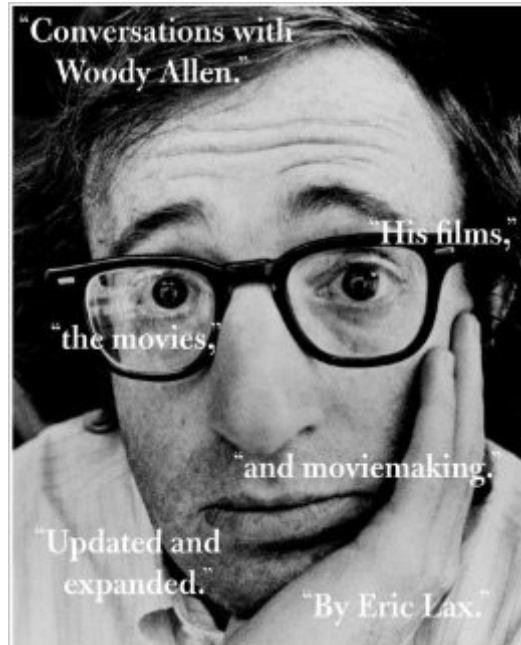


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# Conversations With Woody Allen: His Films, The Movies, And Moviemaking



## Synopsis

In discussions that begin in 1971 and end in 2009, Allen talks about every facet of moviemaking through the prism of his own work as well as the larger world of film, and in so doing reveals an artist's development over the course of his career. He speaks about his influences and about the genesis of his ideas; about writing, casting, acting, shooting, directing, editing, and scoring—and throughout shows himself to be thoughtful, honest, self-deprecating, always witty, and often hilarious.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

For sheer inventiveness and variety of films, the work of writer and director Woody Allen is unmatched. Their number, also, is impressive, almost forty movies since his first one, the hilarious fake documentary (it was made before anyone had coined the word "mockumentary") *Take the Money and Run* in 1969. Not every one is a classic, but some certainly are, whether comedy (*Annie Hall*), comedy with a dramatic edge (*Manhattan*), fables (*The Purple Rose of Cairo*), comic intimations of the godlessness of our universe (*Crimes and Misdemeanors*), or drama (the recent *Match Point*). So if you are familiar with the movies, you will be fascinated with *Conversations With Woody Allen: His Films, the Movies, and Moviemaking* (Knopf) by Eric Lax. Lax was a reporter in 1971 when he was assigned to check out the new director. The conversation didn't turn into an article, with Allen replying just "Yes" or "No" too often, but Lax tried again, this time for just a chat, which grew into more formal interviews, and as the years went by, discussions

about his projects as Allen was working on them. Allen has participated in recent conversations with Lax just to make this book current, and has clarified and added to the text, so that the work is a unique look into the mind of one of America's great filmmakers. Because the conversations are with Woody Allen, too, they are funny and self-deprecating, but also generous in giving credit to others. It is fun to learn where he gets his ideas. "When I go to sleep at night, put my head on the pillow, or walk down the street, I like to be thinking of story ideas. I'm always thinking about new plots. I would do anything to avoid that horrible moment of What do I do next?"

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