# Robert Altman And The Elaboration Of Hollywood Storytelling

Robert Altman was one of the most influential directors in American cinema history. His films are known for their complex narratives, ensemble casts, and realistic dialogue. Altman's work has been praised by critics and audiences alike for its originality and its insights into human nature.



## **Robert Altman and the Elaboration of Hollywood**

Storytelling by David Rakoff

★★★★★★ 4.3 out of 5
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Print length : 390 pages

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Robert Altman And The Elaboration Of Hollywood Storytelling is a new book that explores Altman's work in depth. The book is written by Thomas Schatz, a leading scholar of film history and theory. Schatz provides a comprehensive overview of Altman's career, from his early films to his later masterpieces. He also analyzes Altman's unique approach to storytelling and his influence on other filmmakers.

Robert Altman And The Elaboration Of Hollywood Storytelling is a mustread for anyone interested in film history and analysis. Altman was a visionary director who pushed the boundaries of storytelling, and this book provides a comprehensive overview of his work.

#### **Altman's Early Career**

Robert Altman was born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1925. He began his career in the film industry as a writer and director of television commercials. In 1957, he directed his first feature film, The Delinquents. The film was a critical and commercial failure, but it did attract the attention of some influential people in Hollywood.

In 1962, Altman directed his breakthrough film, Birdman of Alcatraz. The film starred Burt Lancaster as Robert Stroud, a convicted murderer who became a respected ornithologist while serving time in prison. Birdman of Alcatraz was a critical and commercial success, and it established Altman as a major director.

#### **Altman's Mature Work**

In the 1970s, Altman directed a series of critically acclaimed films, including MASH, McCabe & Mrs. Miller, and Nashville. These films are known for their complex narratives, ensemble casts, and realistic dialogue. Altman's work was often praised for its originality and its insights into human nature.

In 1975, Altman directed Nashville, a sprawling epic about the country music industry. The film features an all-star cast, including Lily Tomlin, Keith Carradine, and Geraldine Chaplin. Nashville was a critical and commercial success, and it is considered one of Altman's masterpieces.

#### **Altman's Later Work**

In the 1980s and 1990s, Altman continued to direct films, but his work was not as well-received by critics and audiences. In 1992, he directed The Player, a satirical black comedy about the Hollywood film industry. The film was a critical and commercial success, but it was also Altman's last major film.

Altman died in 2006 at the age of 81. He is considered one of the most influential directors in American cinema history. His work has been praised for its originality, its insights into human nature, and its impact on other filmmakers.

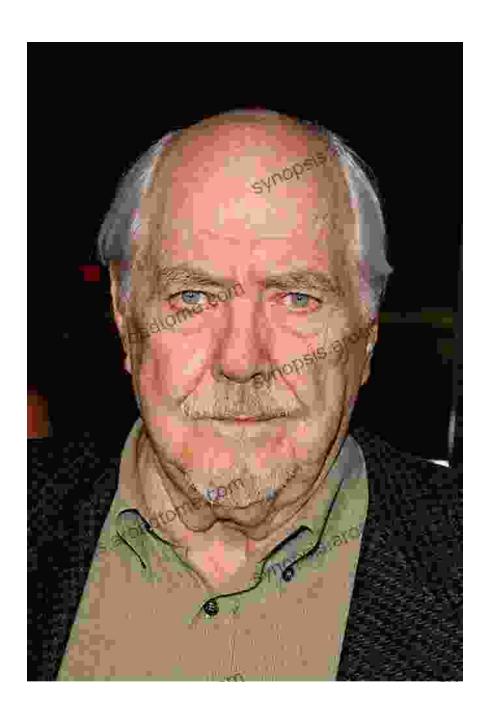
#### **Altman's Legacy**

Robert Altman's legacy is complex and multifaceted. He was a visionary director who pushed the boundaries of storytelling. His work has been praised by critics and audiences alike for its originality and its insights into human nature. Altman's films have also had a significant impact on other filmmakers.

Altman's work is a testament to the power of cinema. His films are complex, challenging, and thought-provoking. They are also deeply human and moving. Altman's work will continue to inspire and entertain audiences for generations to come.

Robert Altman And The Elaboration Of Hollywood Storytelling is a mustread for anyone interested in film history and analysis. Altman was a visionary director who pushed the boundaries of storytelling, and this book provides a comprehensive overview of his work. Schatz's analysis is insightful and engaging, and he provides a fresh perspective on Altman's films and their impact on Hollywood.

If you are interested in learning more about Robert Altman and his work, I highly recommend reading this book. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in film history, film analysis, or the work of Robert Altman.





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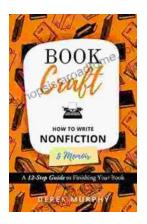
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