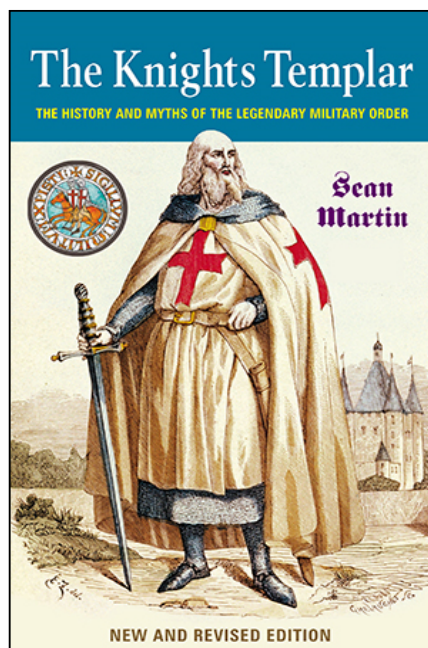




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The myth of the Templars was born and in the ensuing centuries, they have occupied a unique position in European history. Orthodox historians see them as nothing more than soldier-monks whose arrogance was their ultimate undoing, while others see them as occultists of the first order, the founders of Freemasonry, possessors of the Holy Grail and the Turin Shroud.

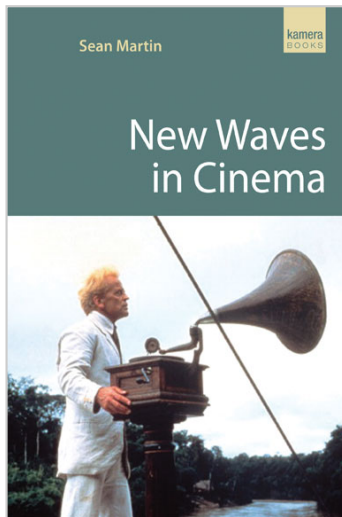
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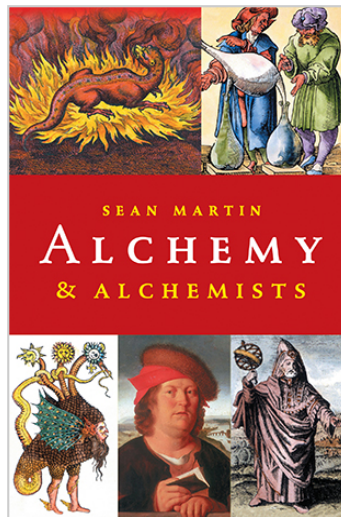
Seán Martin is a writer, poet and filmmaker. He is the author of *The Knights Templar*, *The Cathars*, *The Gnostics*, *The Black Death*, *Alchemy and Alchemists*, *A Short History of Disease* and, for Kamera Books, *Andrei Tarkovsky and New Waves in Cinema*. His films include *Lanterna Magicka: Bill Douglas & the Secret History of Cinema* (released by the BFI), *Folie à Deux* and a series of documentaries on the filmmaker Andrei Tarkovsky: *Tarkovsky's Andrei Rublev: A Journey* (released by Criterion), *The Dream in the Mirror* (released by Criterion), *The Last Dream: Andrei Tarkovsky and The Sacrifice* and *A Dream of Italy: Tarkovsky and Nostalgia*. Martin won the Wigtown Poetry Prize in 2011, and his collection of poems, *The Girl Who Got onto the Ferry in Citizen Kane*, is published by Templar Poetry.



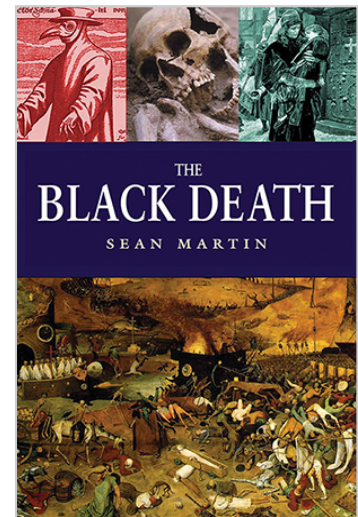
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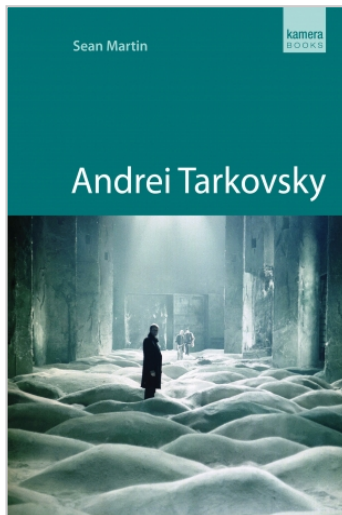
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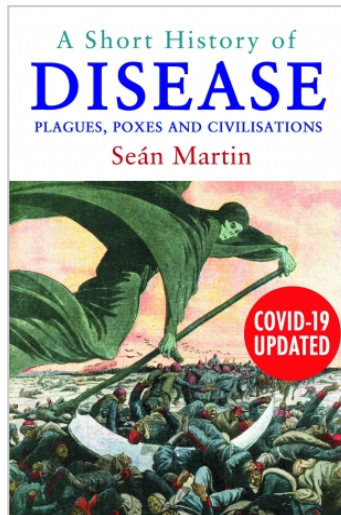
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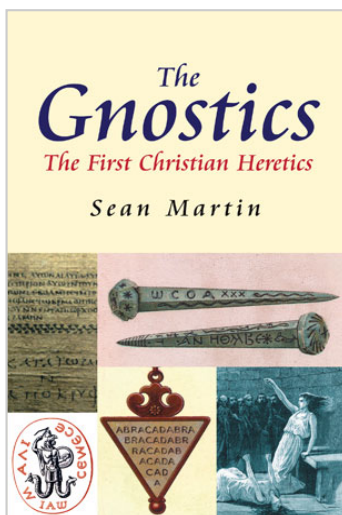


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