

## **“AMERICAN PSYCHO”: THE HOLLYWOOD MASTERWORKS OF ALFRED HITCHCOCK IN CONTEXT**

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### Lecture Series Outline

**WEEK ONE:** “America the Beautiful”: The “gothic / American” underpinnings of Hitchcock’s Hollywood masterworks in context, and the enigmatic formulations of the “anti-hero.” Focus on: *Rebecca* (1940) and *Suspicion* (1941).

**WEEK TWO:** “No Place like Home”: Disabling domesticities, and the fatalistic formulations of the “femme fatale.” Focus on: *Saboteur* (1942) and *Shadow of a Doubt* (1943).

**WEEK THREE:** “Girls Who Wear Glasses”: Hitchcock and mid-century “psychoanalysis.” Focus on: *Spellbound* (1945) and *Strangers on a Train* (1951).

**WEEK FOUR:** “What You See Is What You Get”: Spectatorship in Hitchcock, and the “theory of the gaze.” Focus on: *Rear Window* (1954) and *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (1956).

**WEEK FIVE:** “Lines of Flight”: Stasis and movement in two exemplary “masterpieces.” Focus on: *Vertigo* (1958) and *North by Northwest* (1959).

**WEEK SIX:** “Coming Full Circle”: What to conclude about Hitchcock’s “Hollywood masterworks” in context? Focus on: *Psycho* (1960), *The Birds* (1963) and *Marnie* (1964).

### **SOME HELPFUL READING ON “HOLLYWOOD HITCHCOCK”:**

1. J. Freedman & R. Millington, eds., *Hitchcock’s America* (Oxford UP)
2. Patrick McGilligan: *Alfred Hitchcock: A Life in Darkness and Light* (Harper Collins)
3. François Truffaut, *Hitchcock*, Rev. Ed. (Touchstone Books).