly from its dazzling prose.

**Very Naughty Boys: The Amazing True Story of Handmade Films**

Veteran filmmaker Mrinal Sen has always seen his life and work as part of the social and political fabric of his time. As he has continued to experiment with cinema over the decades, evolving his own quest in response to the changing times, he has also maintained an acute social critique which shows in his films, writings and interviews. The enfant terrible of Indian cinema in the 1960s and 70s, he is now known for his subtle nuanced films which capture a moment of crisis, a moment of truth, in the ordinary lives of ordinary people. This collection encapsulates close to half a century of filmmaking. It includes original writings, memoirs, letters, musings on politics, literature, theatre and cinema; critiques of Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak, Chaplin and a host of other international filmmakers especially those from Latin-America; and intensive interviews with scholars, critics and filmmakers such as Samik Bandyopadhyay, Swapan Mullick and Reinhard Hauff. In juxtaposition with intimate photographs of the artist at work and stills from his movies, these form a rare montage of the filmmaker and the man, mapping an unusual creative landscape which offers valuable insights into his films. There is also a complete filmography encompassing his features, telefilms and documentaries.

**Beyond Apu - 20 Favourite Film Roles of Soumitra Chatterjee**

Director: the invisible, omnipotent presence in cinema; a word that holds
spaces inaccessible to most people. In Directors Diaries, Rakesh Bakshi demystifies that figure through the voices of twelve of the most iconic filmmakers of our time. In doing so, he happens upon the greater questions of destiny and chance and how sometimes random encounters end up determining the course of a person's life. Bakshi's interviews turn into deep and intimate conversations: Imtiaz Ali's transformative experience as a reader during summer vacations, locked in a room; Govind Nihalanis visits with his father to temples in Udaipur, which influenced him as a cinematographer and filmmaker; Ashutosh Gowariker's disappointment at faring poorly in his board exams and being forced to give up his dream to study architecture, which led him to seek avenues in theatre, folk dance, group singing, elocution contests in college, eventually leading him to cinema. Farah Khan's passion for dance as a child and how she stopped dancing for almost fourteen years because her father did not like it and began doing so only after he passed away. How cinema became Subhash Ghai's great escape, whenever his parents argued, he would run away to watch a film. How Vishal Bhardwaj composed his history lessons as songs so he could memorize them, and how he accompanied his friend on the harmonium at food festivals in Pragati Maidan to earn a livelihood. An invaluable record of Hindi cinema's old and new voices, and a study of the changing face of it, Directors Diaries is also an inspiring account of people battling great odds to achieve their dreams.

**Studying Indian Cinema**

The best short stories of Satyajit Ray Best known for his immensely popular Feluda mysteries and the adventures of Professor Shonku, Satyajit Ray was also one of the most skilful short story writers of his generation. Ray's short stories often explore the macabre and the supernatural, and are marked by the sharp characterization and trademark wit that distinguish his films. This collection brings together Ray's best short stories—including such timeless gems as 'Khagam', 'Indigo', 'Fritz', 'Bhuto', 'The Pterodactyl's Egg', 'Big Bill', 'Patol Babu, Film Star' and 'The Hungry Septopus'—which readers of all ages will enjoy. A collection of forty-nine short stories.
The Pather Panchali Sketchbook

Interviews with India's preeminent film director and creator of the A pu trilogy

Director's Cut : 50 Major Film-makers of the Modern Era

Soumitra Chatterjee became internationally famous with his debut in Satyajit Ray's A pur Sansar. In an era when Uttam Kumar ruled the minds and hearts of Bengali film audiences, Chatterjee carved a niche for himself, emerging as one of the finest actors, not only in India, but also in the world. Beyond A pu - 20 Favourite Film Roles of Soumitra Chatterjee looks at the cinematic life of this thespian through twenty of the most iconic characters he has essayed. Handpicked by the star himself, and brimming over with vintage anecdotes, this is a fascinating read on the art and craft of a master at work. Including insightful essays on his theatre and other artistic achievements, this book not only introduces the reader to an icon of Indian cinema but also offers a unique insight into the mind of a genius.

