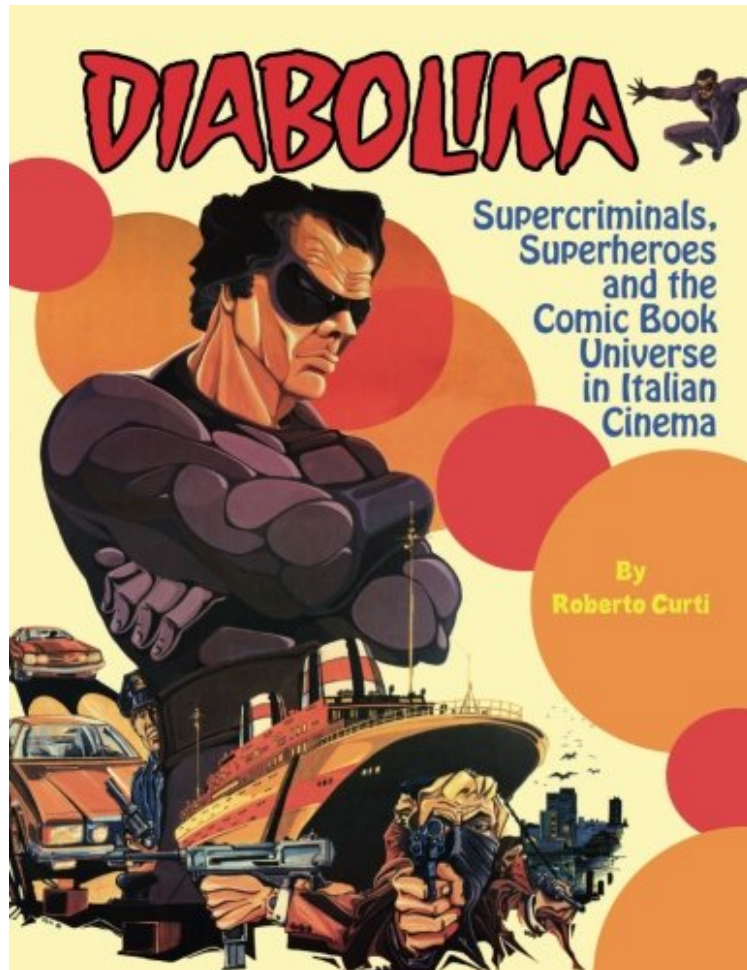


Diabolika: Supercriminals, Superheroes and the Comic Book Universe in Italian Cinema

Roberto Curti

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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Diabolika: Supercriminals, Superheroes and the Comic Book Universe in Italian Cinema:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. BAM!! POW!! THWACK!! Mr. Curti Does It AgainBy William AmazziniIn the past decade, the Comic Book and the Graphic Novel has really come in to its own . With no less than 3 mega budgeted motion pictures released yearly and over a dozen successful Television series airing as I type this review, author Roberto Curti's new tome 'DIABOLIKA' seems to have perfect timing in its release. Here we have a history of the Comic/Superhero genre based in Italy and how they influenced European artists, writers and filmmakers over the years. The book covers each Italian comic that was made into a motion picture or television series but only Italian productions or co-productions are included so films such as Director Joseph Losey's 'MODESTY BLAISE'-1966 which was all British and Director Jess Franco's 'LUCKY THE INSCRUTABLE'-1967 which was a

Spanish/West German collaboration do not make the book. Mr. Curti unleashes a treasure trove of information based on interviews with the artists, film makers and actors as each major character such as 'DIABOLIK', KRIMINAL; 'SATANIK and 'PUMA MAN" has their origins explained in a user friendly manner so that any one not informed on the subject can enjoy the chapters. The chapter on Director Roger Vadim's 'BARBARELLA ' 1968 blew me away by all of the facts and anecdotes on its origins and behind the scenes production changes. The films are presented in year order beginning in 1941 to 2014 with each page graced with color photobustas, movie posters , and rare stills. It also has a great chapter on the Turkish film industry written by Kaya Ozkaracalar which shows how characters such as 'KILLING' had a series of films released in the Seventies within their meager budgets. This book is a must for film historians, Sci Fi buffs and comic fans and Mr.Curti should be commended in writing such an incredible history of the genre.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Definitive fumetti cinema book.By Richard Rhys DaviesFollowing on from Matt Blake's fun read, is this detailed book. This is a great book Roberto - really enjoyed it. Well done! Certainly worth the price tag - great photos, in depth research with first hand interviews. You were harder on some of these films than I am in The International Spy Film Guide 1945 - 1989 but they films are mostly guilty pleasures. We can all agree on the big boys - Diabolik, Argoman 3 Fantastic Supermen. Bravo!

Since their heyday, comics (or fumetti as they are called in Italy) had a vital part in Italys culture and morality, even helping break boundaries. That was the case with the so-called fumetti neri, such as DIABOLIK, KRIMINAL, SATANIK, and many others that created a sensation in the early-to-mid-1960s. Similarly, in the late 1960s the adults-only comics paved the way for a more explicit depiction of eroticism. The 1980s saw the commercial exploitation of underground comics as well as popular genre titles such as DYLAN DOG. DIABOLIKA lists the Italian films and TV series based on (or inspired by) comics, graphic novels and photonovels, as well as movies not directly adapted from comic books sport a distinct comics feel in style, characters and plot. Included are the 1960s adaptations of the lurid fumetti neri such as DANGER: DIABOLIK, the two KRIMINAL movies, AVENGER X and SATANIK. And we couldnt forget the comic-inspired superheroes SUPERARGO, FLASHMAN, THE THREE FANTASTIC SUPERMEN as well as films based on erotic and adults-only comics including MS. STILETTO. DIABOLIKA also provides listings for adaptations of popular comic characters such as VALENTINA, TEX and DYLAN DOG and many, many more. Also included is an essay on Turkish films inspired by Italian comics written by Turkish film scholar Kaya zkaracalar. The book is lavishly illustrated in color with many rare set stills, lobby cards, poster art and comic book panels.