



## Federico Fellini: Painting in Film, Painting on Film (Toronto Italian Studies)

By Hava Aldouby

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Federico Fellini professed a desire to create “an entire film made of immobile pictures.” In this study, Hava Aldouby uses this quotation as a launching point to analyze Fellini’s films as sequences of “pictures” that draw extensively on art history, and particularly painting, as a reservoir of visual imagery. Aldouby employs an innovative pictorial approach that allows her to uncover a wealth of visual evocations overlooked by Fellini scholars over the years.

*Federico Fellini: Painting in Film, Painting on Film* sheds light on the intertextual links between Fellini’s films and the works of various artists, from Velazquez to Francis Bacon, by identifying references to specific paintings in his films. Using new archival evidence from Fellini’s private library, brought to light for the first time here, Aldouby draws out Fellini’s in-depth knowledge of art history and his systematic employment of art-historical allusions.

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### **Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

‘Aldouby’s work contributes to the revitalization of the classical field of inquiry about cinema and painting, addressing both scholars in the broad domain of visual studies and cinephiles looking for fresh gaze on Fellini’s oeuvre.’

(Giacomo Tagliani *Annali d’Italianistica* vol 32:2014)

‘Superb work.... Hava Aldouby has offered us a paragon on inter-arts study, one which provides a new understanding of Fellini’s creative process.’

(Millicent Marcus *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies* – vol 3:03:2015)

‘This impressively researched book is a welcome and important contribution to film scholarship... Aldouby’s assiduous and intricate analysis of intertextual meanings in Fellini’s films enriches our sense of the film maker.’

(Faye McIntyre *University of Toronto Quarterly* vol 84:03:2015)

‘This book is by far the most serious and successful attempt to date to document and interpret pictorial intertexts in Fellini’s work.’

(Albert Sbragia *Quaderni d’Italianistica* vol 36:01:2015)

‘With this superb book the author has offered us a paragon of inter-arts study one which provides not only a new understanding of Fellini’s creative process, but also furnishes a compelling approach to the work of other auteurs who may have devised their own unique forms of ‘painting on film’.’

(Millicent Marcus *Journal of Italian Cinema & Media Studies* vol 3:03:2015)

‘A compelling and original contribution to Fellini scholarship by demonstrating the director’s astonishingly sophisticated knowledge of art history, as well as masterful manipulation of the historical and cultural hyperlinks that these works invoke.’

(M. Thomas Van Order *Modern Language Review* vol 111:03:2016)

‘This is a well-researched, fresh, and thought-provoking book that provides new perspectives on some of Fellini’s most fascinating movies.’

(Christopher B. White *Italica* vol 92:01:2015)

## Review

“Beautifully, elegantly, and clearly written, Hava Aldouby’s *Federico Fellini: Painting in Film, Painting on Film* is an outstanding and wonderfully original work. The range and depth of the artistic knowledge Fellini had and that Aldouby chronicles completely debunks the public image Fellini himself created—that of a simple artisan and storyteller lacking in any profound intellectual qualifications. Aldouby’s explications of the intricate connections between Fellini’s intentions, his sources, and his ultimate artistic creations will change forever the way we see this multifaceted cinematic genius.”

(Peter Bondanella, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of French and Italian, Indiana University)

“With *Federico Fellini: Painting in Film, Painting on Film*, Hava Aldouby has undertaken the daunting challenge of adding a new chapter to the voluminous scholarship on Fellini and succeeded admirably. Highly original, compelling, and important, it will make a striking contribution to Fellini studies and to the work on transmediality.”

(Millicent Marcus, Department of Italian, Yale University)

## About the Author

**Hava Aldouby** lectures in the School of the Arts in the Faculty of Humanities at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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