The Cinema of Satyajit Ray

A client with an evil lookalike. A stabbing in a hotel. A gang that peddles spurious drugs The murder of a stranger in a Calcutta hotel leads Feluda and his friends to Kathmandu, straight into the den of M aganlal M eghraj, their old adversary. With an incident at Swayambhunath, an ambush in a prayer wheel factory, a thrilling night at the casino, and a prolonged LSD-induced delusion for Jatayu, the case soon turns into a memorable adventure. In a sensational climax, the master sleuth uncovers an international racket in spurious drugs and emerges victorious yet again.

History of Indian Cinema

It all started when Beatle George Harrison stepped in to fund Life of Brian when M onty Python's original backers pulled out. His company, HandM ade films, went on to make some of the best British films of the 80s
Get Free Deep Focus Satyajit Ray

(Withnail and I, Time Bandits and Mona Lisa among them), but then things started to go wrong. This is the incredible and often hilarious insiders' story of what happened.

**Travails with the Alien: The Film That Was Never Made and Other Adventures with Science Fiction**

Pather Panchali placed Indian cinema on the world map in 1955: this is a simple statement of fact, no hyperbole. In the sixty years since, the movie has acquired cult status, and its sketchbook mythical proportions. Believed to have been forever lost after the film-maker donated it to the Cinematheque Francaise archives, the sketchbook is now available as a book, along with other fascinating and previously unseen material on the film: parts of the draft scenario, reviews, recollections, posters and illustrations. For film and Ray enthusiasts, this is a treasure trove, and for a whole new generation of filmgoers, including those who might not even have seen the film yet, it will reveal a process unfolding, a mind at work. As for connoisseurs of the graphic form, Ray's sketches are legend, and the novelistic qualities of this particular sketchbook have been the matter of intense discussion. As much a chronicle of the work of a genius as it is a handbook for aspiring film-makers, this collector's edition of The Pather Panchali Sketchbook is a must-have for every film lover's library.

**DEEP FOCUS.**

The *Apu Trilogy* is the fifth book written by influential film critic Robin Wood and republished for a contemporary audience. Focusing on the famed trilogy from Indian director Satyajit Ray, Wood persuasively demonstrates his ability at detailed textual analysis, providing an impressively sustained reading that elucidates the complex view of life in the trilogy. Wood was one of our most insightful and committed film critics, championing films that explore the human condition. His analysis of *The Apu Trilogy* reveals and illuminates the films’ profoundly humanistic qualities with clarity and rigor, plumbing the psychological and emotional resonances that arise from Ray’s delicate balance of performance, camerawork, and visual design. Wood was the first English-
language critic to write substantively about Ray’s films, which made the original publication of his monograph on The Apu Trilogy unprecedented as well as impressive. Of late there has been a renewed interest in North America in the work of Satyajit Ray, yet no other critic has come close to equaling the scope and depth of his analysis. In his introduction, originally published in 1971, Wood says reactions to Ray’s work were met with indifference. In response, he offers possible reasons why this occurred, including social and cultural differences and the films’ slow pacing, which contemporary critics tended to associate with classical cinema. W ood notes Ray’s admiration for Western film culture, including the Hollywood cinema and European directors, particularly Jean Renoir and his realist films. Assigning a chapter to each Pather Panchali (1955), Aparajito, (1957), and The World of Apu, (1959), Wood goes on to explore each film more thoroughly. One of the aspects of this book that is particularly rewarding is Wood’s analytical approach to the trilogy as a whole, as well as detailed attention given to each of the three films. The book, with a new preface by Richard Lippe and foreword by Barry Keith Grant, functions as a master class on what constitutes an in-depth reading of a work and the use of critical tools that are relevant to such a task. Robin Wood’s The Apu Trilogy offers an excellent account of evaluative criticism that will appeal to film scholars and students alike.

Deep Focus

Pather Panchali placed Indian cinema on the world map in 1955: this is a simple statement of fact, no hyperbole. In the sixty years since, the movie has acquired cult status, and its sketchbook mythical proportions. Believed to have been forever lost after the film-maker donated it to the Cinematheque Francaise archives, the sketchbook is now available as a book, along with other fascinating and previously unseen material on the film: parts of the draft scenario, reviews, recollections, posters and illustrations. For film and Ray enthusiasts, this is a treasure trove, and for a whole new generation of filmgoers, including those who might not even have seen the film yet, it will reveal a process unfolding, a mind at work. As for connoisseurs of the graphic form, Ray's sketches are legend, and the novelistic qualities of this particular sketchbook have been the matter
of intense discussion. As much a chronicle of the work of a genius as it is a handbook for aspiring film-makers, this collector's edition of The Pather Panchali Sketchbook is a must-have for every film lover's library.

**Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line**

The Definitive Study Of The Life And Work Of India's Greatest Filmmaker Satyajit Ray Was India's First Filmmaker To Gain International Recognition As A Master Of The Medium, And Today He Continues To Be Regarded As One Of The World's Finest Directors Of All Time. His First Film Pather Panchali, Made When He Was In His Thirties, Catapulted Him Into The Forefront Of Young Directors Worldwide When In 1956 The Cannes Film Festival Honoured It As The Best Human Document Of The Year. Several Other Films By Ray, Like Aparajito, Jalsaghar, Charulata, Nayak, Aranyer Din Ratri, Shatranj Ke Khilari, Ghare Baire And Agantuk, Made Over A Career Spanning Five Decades, Are Considered Classics Of Contemporary Cinema. In 1992, Ray Was Awarded The Oscar For Lifetime Achievement By The Academy Of Motion Pictures Arts And Science And, In The Same Year, Was Also Honoured With The Bharat Ratna. First Compared With Robert Flaherty For His Lyrical Use Of Nature And Locations, Ray Is Now Regarded As One Of The Great Neo-Realist Directors. From The Beginning He Rejected The Established Path Of Indian Film Production, Declaring At The Age Of Six: I'll Go To Germany And Come Back And Make Films. He Absorbed A Remarkably Broad Culture From His Family Which Had Interesting Literary, Artistic And Musical Inclinations. With His Extraordinary Persistence And Capacity For Work, He Simultaneously Equipped Himself With Such Thoroughness That He Was Able To Create A Masterpiece In His Very First Film. Marie Seton's Classic Study Of Ray, The Product Of Thorough Research And A Long And Close Association With The Ray Family, Is The Most Detailed Examination Available Of Ray's Work As Musician, Scenarist And Director. First Published In 1971, It Was Last Updated In 1978, Some Fourteen Years Before Ray Passed Away. This New And Revised Edition Includes Unpublished Pieces From The Author's Further Writings On Ray, And An Afterword That Takes The Story Forward To Ray's Last Film. It Will,
Hopefully, Re-Introduce The Genius Of Ray To A Whole New Generation Of Readers And Film Aficionados.

**The Pather Panchali Sketchbook**

**The Curse of the Goddess**

Satyajit Ray, 1921-1992, motion picture director from West Bengal, India.

**Bijoya Ray Remembers Satyajit Ray at Work**

Twentyone extraordinary stories from a master storyteller For several decades now, Satyajit Ray’s tales about unusual happenings and bizarre characters rooted in familiar surroundings have both regaled and terrified his readers, young and old alike. Here finally are the very best of his short stories, available together for the first time between two covers. In these pages, you will encounter— •The Hungry Septopus, a carnivorous plant with a monstrous appetite • Barin Bhowmick, a kleptomaniac who is taken back several years by a chance encounter on a train • Patol Babu, an amateur actor for whom a walkon part in a movie turns into the ultimate challenge • Bipin Chowdhury, who seems to be suffering from a most disagreeable bout of amnesia • Bonku Babu, a mofussil schoolteacher who is visited one night by a friendly and somewhat awkward alien • A shamanja Babu’s Dog, who bursts out laughing one morning • A nath Babu, a ghost hunter who finds himself being stalked by his terrifying quarry and many, many more unforgettable characters This collection features four new stories, translated specially for this volume, including ‘Pikoo’s Diary’, Ray’s masterpiece about a small boy’s perception of his mother’s adulterous affair, written as a child’s diary. It also contains all eight short stories that Satyajit Ray translated himself into English. Hilarious and sinister by turns, this is perfect bedtime reading for those who like their terror seasoned with a pinch of humor, and a collector’s item for all Ray aficionados.

