Anne Démy-Geroe. *Iranian National Cinema: The Interaction of Policy, Genre, Funding, and Reception*

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REFERENCES

Anne Démy-Geroe. *Iranian National Cinema: The Interaction of Policy, Genre, Funding, and Reception*. Abingdon & New York: Routledge, 2020, 222p. (*Iranian Studies*). ISBN 978-0367219413

- 1 This book offers a thoughtful and useful exploration of the production and distribution of Iranian cinema both within and beyond the country. Démy-Geroe draws on her own experience as artistic director of the Brisbane International Film Festival, which led her to annual trips to Tehran's Fajr International Film Festival. These visits gave her the opportunity to meet with a number of Iran's most established filmmakers and industry insiders (including both government officials and employees such as sales agents), interviews with whom she references throughout the book. The discussion of these sources and various others focuses on the years 2000-2013, which allows for a comparison between the second half of the presidency of Mohammad Khatami (1997-2005) and that of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (2005-2013). Démy-Geroe organizes the six chapters that examine this time period into three primary clusters: one on genres and categories recognised by the government, one on international reception of Iranian cinema, and one on increases in government control of film following Ahmadinejad's 2009 re-election.
- 2 These sections provide a comprehensive look at the creation and reception of Iranian films during the years in question. Démy-Geroe's unique professional and personal position makes the book especially valuable, as she provides a level of insight into distribution and production rarely found in English-language scholarship on Iranian

cinema. Scholars looking to learn more about a crucial period in the country's robust and vibrant film history will find much of note in this engaging and insightful study.

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