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## Greek Tragedy on Screen (Classical Presences)

*Pantelis Michelakis*

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**Pantelis Michelakis : Greek Tragedy on Screen (Classical Presences)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Greek Tragedy on Screen (Classical Presences):

Greek Tragedy on Screen considers a wide range of films which engage openly with narrative and performative

aspects of Greek tragedy. This volume situates these films within the context of on-going debates in film criticism and reception theory in relation to theoretical or critical readings of tragedy in contemporary culture. Michelakis argues that film adaptations of Greek tragedy need to be placed between the promises of cinema for a radical popular culture, and the divergent cultural practices and realities of commercial films, art-house films, silent cinema, and films for television, home video, and DVD. In an age where the boundaries between art and other forms of cultural production are constantly intersected and reconfigured, the appeal of Greek tragedy for the screen needs to be related to the longing it triggers for origins and authenticity, as well as to the many uncertainties, such as homelessness, violence, and loss of identity, with which it engages. The films discussed include not only critically recognized films by directors such as Michael Cacoyannis, Jules Dassin, and Pier Paolo Pasolini, but also more recent films by Woody Allen, Tony Harrison, Werner Herzog, and Lars von Trier. Moreover, it also considers earlier and largely neglected films of cinematic traditions which lie outside Hollywood.

"Recommended." --Choice  
About the Author  
Pantelis Michelakis is Senior Lecturer in Classics at the University of Bristol. His research interests are in the fields of Greek literature, theatre and culture, and their reception in the modern world. He is the author of *Achilles in Greek Tragedy* (CUP, 2002), *Euripides' Iphigenia at Aulis* (Duckworth, 2006), and *Greek Tragedy on Screen* (OUP, 2013). He has also coedited *Homer, Tragedy and Beyond: Essays in Honour of PE Easterling* (SPHS 2002), *Agamemnon in Performance, 458 BC - AD 2004* (OUP, 2005), and *The Ancient World in Silent Cinema* (CUP, 2013).