**Routledge Handbook of Indian Cinemas**
Frank and funny, these stories written originally for the Bengali children's magazine Sandesh, are an essential read for all Ray enthusiasts as well as those who want to know Ray, the writer and film-maker, better. In this volume, Ray also shares some of his experiences while shooting Pather Panchali—his epic debut, and subsequent films, particularly for children. He describes how an entire field of kaash flowers was eaten up by cows before he could shoot his famous scene with the train in Pather Panchali; and how a circus tiger let loose in a bamboo grove chased away a group of curious onlookers in the blink of an eye.

The Apu Trilogy

Discover the “extraordinary” (The Washington Post) debut novel that “announces the arrival of a literary supernova” (The New York Times Book Review), “a drama of childhood that is as wild as it is intimate” (Chigozie Obioma). WINNER OF THE EDGAR® AWARD • LONGLISTED FOR THE WOMEN’S PRIZE • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The New York Times Book Review • Time • The Washington Post • NPR • The Guardian • Library Journal

In a sprawling Indian city, three friends venture into the most dangerous corners to find their missing classmate. . . . Down market lanes crammed with too many people, dogs, and rickshaws, past stalls that smell of cardamom and sizzling oil, below a smoggy sky that doesn’t let through a single blade of sunlight, and all the way at the end of the Purple metro line lies a jumble of tin-roofed homes where nine-year-old Jai lives with his family. From his doorway, he can spot the glittering lights of the city’s fancy high-rises, and though his mother works as a maid in one, to him they seem a thousand miles away. Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line plunges readers deep into this neighborhood to trace the unfolding of a tragedy through the eyes of a child as he has his first perilous collisions with an unjust and complicated wider world. Jai drools outside sweet shops, watches too many reality police shows, and considers himself to be smarter than his friends Pari (though she gets the best grades) and Faiz (though Faiz has an actual job). When a classmate goes missing, Jai decides to use the crime-solving skills he has picked up from TV to find him. He asks Pari and Faiz to be his assistants, and together they draw up
lists of people to interview and places to visit. But what begins as a game turns sinister as other children start disappearing from their neighborhood. Jai, Pari, and Faiz have to confront terrified parents, an indifferent police force, and rumors of soul-snatching djinns. As the disappearances edge ever closer to home, the lives of Jai and his friends will never be the same again. Drawing on real incidents and a spate of disappearances in metropolitan India, Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line is extraordinarily moving, flawlessly imagined, and a triumph of suspense. It captures the fierce warmth, resilience, and bravery that can emerge in times of trouble and carries the reader headlong into a community that, once encountered, is impossible to forget.

**Portrait of a Director**

A critical introduction to the best of international film-makers in the last 50 years. This is an acutely perceptive collection of essays defining the work of fifty film-makers of the modern era. The shape of cinema is today unrecognizable from that in the 1950s but film criticism has perhaps not kept pace with changes after 1960, when cinema became modern. The collection addresses this deficit by examining the most important directors since 1960. It includes the film-makers of the French New Wave and New German Cinema, extends its attention to earlier 'modernists' like Luis Bunuel and Robert Bresson and speculates on the significance of masters like Andrei Tarkovsky and popular film-makers like Steven Spielberg. It also encompasses a whole range of more recent cinema from Abbas Kiarostami to Bela Tarr. As befits the enormous variety in the range of cinema covered, each of the essays is strikingly different in its emphasis although they are all lucidly and engagingly written. Also included are definitive assessments of five key Indian film directors - Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak, Adoor Gopalakrishnan, G. A ravindan and Raj Kapoor.

**Deep Focus**

In the three decades since Smita Patil died-at the impossibly young age of thirty-one-she has unwaveringly been one of Indian cinema's biggest icons. That is unusual enough for a 'parallel cinema' actor, rendered
Get Free Deep Focus Satyajit Ray

more remarkable in a career that spanned a mere ten years. Patil, one of the leading lights of the New Indian Cinema of the mid-1970s, has a body of work that would make veterans proud. 

