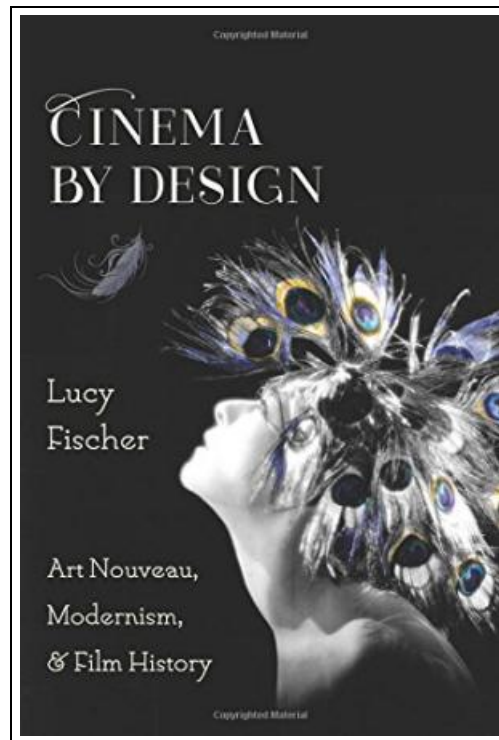


Cinema by Design: Art Nouveau, Modernism, and Film History (Paperback)



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CINEMA BY DESIGN: ART NOUVEAU, MODERNISM, AND FILM HISTORY (PAPERBACK)



Columbia University Press, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Art Nouveau thrived from the late 1890s through the First World War. The international design movement revealed in curvilinear forms and both playful and macabre visions and had a deep impact on cinematic art direction, costuming, gender representation, genre, and theme. Though historians have long dismissed Art Nouveau as a decadent cultural mode, its tremendous afterlife in cinema proves otherwise. In *Cinema by Design*, Lucy Fischer traces Art Nouveau's long history in films from various decades and global locales, appreciating the movement's enduring avant-garde aesthetics and dynamic ideology. Fischer begins with the portrayal of women and nature in the magical trick films of the Spanish director Segundo de Chomón; the elite dress and decor design choices in Cecil B. DeMille's *The Affairs of Anatol* (1921); and the mise-en-scène of fantasy in Raoul Walsh's *The Thief of Bagdad* (1924). Reading *Salome* (1923), Fischer shows how the cinema offered an engaging frame for adapting the risqué works of Oscar Wilde and Aubrey Beardsley. Moving to the modern era, Fischer focuses on a series of dramatic films, including Michelangelo Antonioni's *The Passenger* (1975), that make creative use of the architecture of Antoni Gaudí; and several European works of horror—*The Abominable Dr. Phibes* (1971), *Deep Red* (1975), and *The Strange Color of Your Body's Tears* (2013)—in which Art Nouveau architecture and narrative supply unique resonances in scenes of terror. In later chapters, she examines films like *Klimt* (2006) that portray the style in relation to the art world and ends by discussing the Art Nouveau revival in 1960s cinema. Fischer's analysis brings into focus the partnership between Art Nouveau's fascination with the illogical and the unconventional and filmmakers' desire to upend...



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