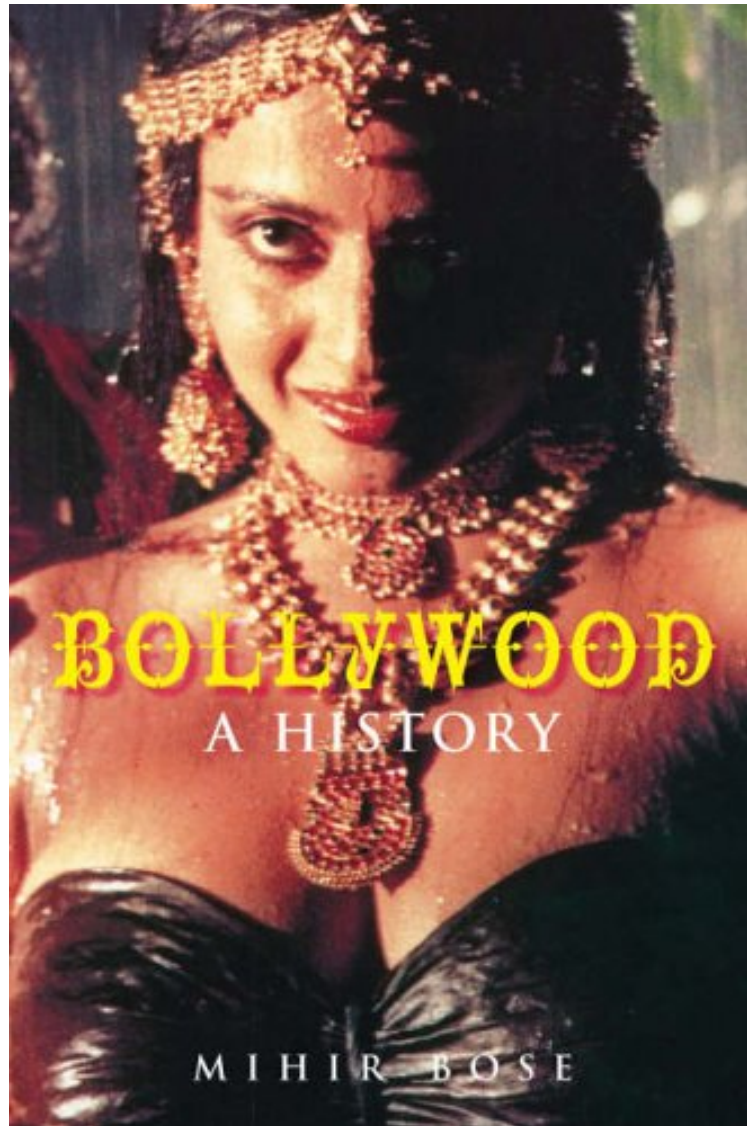


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Bollywood: A History

Mihir Bose

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5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. BOLLYWOOD: A HISTORYBy ALEXFARBABOLLYWOOD:A HISTORY by MIHIR BOSE, published in 2006 is now ever so slightly dated, but is, nevertheless, arguably the best handbook of Popular Indian (HINDI) Cinema around. The author. Mihir Bose, is essentially a journalist and a sports writer (He has written extensively on Cricket) but it is precisely his journalistic background that makes this such a lively and highly informative read. Bookstore shelves, especially in UK, are now loaded with all kinds of books on

Bollywood, but far too many of them are unfortunately written in a turgid academic Indian English style that makes them almost impossible to wade through. Bose, on the other hand, puts you there -- injects you into the midst of the Indian film world, like a fly on the wall in the back rooms, in a flowing fluent amusing style. This is not just about Bollywood --the spectacular song and dance films that have created a new cinema paradigm in the last fifteen years -- but is also a compact yet comprehensive history of the background of the industry leading up to the glitz of Mumbai today. Bose has done his homework well, thoroughly researched everything, and then distilled it all down into an extremely reader friendly study of the history of Hindi film up to the present day, almost. A chapter like "Blondes and Brunettes: Bollywood's White Women" is hilarious in parts, but is overall a penetrating sociological analysis of the role of non Indian women in feeding Indian dreams. This is the kind of book that you can open up to any page and you'll immediately get caught up in the story --or start at the beginning and read it straight through, because a story is what it is -- extremely well told, but with chapters that work as independent little short stories on their own. Like any academic study there is a full bibliography and index at the back to quickly track down particular persons, films, or items of interest. I would recommend this to any teachers of the subject as required background reading for their students, and generally to film buffs or film critics having any interest in India at all, as a highly useful quick reference, or just as an enjoyable read with fascinating insights on every page.

ALEXFARBA, Hollywood0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It is hard to keep an interest in the book ...By linguistIt is hard to keep an interest in the book because it lacks clear focus. I'm afraid it needed a more stringent editor.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice history of Bollywood...By Mr. Andy MittalI like that the book was shipped fast with other items in good condition. everything as described. Book had some wear but better than expected..The contents of the book are for serious readers no photographs (which I like)

The first comprehensive history of India's film industry, one that now rivals Hollywood.

About the Author Mihir Bose is an award winning Indian-born writer and journalist who lives in London. He grew up in Bombay watching the story of Bollywood unfold long before it got the name Bollywood. Author of books ranging from history through sport and business to biography they include controversial biographies of the Indian nationalist Subhas Bose and the Aga Khans, which was banned by three countries. His History of the Indian Cricket was the first book by an Indian author to win the prestigious Cricket Society Literary Award. A journalist for more than thirty years he has written for all the major British newspapers. He is currently the sports news correspondent for The Daily Telegraph. He lives in London.