Smita Patil: A Brief Incandescence tells her remarkable story, tracing it from her childhood to stardom, controversial marriage and untimely death. Her close friends remember 'Smi' as outspoken and bindaas, not beyond hurling abuses or taking off on bikes for impromptu joyrides. Film-makers like Shyam Benegal and Jabbar Patel, and co-stars Om Puri and Shabana Azmi talk about Patil's dedication to her craft and her intuitive pursuit of that perfect take. From the difficult equation she shared with her mother to her propensity for 'wrong' relationships, about which she was always open unlike other stars of the time, this is a complex and honest exploration of Patil's life. The book also includes a sharp critique of the films that defined her. They read like a roster of the best of New Indian Cinema: Bhumika, Mandi, Manthan, Umbartha, Bhavni Bhavai, Akaler Sandhane, Chakra, Chidambaram and Mirch Masala among them. 

Maithili Rao also examines Patil's many unfortunate forays into mainstream commercial cinema. Incisive and insightful, Smita Patil: A Brief Incandescence is an invaluable addition to film studies in India, bringing alive an entire era when cinema in India was truly different. It is also the definitive biography of a rare talent and a haunting life.

Zama

Draws on interviews with colleagues, film archives, and correspondence to examine the life and career of the stage and film actor, looking at his professional achievements, his famous roles, and his enduring legacy.

Childhood Days

Satyajit Ray, known to his intimates as Manik-da, remains India's most respected name in international film circles. This book reveals in its simplicity the ease and camaraderie between Satyajit Ray, one of India's finest film-makers, and Nemai Ghosh, photographer extraordinaire. Manik-da is the latter'sendeavour to depict the man behind the director's mask. Ghosh first worked with Ray on Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne, and Ray
immediately found in him a kindred spirit who intuitively understood his requirements - and whom he understood. Thus was formed a partnership that spanned over a quarter of a century. In the process, Ghosh was able to photograph Ray at work and play, capturing on film the many moods of the master director. This nuanced and lucid translation from the Bengali original, which includes a perceptive Foreword by Sharmila Tagore, presents to the English reader Ghosh's thoughts on Ray with over fifty exquisite, never-before-seen photographs.

Directors' Diaries: The Road to Their First Film

This book is traces the historical evolution of Indian cinema through a number of key decades. The book is made up of 14 chapters with each chapter focusing on one key film, the chosen films analysed in their wider social, political and historical context whilst a concerted engagement with various ideological strands that underpin each film is also evident. In addition to exploring the films in their wider contexts, the author analyses selected sequences through the conceptual framework common to both film and media studies. This includes a consideration of narrative, genre, representation, audience and mise-en-scene. The case studies run chronologically from Awaara (The Vagabond, 1951) to The Elements Trilogy: Water (2005) and include films by such key figures as Satyajit Ray (The Lonely Wife), Ritwick Ghatak (Cloud Capped Star), Yash Chopra (The Wall) and Mira Nair (Salaam Bombay!).

Best Of Satyajit Ray

India's Greatest Film-Maker On The Art And Craft Of Films Exactly Fifty Years Ago, in 1955, The Release Of Pather Panchali Heralded The Arrival Of A Master In The World Of Cinema. Over The Next Forty Years, Satyajit Ray Came To Be Regarded As One Of The World's Finest Film-Makers Ever. Today, More Than A Decade After His Death, He Continues To Be India's Most Respected Name In International Film Circles. A part From His Achievements As A Director, Ray Was Also A Prolific Writer Of Novels, Short Stories, And Essays On Cinema. Speaking Of Films Brings Together Some Of Ray's Most Memorable Writings On Film And Film-

Deep Focus: Reflection On Indian Cinema

An anthology of short stories that master film-maker Satyajit Ray adapted into films. A rich zamindar has a dream that his daughter-in-law is an incarnation of Kali; a clerk's life turns upside down when he stumbles upon a magical stone which can turn any base metal into gold; a housewife steps out of her lower-middle-class household into the big city to work as a salesgirl, and is awestruck by its labyrinthine ways; blessed with three magical boons from the king of ghosts, Goopy and Bagha fight the evil plans of the king of Halla and save the kingdom of Shundi; a group of friends run into a self-proclaimed ageless sage who claims to have been friends with Plato, Jesus and Buddha. With short stories from legendary writers like Tagore, Prabhat Kumar Mukhopadhyay, Rajshekhar Basu and Premchand, Fourteen is a beautiful collection of tales Satyajit Ray transformed into films, that have endured and become classics we all love and admire.
Indian film industry is the largest in the world. It releases 1000 plus movies annually. Most films are made in South Indian languages (viz., Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam). Nevertheless, Hindi films take the largest box office share. India has 12,000 plus cinema halls and this industry churns out 1000 plus films a year. This book gives a brief history of the world's most exciting industrial enterprise. It gives the details, facts and vital sets of data of Indian cinema with amazing finesse. Its simple style and low cost enable all reader genres to read it. Renu Saran has penned this book for the lovers of Indian cinema. She has given many good books to our valued readers. She has worked very hard to collect data and analyze information sets. That is why this book has become one of the best in its genre.

