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WOODY

ALLEN

MARTIN FITZGERALD

NEW EDITION

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For a review copy, or for further information, please contact: **Chris Burrows PR**
+44 (0)161 445 6635
chris-burrows@o2.co.uk

Publisher: Pocket Essentials
PO Box 394
Harpenden
Herts AL5 1XJ
Tel/Fax: +44 (0)1582 761264

UK Distribution: Turnaround
3 Olympia Trading Estate
Coburg Rd
London N22 6TZ
Tel: +44 (0)208 829 3000
Fax: +44 (0)208 881 5088
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SALES POINTS:

- New edition of this popular guide to this long-standing and controversial director
- All his films discussed in detail, from *Take the Money and Run* to *Scoop*, *Match Point* and *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*
- Fully revised and updated edition

DESCRIPTION:

Woody Allen: Neurotic. Jewish. Funny. Inept. Loser. A man with problems. Or so you would think from the characters he plays in his movies. But hold on. Allen has written and directed almost 30 movies in an equal number of years. He may be a funny man, but he is also one of the most serious American film-makers of his generation.

Starting as a humorist, influenced by British anarchic comedians like Spike Milligan and Peter Sellars from *The Goon Show*, Allen went from stand-up comedian to bit-part actor, to screenwriter. He made his directing debut in 1969 with *Take the Money and Run*, and followed it up with a series of slapstick comedies: *Bananas*, *Everything You Need to Know About Sex and Sleeper*. Then he moved onto romantic comedies with the brilliant *Annie Hall*, *Manhattan* and *A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy*. Then, showing the influence of Ingmar Bergman, Allen occasionally lapsed into more sombre territory with *Interiors* and *September*, which have been tempered by flights of fancy like *Zelig* and *The Purple Rose of Cairo*. Allen's fascination with the theatrical history of New York shines though in *Radio Days*, *Broadway Danny Rose*, *Bullets Over Broadway* and *Celebrity*. And then there are the family dramas and crises of *Hannah and Her Sisters*, *Deconstructing Harry*, and *Husbands and Wives*, followed by his more recent work, up to and including *Scoop*, *Match Point* and *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*.

This is a completely revised and updated guide with an introductory essay, each of Allen's films individually reviewed and analysed, and a multimedia reference guide.

BIOGRAPHY:

Martin Fitzgerald has written Pocket Essential Guides to *Hong Kong's Heroic Bloodshed*, *Woody Allen* and *Orson Welles*.