

University of Illinois Press, Contemporary Film Directors Series Guidelines for Book Proposals

Series Editors: Justus Nieland and Jennifer Fay

Proposals for books in the Contemporary Film Directors series should include the following:

- A description of the contemporary significance of the proposed director's work, a rationale for her/his inclusion in the series, and an overview of your argument that justifies your methodology. The series prioritizes inventive methods and rigorous scholarly approaches that may even challenge conventional authorship.

Note that you may decide to concentrate on a few representative films rather than giving a critical account of all of them; you may organize the discussion thematically or chronologically; or, you may emphasize theoretical rather than historical or industrial issues. *We encourage imaginative arguments.* Whatever approach is taken, the commentary should at least generally describe the arc of the director's career, and should provide the basic historical/biographical information that most readers will need. This essay will be between a 40-50,000 words.

- A description of the book's target audiences, and suitability for adoption in courses.
- An evaluation of competing scholarly work on the proposed director, and an explanation of the distinctiveness of your project.
- An essay title and the titles of manuscript sub-headings that clarify your organizational strategy (keep in mind that CFD books are conceived as long essays and not numerically organized chapters). These sub-headings should be creative and announce the volume's approach.
- A brief description of your plan for the interview section.

Most of the contributors conduct their own interviews with directors. In some circumstances, this may not be possible or desirable. If you prefer, you may reprint an interview--especially if it isn't already widely available in book form or if it is being translated for the first time from another language. (You will need to obtain permission to reprint, and reprint fees will be deducted from royalties. Guidelines for obtaining permissions are included in the material from University of Illinois Press that you receive with your contract.) Please bear in mind that the interview needs to be relatively short--approximately 10,000 words. In some cases we can print longer interviews, but you should first consult with the editor.
- A copy of the author's CV.
- A proposed manuscript delivery date.

Proposals should be between 5 and 7 pages in length. An electronic file should be emailed to Daniel Nasset, University of Illinois, Acquisitions Editor (dnasset@illinois.edu).

If you have questions about the proposal, please contact the series editors, Justus Nieland (nieland@msu.edu) and Jennifer Fay (jennifer.m.fay@vanderbilt.edu).