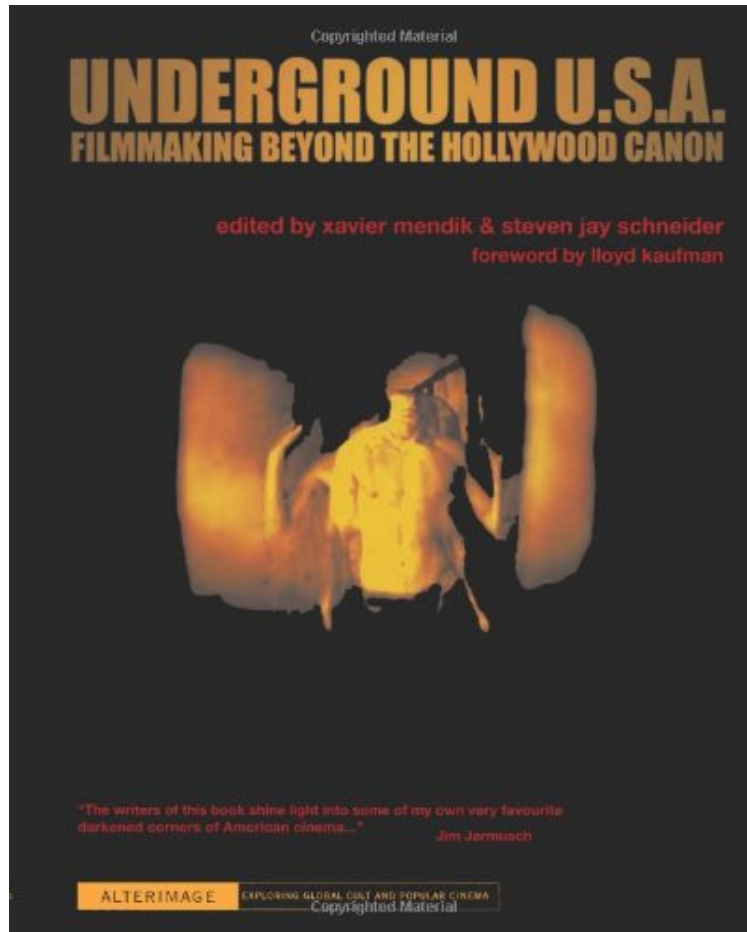


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Underground U.S.A.: Filmmaking Beyond the Hollywood Canon (Alterimage)

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Underground U.S.A.:
Filmmaking Beyond the Hollywood Canon (Alterimage):

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent! By J. Coffman Excellent collection of essays on a wide variety of "underground" cinema films and figures, from Troma to Harry Smith. Essays run the gamut from academic to more accessible and informative, overall a great collection of writing on the subject. One minor complaint, though: in the last few chapters, the illustrations look badly distorted and pixelated. Weird error!

Whether defined by the carnivalesque excesses of Troma studios (The Toxic Avenger), the arthouse erotica of Radley Metzger and Doris Wishman, or the narrative experimentations of Abel Ferrara, Melvin Van Peebles, Jack Smith, or

Harmony Korine, underground cinema has achieved an important position within American film culture. Often defined as "cult" and "exploitation" or "alternative" and "independent," the American underground retains separate strategies of production and exhibition from the cinematic mainstream, while its sexual and cinematic representations differ from the traditionally conservative structures of the Hollywood system. *Underground U.S.A.* offers a fascinating overview of this area of maverick moviemaking by considering the links between the experimental and exploitative traditions of the American underground.

About the AuthorXavier Mendik is the director of the Cult Film Archive at University College Northampton, and he is the general editor of the *AlterImage* series. Steven Jay Schneider is author of *The Cinema of Wes Craven*.