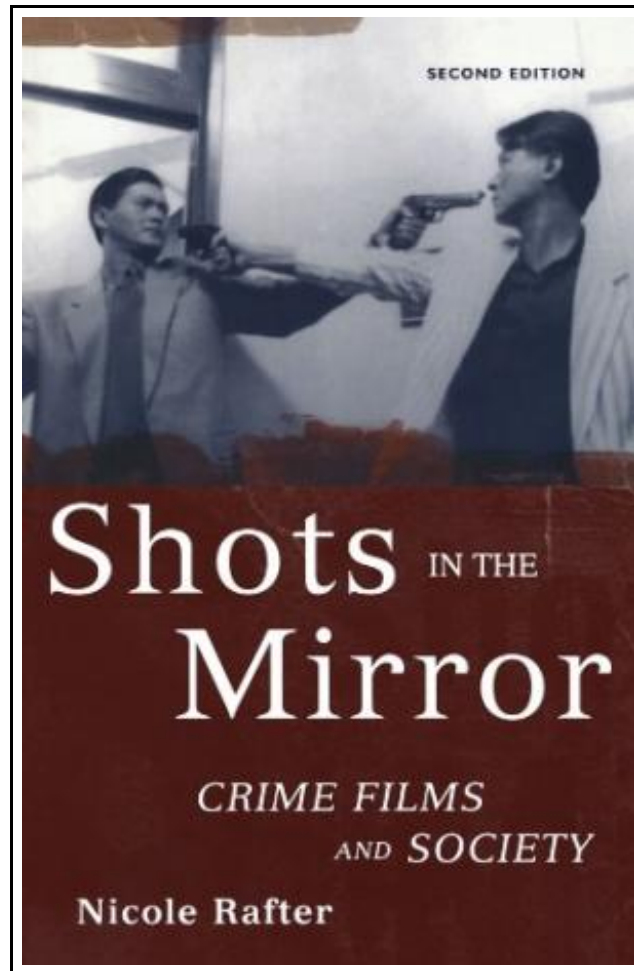# Shots in the Mirror: Crime Films and Society (Paperback)

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Reviews

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(Rodger Hane)

SHOTS IN THE MIRROR: CRIME FILMS AND SOCIETY (PAPERBACK)

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2006. Paperback. Condition: New. 2nd Revised edition. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Movies play a central role in shaping our understanding of crime and the world generally, helping us define what is good and bad, desirable and unworthy, lawful and illicit, strong and weak. Crime films raise controversial issues about the distribution of social power and the meanings of deviance, and they provide a safe space for fantasies of rebellion, punishment, and the restoration of order. In the first comprehensive study of its kind, well-known criminologist Nicole Rafter examines the relationship between society and crime films from the perspectives of criminal justice, film history and technique, and sociology. Shots in the Mirror begins with an overview of the history of crime films and the emergence of various genres, surveying important films from the silent era, the early gangster films of the 30s, classic film noir, the work of Hitchcock, and recent innovations by Scorsese, Tarrentino, and the Coen brothers. Keeping pace with the evolution of crime films, Shots in the Mirror has been updated to respond to recent developments, trends, and shifting circumstances in the genre. This new edition expands the scope and increases the depth and variety of the previous edition by including foreign films in addition to American movies. Rafter also integrates an entirely new body of literature into the study, reflecting the rapid expansion of scholarship on law-related films over the past three years. She has added a chapter on psycho movies, a previously unrecognized subcategory of crime films. Another new chapter, The Alternative Tradition and Films of Moral Ambiguity, focuses on recent sex crime films. This new final chapter grows organically out of the first edition s distinction between traditional crime films, with their easy...

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