Race in American Film: Voices and Visions That Shaped a Nation

Robert Tench

*Old Dominion University*, ftench@odu.edu

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television, and film appearances; and the places they lived, visited, and performed, including locations mentioned in their songs. Entries close with a sappy summation (Barbara Bach’s: “Isn’t it gratifying to know that Ringo married a Bond girl?”) as well as a rating (from zero to ten) indicating importance, though the authors confess that their evaluation is highly subjective. A surprising omission from the people section is Michael Braun, an American journalist assigned to the Beatles’ first British tour, who wrote a nearly forgotten but highly regarded tour diary, _Love Me Do: The Beatles’ Progress_. This entertaining compilation of Beatles lore is written with flair, and the four-part organization invites efficient look-ups as well as enjoyable browsing. **VERDICT** Appropriate for either the reference shelf or the circulating collection and considerably less expensive than Kenneth Womack’s recent _The Beatles Encyclopedia_—Cynthia Lee Knight, Hunterdon Cty. Historical Soc., Flemington, NJ


Bernardi (cinema, San Francisco State Univ.) and Green (film studies & screenwriting, Arizona State Univ.) offer critical insights into U.S. cinema’s place in world culture with respect to race. The work begins with an alphabetical list of entries (on movies, directors, actors, and noteworthy topics), a list of films by era, a guide to related topics, and a chronology. In an excellent introductory essay, the editors discuss their theory of race, the difficulty of consensus on race’s meaning in film, and the challenge of compiling contributions from a diverse range of 95 scholars, who don’t all agree on the definitions of race and racism. The editors include only what they consider the most significant films. All articles are signed, with “see-also” references and suggestions for further reading and viewing. Posters, pictures, and film scenes supplement the entries. The work concludes with recommended books, journals, websites, and other materials. Although the contributors are scholars, their

researchers or patrons in need of records for school enrollment, passports, or other reasons will benefit from replacing the previous edition with this newest iteration.


Tackling everything from the Taj Mahal to a final resting place for champion race horses, Rhoads (cemetery consultant, _Travel & Leisure; Wish You Were Here: Adventures in Cemetery Travel_) evokes the beauty and history of burial grounds worldwide. About half of the cemeteries are in the United States. Other examples include the Borrehaugene Viking Graveyard in Norway and Okunoin Cemetery, the largest burial ground in Japan. Striking photographs and fascinating narratives accompany each entry. Rhoads’s choices range from George Washington’s single-family burial plot to larger cemeteries with specific areas of interest such as Nova Scotia’s Fairview Lawn, where 121 victims from the _Titanic_ sinking are buried. **VERDICT** The in-depth stories and eye-catching photographs of monuments and vistas will appeal to most readers.


A fairly lighthearted title belies the scholarly tone of Sechrist’s (geography, Indiana Univ. of Pennsylvania) examination of growing conditions, winemaking, and the chemical reactions that make or break a wine-drinking experience. The author touches on religious, ceremonial, and social implications of wine drinking as well as the history of alcohol consumption from ancient times to today. A glossary will help budding wine tasters describe their experience from baked or big to spritzig or woody. **VERDICT** For wine novices and connoisseurs alike who are interested in making, tasting, or knowledgeably discussing wine.


Vigliani (obstetrics & gynecology, Warren Alpert Medical Sch., Brown Univ.) and Eaton (children’s lit, Univ. of Rhode Island Graduate Sch. of Library and Information Studies; _A History of Civilization in 50 Disasters_) have compiled here the events that changed human health and treatment of disease through the ages. Appearing in roughly chronological order, some topics span centuries (massage from the seventh century BCE to modern day), while others focus on a single invention (the stethoscope in 1816) or discovery (X-rays in 1896). A thoughtful introduction notes that some findings were made independently of one another and that several theories (handwashing fights spread of infection) were ignored for many years. **VERDICT** The photos, graphics, and accessible text will appeal to a range of readers, from middle schoolers to adults.


