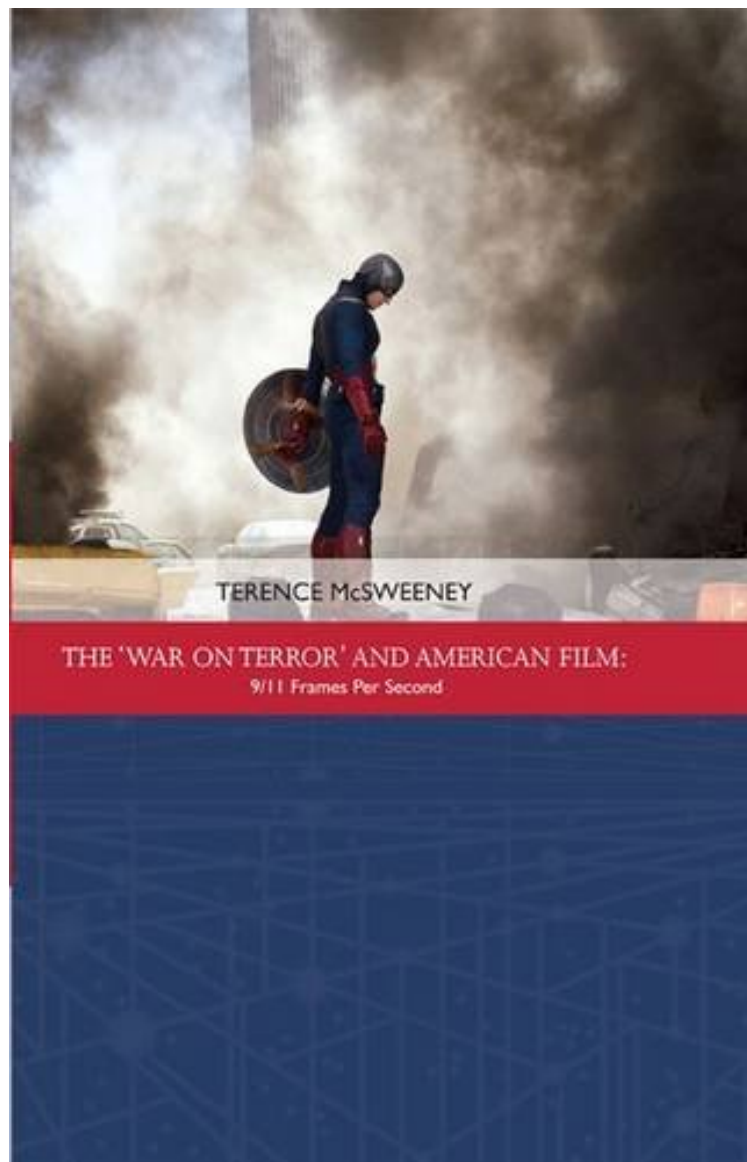


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The 'War on Terror' and American Film: 9/11 Frames Per Second (Traditions in American Cinema EUP)

Terence McSweeney

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praised *The 'War on Terror' and American Film: 9/11 Frames Per Second* (Traditions in American Cinema EUP):

American film in the first decade of the 21st century became a cultural battleground on which a war of representation was waged, but did these films endorse the 'War on Terror' or challenge it? More than just reproducing these fears and fantasies, *The 'War on Terror' and American Film* argues that American cinema has played a significant role in shaping them, restructuring how audiences have viewed this most tumultuous of decades in particularly influential ways. This compelling and theoretically informed exploration of contemporary American cinema charts the evolution of the impact of 9/11 on Hollywood film through a range of genres - war films, superhero movies, historical dramas, horror and even alien invasion films - each revealing a cinema not of escapism but one that engages profoundly with the turbulent era in which their films were made. Through a vibrant analysis of films as diverse as *War of the Worlds* (2005), *United 93* (2006), *300* (2007), *The Bourne Ultimatum* (2007), *Zero Dark Thirty* (2012), *Marvel Avengers Assemble* (2012) and many others, *The 'War on Terror' and American Film* explores the influence of the cultural trauma of 9/11 and the subsequent 'War on Terror' on American cinema in the first decade of the new millennium and beyond.

'McSweeney convincingly shows how the action genre has incorporated the discourse of the war on terror into its narratives, by including post-9/11 debates on masculinity, the legitimacy of revenge as well as the role of the US in international affairs...the arguments and conclusions are convincing and at times surprising, resulting in a fresh take on several films and their relation to 9/11...an engaging and critically lucid monograph' -- Thomas Ervold Bjerre, *American Studies in Scandinavia* "Both [of Terence McSweeney's] publications provide fascinating and timely discussions of contemporary cultural texts in an accessible and engaging way. They are guaranteed to spark the interest of varied audiences, from students of American studies to researchers theorizing post-9/11 representations, ideologies and discourses in popular culture, politics and the media. The authors' fast-paced style and passion for academically overlooked, yet hugely popular films, will certainly appeal to the non-specialist public intrigued by the subtexts of box office hits." -- Maria-Irina Popescu, *European Journal of American Culture* About the Author Terence McSweeney is Lecturer in Film and Television Studies, Southampton Solent University.