

FILM HISTORY
and
PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES



Edited by
Olusola Oyero
Lanre Amodu
Suleimanu Usaini

Stirling-Horden Publishers Ltd.
Gaaf Building, 110-112 Oyo Road,
Orogun, Off University of Ibadan,
Second Gate, Ibadan, Oyo State,
Nigeria.
Phone: 08023519154
stirlinghorden@ymail.com, info@stirlinghorden.com
www.stirlinghorden.com

University Post Office 7 Ikioda Street
Box 20984 Jattu-Uzairue
Ibadan Edo State, Nigeria.
Oyo State, Nigeria.

© Olusola Oyero
Lanre Amodu
Suleimanu Usaini

Published 2015

ISBN 978-978-032-484-1

All Rights Reserved

Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of research or private study, criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act of Nigeria, this publication may not be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any form, or by any means, except with the prior permission in writing of the publishers, or in the case of reprographic reproduction, in accordance with the terms of licences issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency. Enquiries concerning reproduction outside those terms should be sent to the publishers.

Stirling-Horden Publishers Ltd.
Lagos, Ibadan, Benin City, Jattu-Uzairue.

Preface

Film History and Production Techniques is borne out of aspiration to meet students' needs for learning materials in the area of film studies. The stress of gleaned appropriate topics from different sources as tutors to make a meaningful material suitable for teaching film classes and recognising that most books available on film history and production in Nigerian libraries are foreign based, with illustrations from Western contexts which often pose some challenges to students' comprehension ability compelled the authorship of this book.

The uniqueness of this book lies in the synergy of the authors that brought forth the book. It is thus a product of combined experience of over a decade of teaching film techniques by the three authors. The collaboration ensures its richness and relevance for pedagogical training in the basics of film production.

This book does not only detail the origin of film from its inception, but it also traces how the medium developed at the local Nigerian space and the birth of the video film industry called Nollywood. It further dwells on topics such as genres and functions of film, classification/ratings of film, elements of film production, key players in film production, basic equipment for film production and other aspects of film production.

The book has been organised to make learning easy. Each chapter begins with the learning objectives which cue the learners to what to expect in the chapter. This is followed by the introduction of the subject. Then the remaining content discusses the topic in detail and gives the summary of the chapter. We have also included review questions to help students evaluate what they have learnt in each chapter.

This book is a ready-made material for teachers of film studies, a veritable resource for film students and information craft-text to aspiring and practising film-makers.

While all credits due to this book belong to the various persons that we already mentioned in the acknowledgements, we take all the blames for whatever errors and mistakes that may be observed therein.

We do not claim that the content of this book is perfect and as such would like to have your feedback towards improving and making the text richer and more impact.

Olusola Oyero
Lanre Amodu
Suleimanu Usaini

Department of Mass Communication
Covenant University, Ota
Ogun State, Nigeria

Contents

Dedication	v
Acknowledgements	vi
Foreword One	vii
Foreword Two	ix
Preface	x
1. The Evolution of Film	1
Objectives	1
Introduction	1
The Beginning of Film	2
Significant Advancements in Film Development	4
Film Movements	5
The Digital Age	7
2. Development of Film in Nigeria	11
Objectives	11
Introduction	11
Early Structures	11
The Yoruba Travelling Theatre	14
The Video Explosion	17
3. Genres and Functions of Film	23
Objectives	23
Introduction	23
Genres of Film	24
Functions of Film	33
Comparison of Film and Television	35

4. Classification/Ratings of Film	37
Objectives	37
Introduction	37
The Purpose of Film Rating	38
Rating History	38
Film Rating Development in Nigeria	40
The National Film and Video Censors Board (NFVCB)	46
5. Elements of Film Production	51
Objectives	51
Introduction	51
Visual Image	51
Camera Shots	52
Camera Placements or Angles	57
Camera Movement	59
Camera Speed	63
Transitions	66
6. Key Players in Film Production	71
Objectives	71
Introduction	71
The Film Team	71
7. Basic Equipment for Film Production	85
Objectives	85
Introduction	85
Four Major Categories of Equipment used in Film Production	86
Camera Equipment	86
Lighting Equipment	87
Grip Equipment	88
Post-Production Equipment	89
Microphones	94

8. Production Stages in Film	103
Objectives	103
Introduction	103
Pre-Production Stage	104
Production Stage	111
Post-Production Stage	112
9. Screenwriting for Film	117
Objectives	117
Introduction	117
Fully Scripted Format (Complete Script)	119
What Makes a Good Screenplay?	122
Characterisation	123
The Scriptwriter's Toolkit	124
10. Film Directing	129
Objectives	129
Introduction	129
General Perspectives of Directing	129
Directing a Film	133
The Axis of Action/ 180-Degree Rule	146
Screen Direction	150
Bibliography	154
Index	159
Endorsements from Professional Film-makers	162