The Encyclopedia of Sixties Cool, by Chris Strodder (334 pages, March 2007), offers millennials a chance to catch up on the likes of 1960s idols Mary Quant, Petula Clark, Bobby Darin, Brigitte Bardot, Andy Warhol, the Monkees, Sandy Koufax, and Darrell Royal, with a cool foreword by Mamas and Papas singer Michelle Phillips. Forget the politics, this was the pop. $24.95. Santa Monica Press. ISBN 978-1-59580-017-6.


A companion volume by Ephraim Kahana, Historical Dictionary of Israeli Intelligence (369 pages, April 2006), offers detailed information on the agencies, operations, leaders, and agents of Israeli tradecraft, from early efforts during the Ottoman Empire to 2005. $75.00. Scarecrow. ISBN 978-0-8108-5581-6.

Horror Films of the 1980s, by John Kenneth Muir (829 pages, March 2007), tackles the dead teenager decade of horror cinema with his characteristic comprehensiveness, insightful commentary, and trenchant wit. A sequel to his 2002 Horror Films of the 1970s (the disco decade), this volume contains two introductory chapters that offer a sociopolitical context for horror (Which towering figure dominated the greed is good decade? Freddy Krueger or Ronald Reagan?) and an analysis of 1980s horror conventions and subgenres. Films are arranged by year, rated on the traditional 1 to 4 star system, and accompanied by quotes from critics, cast and crew, synopsis, commentary, memorable lines, an occasional interview extract, and legacy. Muir concludes that 1970s horror films were more creative and did more with less funding and effects, but in the 1980s they reached a glut of repetition and sequels and adaptations; nonetheless, the genre saved itself by transcending the slasher paradigm and interjecting supernatural elements and rubber-reality scenarios. $59.95. McFarland. ISBN 978-0-7864-2821-2.

Topographies, by John Sallis (164 pages, March 2007), looks at evocative landscapes and the effects they have on the human psyche. The book demands an exercise of vision anchored in the concrete scene and animated by the play of imagination. Sallis visits such ancient and venerable sites as Chantemerle in the Alps, Delos and Delphi in Greece, the South Tyrol in Italy, Dubrovnik in Croatia, Radnor Lake in Tennessee, and Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, to detect what is wondrous in the sight of a waterfall or of a deer bounding into a forest, or in the sound of locusts invisibly performing their nocturnal polyphony, or in the happening of an outdoor festival celebrating, with fire, the summer solstice. $24.95. Indiana University. ISBN 978-0-253-21871-1.

Understanding Archives and Manuscripts, by James M. O’Toole and Richard J. Cox (237 pages, 2d ed., 2006), is an essential overview of the archival profession for librarians who need to know or students who are interested. Greatly expanded from the 76 pages of the 1st edition of 1990, this guide has a completely new chapter on Archivists and the Challenges of New Worlds, which covers postmodernism, the Internet, ethics, advocacy, and record-keeping in the digital era. A 47-page bibliographic essay describes other texts the well-read archivist should be familiar with. $49.00. Society of American Archivists. ISBN 978-1-931666-20-6.

George M. Eberhart is senior editor of American Libraries, e-mail: geberhart@ala.org

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