The Collected Short Stories

India is the largest film producing country in the world and its output has a global reach. After years of marginalisation by academics in the Western world, Indian cinemas have moved from the periphery to the centre of the world cinema in a comparatively short space of time. Bringing together contributions from leading scholars in the field, this Handbook looks at the complex reasons for this remarkable journey. Combining a historical and thematic approach, the Handbook discusses how Indian cinemas need to be understood in their historical unfolding as well as their complex relationships to social, economic, cultural, political, ideological, aesthetic, technical and institutional discourses. The thematic section provides an up-to-date critical narrative on diverse topics such as audience, censorship, film distribution, film industry, diaspora, sexuality, film music and nationalism. The Handbook provides a comprehensive and cutting edge survey of Indian cinemas, discussing Popular, Parallel/New Wave and Regional cinemas as well as the spectacular rise of Bollywood. It is an invaluable resource for students and academics of South Asian Studies, Film Studies and Cultural Studies.

Manik and I
**Montage**

The incredible story of a film that was never made In the 1950s, when Satyajit Ray asked Pandit Ravi Shankar to compose the music for the *Apu Trilogy*, he conceptualized a film on the legendary sitarist. He also worked out a detailed storyboard for the film. However, for reasons unknown till now, the film was never made and the project was forgotten. Now, for the first time, Ray's storyboard is available. Together with interviews by both Ray and Ravi Shankar on various aspects of their collaboration and a scholarly introduction, this is truly a collector's edition.

**Peter Cushing**

Satyajit Ray is acknowledged as one of the world's finest film-makers. His films changed the way the world looked at Indian cinema. But Ray was not only a film-maker. He was also a bestselling writer of novels and short stories, and possibly the only Indian film-maker who wrote prolifically on cinema. This book brings together, for the first time in one volume, some of his most cerebral writings on film. With the economy and precision that marked his films, Ray writes on the art and craft of cinema, pens an ode to silent cinema, discusses the problems in adapting literary works to film, pays tributes to contemporaries like Godard and Uttam Kumar, and even gives us a peek into his experiences at film festivals, both as a jury member and as a contestant. Published in association with the Society for the Preservation of Satyajit Ray Films, and including fascinating photographs by and of the master, *Deep Focus* not only reveals Ray's engagement with cinema but also provides an invaluable insight into the mind of a genius.

**Manik Da: Memoirs Of Satyajit Ray**

**Suchitra Sen: The Legend and the Enigma**

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Peppered with heartfelt accounts and charming anecdotes, Urdu film magazines were in great favour with the public from the 1930s through the 1990s – a considerable period of seven decades. Unfortunately, as Urdu got progressively marginalised in later years, these magazines were not archived, for the most part; leading to their inevitable disappearance from popular imagination. Tracking down these lost publications, Yasir Abbasi followed leads – some futile, some fruitful – to obscure towns and people's homes in a last-ditch effort to save valuable records of Indian cinema. As challenging as it was to locate faded issues and original texts, he managed to uncover and translate many fabulous memoirs covering a wide gamut of our favourite old artistes at their candid best. A gloom-laced piece on Meena Kumari by Nargis, a rollicking description by Raja Mehdi Ali Khan of an eventful evening with Manto (not to mention a mysterious woman and a house on fire), Jaidev writing about his chequered career, Balraj Sahni introspecting about the relevance of Hindi and Urdu in films – it's a rich mix of engrossing narratives brought back from oblivion.

