

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910731488703321
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Titolo	The Western and Political Thought : A Fistful of Politics // edited by Damien K. Picariello
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2023
ISBN	9783031272844 3031272846
Edizione	[1st ed. 2023.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (233 pages)
Disciplina	320.01 813.087409
Soggetti	Political science Film genres Popular culture Motion pictures, American Fiction Political Theory Genre Studies Popular Culture American Film and TV Fiction Literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: Thus in the beginning all the World was America -- Part I: Foundings, Law, Lawlessness, and John Ford -- Chapter 1. Virtue, Tyranny, and Political Rule in David Milch's Deadwood -- Chapter 2. Print the Legend: Violence, Virtue, and the Social Contract in Hang 'Em High and The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance -- Chapter 3. John Ford's Legendary Western Ambiguity and White Settler Colonialism -- Chapter 4. This is Our Town': Political Community in High Noon and The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance -- Part II: The Western as Mirror and Teacher -- Chapter 5. Simmering Madness: Mob Justice and The Ox-Bow Incident -- Chapter 6. The Loner on the 'Frontier of Unfilled Hopes and

Unfilled Threats': Serling's Old West in Kennedy's New Frontier -- Chapter 7. No Man's Land: Film Cycles, Femininity, and Female Empowerment in the Modern Western -- Chapter 8. Horse Operas Talk Back: History, Memory, and the Black Cowboy Performing -- Chapter 9. Aristophanes in Spurs: Blazing Saddles, Attic Comedy, HBO, and the Politics of Democratic Laughter -- Part III: The Adaptable, International West -- Chapter 10. Towards Assimilationist Politics on the Filmic Frontier: Mid-Twentieth Century Westerns in Australia -- Chapter 11. Ideological Uses of the Western in Film Depictions of Post-War Polish Borderlands -- Chapter 12. Magnificent Strangers: Violence and Difference.

Sommario/riassunto

“Political theory explores the concepts (law, violence, property) and principles (share necessities, don’t back down, but do get along) that animate western civilization. Picariello’s set of studies engage these politics through the colorful characters and exciting scenes in popular westerns. The yield is a great range of insights about well-known classics, provocative additions, and productive connections. Riding this range is a real pleasure — and education!” —John S. Nelson, Emeritus Professor of Political Theory and Communication, University of Iowa, USA and author of *Cowboy Politics* “Picariello and his colleagues have prepared a treat for students of political theory and fans of Western movies. Beginning from the premise that Westerns demonstrate the frontier where law, order, justice, equality, freedom, obedience, and violence intertwine, the chapters included analyze a wide range of Westerns building on insights from Plato, Hobbes, Aristotle, and Locke, among others. Readers will find themselves rewatching movies and rereading these essays for years to come.” —Anthony P. Spanakos, Professor of Political Science and Law, Montclair State University, USA “For teachers and students of American politics and cultural studies, political philosophy and theory, American literature and cinema and popular culture, this volume...constitutes an indispensable resource.” —Jeffrey J. Poelvoorde, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Converse University, USA *The Western and Political Thought: A Fistful of Politics* offers a variety of engaging and entertaining answers to the question: What do Westerns have to do with politics? This collection features contributions from scholars in a variety of fields—political science, English, communication studies, and others—that explore the connections between Westerns (prose fiction, films, television series, and more) and politics. Damien K. Picariello is Associate Professor of Political Science and Williams Brice Edwards Professor of Social Sciences at the University of South Carolina Sumter, USA. He is the editor of *Politics in Gotham: The Batman Universe and Political Thought* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019) and *The Politics of Horror* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020).
