

[PDF] You Couldn't Ignore Me If You Tried: The Brat Pack, John Hughes, And Their Impact On A Generation

Susannah Gora - pdf download free book

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly The phrase was coined by David Blum in the headline Hollywood's Brat Pack, heralding his cover story for the June 10, 1985, issue of *New York* magazine with its cover photo of Emilio Estevez, Rob Lowe, and Judd Nelson. The label stuck, Gora notes, and extended to describe other actors: Andrew McCarthy, Demi Moore, Ally Sheedy, Molly Ringwald, and Anthony Michael Hall. A former editor at *Premiere*, Gora guides the reader through the creation of the teen cinema of the 1980s, described by the American Film Institute as the cultural phenomenon which

helped make us what we are today. To recall the era, she interviewed two dozen actors, plus the directors and producers behind the Brat Pack's memorable movies, including *The Breakfast Club*, *Fast Times at Ridgmont High*, *Sixteen Candles*, *Pretty in Pink*, *St. Elmo's Fire* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. As Gora sees it, The films changed the way many young people looked at everything from class distinction to friendship, from love and sex to fashion and music. Writer-director John Hughes's ability to capture adolescent angst is highlighted. The 1980s youth films maintain their popularity on TV and DVDs, and Gora gives them near-encyclopedic, comprehensive coverage. (Feb. 9)

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From Concentrating on the making of such seminal films as *Sixteen Candles*, *The Breakfast Club*, *St. Elmo's Fire*, *Pretty in Pink*, *Some Kind of Wonderful*, *Say Anything*, *Home Alone*, and, of course, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, Gora's celebration of writer-director John Hughes (1950–2009) tends to be exhaustive and often exhausts. Gora cites the *New York Times*' A. O. Scott on Hughes—he “was our Godard”—and Roger Ebert's characterization of him as “the philosopher of adolescence” to orient her essay exploring what she calls cine-sociology, “the concrete sociological impact that movies can have on our lives.” She discusses the origin of the sobriquet Brat Pack, offers biographical portraits of Hughes and many of the actors most associated with his movies, discusses the music of the so-called Brat Pack films (it was a crucial factor in their success), and considers how the Brat Pack films changed a generation. Although probably too self-important for its own good, this is still a must for Hughes admirers and students of American pop culture. --June Sawyers --This text refers to the edition.

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