Appetites and Anxieties
Food, Film, and the Politics of Representation
Cynthia Baron, Diane Carson, and Mark Bernard

Cinema is a mosaic of memorable food scenes. Detectives drink alone. Gangsters talk with their mouths full. Families around the world argue at dinner. Food documentaries challenge popular consumption-centered visions. In Appetites and Anxieties: Food, Film, and the Politics of Representation, authors Cynthia Baron, Diane Carson, and Mark Bernard use a foodways paradigm, drawn from the fields of folklore and cultural anthropology, to illuminate film’s cultural and material politics. In looking at how films do and do not represent food procurement, preparation, presentation, consumption, clean-up, and disposal, the authors bring the pleasures, dangers, and implications of consumption to center stage.

In nine chapters, Baron, Carson, and Bernard consider food in fiction films and documentaries—from both American and international cinema. The first chapter examines film practice from the foodways perspective, supplying a foundation for the collection of case studies that follow. Chapter 2 takes a political economy approach as it examines the food industry and the film industry’s policies that determine representations of food in film. In chapter 3, the authors explore food and food interactions as a means for creating community in Bagdad Café, while in chapter 4 they take a close look at 301/302, in which food is used to mount social critique. Chapter 5 focuses on cannibal films, showing how the foodways paradigm unlocks the implications of films that dramatize one of society’s greatest food taboos. In chapter 6, the authors demonstrate ways that insights generated by the foodways lens can enrich genre and auteur studies. Chapter 7 considers documentaries about food and water resources, while chapter 8 examines food documentaries that slip through the cracks of film censorship by going into exhibition without an MPAA rating. Finally, in chapter 9, the authors study films from several national cinemas to explore the intersection of food, gender, and ethnicity.

Four appendices provide insights from a food stylist, a selected filmography of fiction films and a filmography of documentaries that feature foodways components, and a list of selected works in food and cultural studies. Scholars of film studies and food studies will enjoy the thought-provoking analysis of Appetites and Anxieties.

Cynthia Baron is the author of Denzel Washington. She is also co-author of Reframing Screen Performance and co-editor of More Than a Method: Trends and Traditions in Contemporary Film Performance (Wayne State University Press, 2004).


Diane Carson is the editor of John Sayles: Interviews and co-editor of Sayles Talk: New Perspectives on Independent Filmmaker John Sayles (Wayne State University Press, 2006). She is also co-editor of More Than a Method (Wayne State University Press, 2004), Shared Differences: Multicultural Media and Practical Pedagogy, and Multiple Voices in Feminist Film Criticism.
[ ] Please send me _______ copy/ies of APPETITES AND ANXIETIES at $31.95/$24.00 Paperback.

[ ] Enclosed is my check or money order.

[ ] Charge to my [ ] MasterCard [ ] VISA

Card Number_________________________ Exp. Date __________________

Security Code ______________________ Signature __________________

Daytime phone_____________________

Complete payment must accompany order.

All orders must be in U.S. funds payable to Wayne State University Press.

To receive pre-publication discount price of $24.00, enter code “FOOD” at checkout online, or mention code if ordering by phone

Orders must be placed by 11/30/13 to receive discount price.

_________________ Subtotal

_________________ 6% Sales tax (Michigan residents only)

_________________ 7% Canadian General Sales tax

_________________ Shipping and handling (U.S. orders: $5.50 for the first book, $1.00 for each additional book. Foreign orders: $16.00 for the first book, $8.00 for each additional book.)

_________________ TOTAL

Please ship to:

Name______________________________

Address____________________________

______________________________

City / State / Zip_____________________

In the United States, please return your order form and complete payment to:

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Leonard N. Simons Building, 4809 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48201-1309
Tel: (800) WSU-READ | Fax: (313) 577-6131 | Web: wsupress.wayne.edu

East Coast: Parson Weems Publisher Services
Phone: (914) 948-4259 | Fax: (866) 861-0337
Email: office@parsonweems.com

Midwest: Miller Trade Book Marketing
Phone: (312) 423-7880 | Fax: (312) 276-8109
E-mail: orders@millertrade.com

In Europe: Distributed by the Eurospan University Press Group: www.eurospan.co.uk

In Canada: Distributed by Scholarly Book Services: www.sbookscan.com

In Asia, Australia, Pacific Islands: Distributed by East-West Export Books. www.uhpress.hawaii.edu/eweb.html