

or literature, or provide very short, dictionary-style entries. The multivolume *Encyclopedia of the Renaissance* (Scribner, 1999), on the other hand, provides nearly twelve hundred signed entries. Although most of these articles are short, they do provide a greater variety of information than is found in *Renaissance and Reformation*. Together, *Renaissance and Reformation* and *Encyclopedia of the Renaissance* complement one another and form an excellent set of core resources for the study of the Renaissance and the Reformation.

Ideally suited for general readers and also for students in high school or college, this encyclopedia will be a wonderful addition to the reference collections of those academic libraries that support programs in European history, art history, or religious studies. It does not replace other reference works on the Renaissance or the Reformation, but for research on topics related to this period of history, it will be a great starting point that will not overwhelm students.—Gregory A. Crawford, *Director, Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, Pennsylvania*

Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film. By Barry Keith Grant. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2007. 4 vols. acid free \$425 (ISBN 0-02-865791-8).

Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film is an attractive, four-volume set with two hundred entries on many different areas of film studies, including genres, history, the industry, interpretation, technology, and theory. What it is not is a who's who in film or a movie guide.

The alphabetically arranged entries range in length from 1,500 to 9,000 words. Written by scholars from around the world, each is well-researched and detailed. Although the language is certainly accessible to the layperson, not all topics covered may be of interest to a general audience. Some examples of entries are "Dialogue," "Gangster Films," "Melodrama," "Silent Cinema," and "Surrealism," just to name a few. It also should be noted that there are a number of entries on cinema in foreign countries, including Australia, Israel, Poland, and Turkey. A list of citations for further reading concludes each entry, and see also references are provided when applicable.

There are more than two hundred color-coded sidebars that profile the careers of important people in film as they relate to a specific topic. For example, Katharine Hepburn appears in the Academy Awards entry because she has won more than any other actor. Each sidebar concludes with lists of recommended viewing and further reading.

Visually, this work is exquisite. The paper is high-quality, which makes reading the text and viewing the five hundred photographs (150 of them in color) a most pleasant experience. Fittingly, perhaps the most stunning photograph is a still from *The Wizard of Oz*, which is featured in the entry on "Color."

The set concludes with a glossary, information about the work's advisors and contributors, and a comprehensive index in which the volume and page range for the main entries are helpfully indicated in bold.

In comparison, Ephraim Katz's hefty softcover book, *The Film Encyclopedia: The Most Comprehensive Encyclopedia*

of World Cinema in a Single Volume, 5th ed. (HarperCollins, 2005), is considerably cheaper (\$30 versus \$425) and covers more ground (nearly 8,000 entries), but it is much less in-depth.

Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film may be a bit pricy, depending on your library's budget. However, in addition to the other positive things already noted about this set, it is also the most up-to-date work of its kind currently on the market. It would be an excellent addition to any general academic library's reference collection and would also be appropriate for larger public libraries.—Samantha J. Gust, *Reference Librarian, Niagara University Library, Niagara University, New York*

Science, Religion, and Society: An Encyclopedia of History, Culture, and Controversy. Ed. by Arri Eisen and Gary Laderman. Armonk, New York: M. E. Sharpe, Inc., 2007. 2 vols. acid free \$279 (ISBN 0-7656-8064-5).

The timing of this publication could hardly be better. In light of high-stakes clashes between and among religious and scientific viewpoints, there is a growing call to raise the level of public and academic discourse in this area. *Science, Religion, and Society* goes a long way toward doing just that. The book originated in a Emory University faculty reading group that attracted colleagues from a wide variety of disciplines and grew into many related projects. True to the spirit of that collaborative discourse, Arri Eisen (a professor of biology and ethics) and Gary Laderman (professor of American religious history) have gathered essays from a remarkably diverse set of contributors from many disciplines in the sciences and humanities and from many traditions, including "Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Taoist, as well as agnostic and atheist, and from African and Native American traditions" (xvi).

Science, Religion, and Society examines its subject as broadly as possible in terms of time, place, culture, and even the concepts of "science" and "religion" themselves. Although articles on the major religions and the Western scientific tradition are included in every section, other articles present perspectives from other cultures and other times. The overall effect is to foster a more nuanced, universal understanding of the themes involved in debates over such issues as evolution and medical ethics. In keeping with this approach, a consistent editorial tone has not been enforced. Though this is beneficial on the whole, some articles suffer from a didactic tone, and a couple are admittedly "idiosyncratic" (6). There are also a few confusing inconsistencies in style.

The great scope and diversity of articles is managed by grouping them topically. There are two introductory sections of general overviews and historical perspectives, followed by six sections on creation, ecology, and evolution; consciousness; healers; death; and genetics. The editors' introductory articles to the sections are valuable and engaging. Each article has a bibliography, and there is a comprehensive bibliography for each of the eight sections at the end of the second volume, along with the general index and information on the