



Shyam Benegal

By Sangeeta Datta

Roli Books, New Delhi, India, 2003. Hard Cover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. First Edition. Shyam Benegal is one of the most prolific contemporary film-makers from India's New Cinema. From his first film *Ankur* (1974) through to *Zubeidaa* (2000), he has explored the contradictions and tensions of a society in rapid transition, with a unique focus on the female protagonists. Sangeeta Datta's book traces a career with its beginnings in political cinema and a realist aesthetic. It shows how the struggles of women, the dispossessed and marginalized in Indian society find expression in films as diverse as *Nishant*, *Bhumika*, *Mandi*, *Suraj Ka Satwan Ghoda* and *Kalyug*. It traces Benegal's work with some of the biggest names in Indian cinema: *Shabana Azmi*, *Smita Patil*, *Naseeruddin Shah*, *Om Puri*, *Govind Nihalani* and more recently *Karishma Kapoor* and *A. R. Rahman* developing a style and ethos uniquely his. It also explains how the director's work presents both a stark contrast to Bollywood and yet contains creative continuities both with commercial cinema and his distinguished predecessor *Satyajit Ray*. Perhaps no other director has come close to painting such a compelling and vivid portrait of modern India. Printed Pages: 296. Size: 14 Cms x 22 Cms.

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