



Stephen Harrington (Ed.)

Entertainment Values

How do we Assess Entertainment and Why does it Matter?

Series: Palgrave Entertainment Industries

- Brings together numerous original essays examining what precisely entertainment is and why it matters
- Moves the state of entertainment studies as a proto-field further forward
- Offers a wealth of opinions, thoughts and approaches to entertainment

This collection brings together the work of a range of scholars from around the world with different perspectives on one simple question: How can we assess the value of various entertainment products and forms? Entertainment is everywhere. The industries that produce it earn billions of dollars each year and employ hundreds of thousands of people. Its pervasiveness means almost everyone has something to say about entertainment, too, whether it be our opinion on the latest Hollywood blockbuster, a new celebrity couple, or our concerns over its place in the world of politics. And yet, in spite of its significance, entertainment has too often been dismissed with surprising ease within the academy as a 'mindless', 'lowbrow' – even 'dangerous' – form of culture, and therefore unworthy of serious appraisal (let alone praise). Entertainment Values, challenges this assumption, offering a better understanding of what entertainment is, why we should take it seriously, as well as helping us to appreciate the significant and complex impact it has on our culture.

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