Part of Greenwood’s 12-volume “Voices of an Era” series, this book examines the British Isles from approximately 600 to late 1400 CE. Chapters cover daily life, education, economics, religion, warfare, crime, and popular culture. The 63 primary sources range from a summary of household accounts to a marriage contract to battle descriptions. Mitchell (history, Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City; _Portraits of Medieval Women; Family Life in the Middle Ages_) chose materials from the Celtic regions (as well as the British Isles) that were not previously published in other source books. An introduction and “Keep in Mind as You Read” notes preface each document. Further reading suggestions, questions and topics to consider, and a brief paragraph on the subject’s aftermath complete each entry. **VERDICT** For high school students and readers seeking an intimate look at history, who will appreciate the in-text definitions, appendix of biographical sketches, and glossary. —Maggie Knapp, Trinity Valley Sch., Fort Worth, TX
clearly written and stimulating articles will be accessible to most readers. **VERDICT**
High school and college students, general readers, and film enthusiasts interested in the role of race in U.S. cinema will find this exceptional and well-organized work indispensable.—Rob Tench, Old Dominion Univ. Lib., Norfolk, VA

**RELIGION**


An expert on Islam, Kassam (religious studies, Pomona Coll.; *Women and Islam*) proves her versatility here. Nineteen well-documented, scholarly articles explore the mostly positive role of Asian religions in encouraging agency and defining identity for some 20th- and 21st-century women, such as Tamil female “martyr bombers,” Thai spirit-mediums, and Hindu-Balinese dancers. Written by 22 academics, the chapters have often substantive footnotes and are organized, as in other series volumes, under five broad subject headings. The wide-ranging coverage is not encyclopedic. Sikhism, for instance, receives virtually no attention despite Sikhs’ ongoing interest in negotiating more equitable gender roles. Jains are very briefly considered, and despite passing mention of Iran, the Bahá’í faith is overlook entirely. Noteworthy chapters include an article on Christian women helping prostitutes who serve the U.S. military in South Korea and essays examining women’s leadership opportunities as meditation teachers in Southeast Asia and in France and Australia. The contributors demonstrate a fairly thorough knowledge of Buddhist philosophy, Hindu and Muslim theology, and devotional practice. The extensive back matter adds value. **VERDICT**

Graduate and upper undergraduate students will find rich material in areas such as intersectionality, socioeconomics, anthropology, and politics.—Patricia D. Lothrop, formerly of St. George’s Sch., Newport, RI

**ereviews**

*Migration to New Worlds*  
Adam Matthew Digital  
http://www.migration.amdigital.co.uk

** CONTENT ** Attractive and richly stocked, this new database focuses on 200 years of population dispersal, offering material on people who left Britain, Ireland, mainland Europe, and Asia for the Americas and Australasia. The resource presents its broad range of archival documents in two modules. The first, *Migration to New Worlds: The Century of Immigration*, investigates all aspects of migration from 1800 to 1924. The second, *Migration to New Worlds: The Modern Era*, begins in the 1840s and is more focused, examining companies and corporate interests involved in colonization, immigration and welfare societies, and the plight of 20th-century refugees and displaced persons.

A detailed introduction and a database tour showcase a wide range of print and audiovisual material. Users can read, for example, letters and diaries of those who left their homelands as well as business documents such as shipping records and press releases from organizations that assisted refugees. Visual resources such as maps, photographs, paintings, and ship plans are presented in a “gallery” section, and the oral history portion of the database contains audio files of interviews from New York’s Tenement Museum and elsewhere. The Convict Database offers information on individuals who were transported to New South Wales and related history and trends.

The information is divided into 13 thematic areas (“journey conditions,” “responses to immigration,” “permanent settlement and successive generations,” etc.). Each explores an aspect of the emigrant experience, starting with the reasons that led them to leave their countries and ending with their lives in their new home, or making the journey back home.

There are an abundance of scanned, high-definition materials here, from libraries and archives in the places people left as well as the places in which they arrived. The resource provides documents from the National Archives of the United States and of Australia, for example, and from Liverpool, England’s Maritime Archives & Library and Antwerp, Belgium’s Red Star Line