The production line: Reflections on the role of the producer in British cinema

Spicer, Andrew H.

Abstract
This is an overview discussion of the importance of recognising and understanding the producer's role not only within British cinema but in film studies as a discipline. It argues that a producer's oeuvre must be understood differently from that of a director. It is equally creative, but that creativity expresses itself in the range of variety of films made and also in forging the conditions under which other talents (director, actor, screenwriter, cinematographer) can work most effectively. In order to understand a producer's work, we must look at her or his career as a whole, their contribution to the evolution of cinema at particular historical moments and the effectiveness of their control of the production process. This involves research in archives and the trade press as a producers' largely invisible labour cannot be read off from the films they produce.

Keywords: film producer, British cinema, production studies, film studies

**Publisher URL**
http://dx.doi.org/10.3366/JBCTV.2004.1.1.33

**Files**
- **Production Line.doc** (87 Kb)

**ORGANISATION(S)**
- ACE Dept of Arts & Cultural Industries
- Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

**You might also like**

1. **A regional company? RED Production and the cultural politics of place** (2019)  
   Journal Article

2. **'Being European': UK production companies and Europe** (2018)  
   Journal Article

3. **'It's our property and our passion': Managing creativity in a successful company – Aardman Animations** (2017)  
   Book Chapter

   Book Chapter

5. **Go West! Bristol's film and television industries** (2017)  
   Report

**Downloadable Citations**
- HTML
- BIB
- RTF