

## Polish Film and the Holocaust

### Politics and Memory

Marek Haltof

*Excellent researched, highly informative... [Haltof's] measured assessments, conveyed in clear, accessible prose, are rooted in an enviable command of both the relevant production documents and important secondary literature. The select list of relevant films and television programs is very useful. The ample notes and fine bibliography incorporate many Polish sources as well as all the available literature in English.*

CHOICE

*[Haltof] does not shy away from the sometimes difficult historical controversies the films elicit or from offering sensible criticisms of the artistic failings of certain works he discusses. With this volume, our understanding of Poland's cinematic engagement with the Holocaust has been elevated to a new, higher level.*

CINEASTE MAGAZINE

*Marek Haltof's study is impressive in its breadth and depth. Polish Film and the Holocaust encompasses a variety of motion pictures—many of which were never released outside Poland—while illuminating individual titles with an informed, nuanced perspective... In the continually charged context of Polish-Jewish relations, Haltof's book provides an elegant bridge between what he terms competing versions of victimization by history.*

SLAVIC REVIEW

*Haltof's book not only informs non-Poles about Poles' attempts adequately to conceptualize events often considered beyond representation; his practice offers an example and encouragement to further archival work.*

STUDIES IN EASTERN EUROPEAN CINEMA

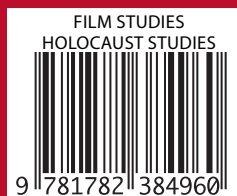
*The most comprehensive scholarly contribution to have emerged with respect to a long neglected field of study: the Holocaust in Polish film. [This book] is insightful, substantial, and sheds new light on films little known even to a connoisseur. Most importantly his evocation of films made during the years of "official silence" ... demands a re-evaluation from all scholars of post-war Jewish life in Poland... This is a significant study that will prove indispensable to historians of post-war Polish film, and the Holocaust, separately and together, along with all those concerned with Polish-Jewish relations after 1945.*

POLIN

**Marek Haltof** is Professor at Northern Michigan University in Marquette. His books include the *Historical Dictionary of Polish Cinema* (2007), *Australian Cinema: The Screen Construction of Australia* (in Polish, 2005), *The Cinema of Krzysztof Kieślowski: Variations on Destiny and Chance* (2004), and *Polish National Cinema* (2002).

Cover photo: A scene from *Birth Certificate* (1961). Courtesy FilMOTEKA Narodowa in Warsaw. © Film Studio "Tor."

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Berghahn on film

