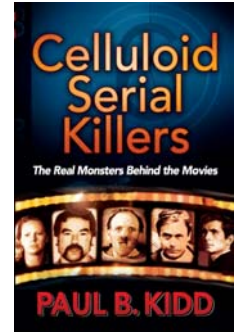




The Five Mile Press



Celluloid Serial Killers: The Real Monsters Behind the Movies

It's a little known fact that three of the world's most notorious killers – grave-robbler Ed Gein, schoolgirl slayer Ted Bundy and kidnapper Gary Heidnik – were the inspiration for *The Silence of the Lambs*. Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* was also based loosely on Ed Gein's macabre lifestyle. And Hitchcock's all-time favourite of his own movies, *Shadow of a Doubt*, was loosely based on the murderous activities of the real-life landlady strangler, Earle Nelson. More recently Australia's *Wolf Creek* was said to be based on Ivan Milat's backpacker murders and the outback murder of Peter Falconio.

In **Celluloid Serial Killers: The Real Monsters Behind the Movies**, to be published by The Five Mile Press on 13 August, 2007, Australia's most popular true crime author, Paul B. Kidd, presents cinema's classic serial killer movies and looks at the lives of the real criminals who inspired many of them. It includes such gems of the genre as *Frenzy*, *10 Rillington Place*, *Murder by Decree*, *M*, *The Boston Strangler*, *Summer of Sam*, *Monster*, *Zodiac*, *Red Dragon* and many more.

Author Paul B. Kidd warns that **Celluloid Serial Killers** isn't for the faint-hearted. 'It features the true stories of the worst crimes imaginable committed by the most evil psychopaths who have ever lived,' he says. 'Of the 45 movies, more than two-thirds are based on fact or some degree of fact.'

Complete with movie posters and real-life photos of the murderers, **Celluloid Serial Killers** also includes critiques of other famous serial killer movies that, although they weren't based on living killers, were just too good to leave out. Movies such as *Se7en*, *Copycat*, *Jennifer 8*, *Sea of Love*, *Cruising* and *Dirty Harry*.

The book starts in 1931 with the first serial killer movie ever made, Fritz Lang's film noir *M*, which is based on the murders of German child serial killer Peter Kurten and is the only foreign language movie in **Celluloid Serial Killers**. It ends with 2007's *Zodiac* about which the author says: 'For a serial murder story that has no ending, David Fincher has created a masterpiece.'

Paul B. Kidd is a professional and entertaining interviewee. The author of 16 books, he is a Sydney Radio 2UE talkback broadcaster, freelance 60 Minutes researching producer and photojournalist who specialises in Australian true crime, big game fishing, adventure and humour. Paul is a recognised authority on Australian serial killers and criminals who have been sentenced 'never to be released'.

Celluloid Serial Killers: The Real Monsters Behind the Movies by Paul B. Kidd

Published by: The Five Mile Press **Size:** 234 x 153 (C Format, 288 pp)

Publicity date: 13 August 2007

Price & Availability \$34.95 from all good bookstores

**For review copies or interviews with Paul B Kidd please contact
Julie Morgan at JMM Communications on 03 9696 5060**