Always Being Born

Satyajit Ray was a master of science fiction writing. Through his Professor Shonku stories and other fiction and non-fiction pieces, he explored the genre from various angles. In the 1960s, Ray wrote a screenplay for what would have been the first-of-its-kind sci-fi film to be made in India. It was called The Alien and was based on his own short story "Bonkababur Bandhu". On being prompted by Arthur C. Clarke, who found the screenplay promising, Ray sent the script to Columbia Pictures in Hollywood, who agreed to back it, and Peter Sellers was approached to play a prominent role. Then started the "Ordeals of the Alien" as Ray calls it, as even after a series of trips to the US, UK and France, the film was never made, and more shockingly, some fifteen years later, Ray watched Steven Spielberg's film Close Encounters of the Third Kind and later E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial, and realized these bore uncanny resemblances to his script The Alien, including the way the ET was designed! A slice of hitherto undocumented cinema history, Travails with the Alien includes Ray's detailed essay on the project with the full
script of The Alien, as well as the original short story on which the screenplay was based. These, presented alongside correspondence between Ray and Peter Sellers, Arthur C. Clarke, Marlon Brando, Hollywood producers who showed interest, and a fascinating essay by the young student at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism who broke the Spielberg story, make this book a rare and compelling read on science fiction, cinema and the art of adaptation.

Satyajit Ray

Collects the Indian filmmaker's famous commercial artwork and graphic designs.

The Apu Trilogy

Arguably the greatest star of Bengali cinema, Suchitra Sen mesmerized audiences for years, before withdrawing from the public gaze and refusing to emerge in the limelight in the last decade of her life. In this nuanced biography, Shoma Chatterji unveils the two different dimensions of the Suchitra Sen persona: as a legendary romantic star with an audience pull spanning over two decades, and her slow but steady metamorphosis into a powerful performing artist through films like Deep Jele Jai, Hospital, Mamta and Aandhi who could seamlessly and effortlessly essay completely different characters without the on-screen partnership of Uttam Kumar. Award-winning author and film critic Shoma Chatterji presents a fascinating portrait of an icon of Indian cinema, addressing two significant elements that have not been touched by other writers: Suchitra Sen as a working woman in films and her wilful social seclusion.

Looking Beyond

"I can never forget the excitement in my mind after seeing 'Pather Panchali'", noted Akira Kurosawa. Satyajit Ray's three films about the boyhood, adolescence and manhood of Apu, 'Pather Panchali' (1955), 'Aparajito' (1956) and 'The World of Apu' (1959) - collectively known as
The Apu Trilogy - are established classics of world cinema. The Trilogy was the chief reason for Satyajit Ray's receiving a Hollywood Oscar for lifetime achievement in 1992, just before his death. This book by Ray's biographer and world authority Andrew Robinson is the first full study of the Trilogy. Robinson - who came to know the director well during the last decade of his career - covers the literary and cultural background to the films, their production, their music composed by Ravi Shankar, their aesthetic value, and their complex critical reception in the East and the West, from 1955 up to the present day. Extensively and beautifully illustrated and a pleasure to read, 'The Apu Trilogy' will appeal to anyone captivated by the unique world created by Satyajit Ray.

Smita Patil: A Brief Incandescence

It is unusual to come across a life so rich in varied experiences as the one that Bijoya Ray, wife and constant companion to the renowned film-maker Satyajit Ray, has lived. Despite being closely related, Satyajit—‘Manik’ to his friends and family— and Bijoya fell in love and embarked on a life together years before Ray’s groundbreaking film Pather Panchali was made, and their long, happy married life lasted right until Ray’s death in 1992. Bijoya Ray never felt the urge to write her memoirs, but was finally persuaded to pick up the pen when she was well into her eighties. Manik and I brims over with hitherto unknown stories of her life with Satyajit Ray, told in candid, vivid detail.

Yeh Un Dinoñ Ki Baat Hai

An incident near the desolate Chhinnamasta temple on the rocky riverbank of Rajrappa leads to the death of Mahesh Chowdhury, the head of a Hazaribagh family. Adding to the mystery are a set of coded diaries, a valuable stamp collection that is missing and a tiger that is roaming the streets of Hazaribagh. One of Feluda’s most intriguing adventures, this shows the master sleuth at his best.

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