ARTS & HUMANITIES

Rich, B. Ruby. New Queer Cinema: The Director’s Cut
Duke Univ.
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New Queer Cinema (NQC) takes the spotlight in this scholarly book by film critic, journalist, and media scholar Rich (film & digital media, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz; Chick Flicks: Theories and Memories of the Feminist Film Movement). Based almost entirely on edited selections from Rich's previous work, including the 1992 Village Voice article in which she coined the NQC term, this book ambitiously seeks to capture both the author's personal experience and the NQC movement’s development from the mid-1980s to the present day. The result is a unique text that feels a bit incomplete from a scholarly standpoint, yet is daring and insightful when considered as a creative work. Such splits aside, the book succeeds overall in proving to readers the power of the individual in shaping, critiquing, and generally bearing witness to changes in the fabric of cinema and popular culture. VERDICT Recommended for film or queer-studies scholars, and for those strongly interested in post-1980s LGBTQ cinema.—Robin Chin Roemer, Univ. of Washington Lib., Seattle