



## Roman Polanski: Interviews (Conversations with Filmmakers Series)

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**Roman Polanski: Interviews (Conversations with Filmmakers Series)** From Brand: University Press of Mississippi

Roman Polanski (b. 1933) arrived on the international scene in 1962 with his first feature film, *Knife in the Water*, and his face would be on the cover of *Time* magazine by the end of that year. His vibrant, disturbing, and often violent films--including the psychological thriller *Rosemary's Baby*, the film noir classic *Chinatown*, and the somber Holocaust drama *The Pianist*--have entertained and sometimes infuriated audiences. Stylistically unsettling and thematically varied, Polanski's films have established him as one of the most talented and controversial European filmmakers of his generation.

Polanski's life has been troubled. He survived the Krakow ghetto and the Holocaust, but his mother died at Auschwitz. His wife Sharon Tate was brutally murdered in 1968 by members of Charles Manson's cult. After years of success in the United States, he fled the country in 1978 when he was convicted for having sex with a minor. He hasn't returned to America since that time. In *Roman Polanski: Interviews*, the acclaimed director talks openly about how incidents in his life have and have not influenced his artistic vision.

This collection of interviews spans nearly forty years and comprises translations from French, German, and Spanish newspapers and magazines and transcripts of British and American television and radio appearances.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **From [Booklist](#)**

Polanski is the rare director who moved from the art house to the multiplex. Critically hailed for the rarefied, early-sixties *Knife in the Water* and *Repulsion*, he scored with the mainstream with *Rosemary's Baby* in 1968 and even more powerfully with *Chinatown* in 1974. His career meandered during the eighties and nineties, bouncing back in 2002 with the Holocaust drama *The Pianist*, for which he won the best director Oscar. His dark, brutal films reflect a troubled life. As a child he escaped the Krakow ghetto, his wife was notoriously murdered by Charles Manson's followers, and he has been in self-imposed exile from the U.S. since a statutory rape conviction in 1978. Befitting his status as an international filmmaker and cineastes' favorite, most of these 28 interviews, which span four decades, come from foreign film journals, such as *Cahiers du Cinema*, though American TV interviews with Dick Cavett and Charlie Rose also appear. Recurrent in the conversations are Polanski's deep love of all types of cinema and disdain for Hollywood, "the kingdom of mediocrity." *Gordon Flagg*

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### **From the Publisher**

This collection of interviews covering forty years of work from the director of *Knife in the Water*, *Rosemary's Baby*, *Chinatown*, *The Pianist*, and others:

\* Offers the first English-language collection of interviews with Polanski

\* Discusses fully his childhood in Poland, his training at the film school in Lodz, his acting, the aftermath of wife Sharon Tate's brutal murder by Charles Manson's cult, and Polanski's work in America, France, and England

\* Offers translations of pieces from French, German, and Spanish publications now in English for the first time

### **From the Inside Flap**

Collected interviews with the controversial European filmmaker of *Rosemary's Baby*, *Chinatown*, and *The Pianist*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Kimberly Langdon:**

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**Hoyt Knapp:**

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