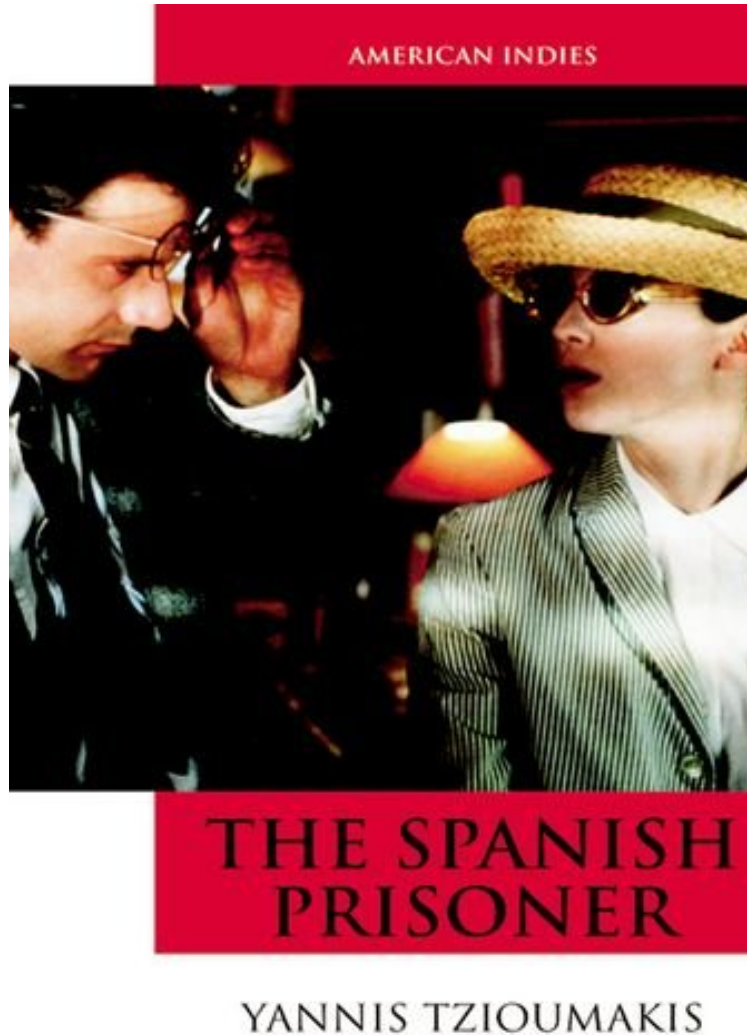


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## The Spanish Prisoner (American Indies)

*Yannis Tzioumakis*

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**Yannis Tzioumakis : The Spanish Prisoner (American Indies)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Spanish Prisoner (American Indies):

Despite more than a passing nod to such crowdpleasing classics as Hitchcock's North by Northwest, playwright-turned-independent filmmaker David Mamet's The Spanish Prisoner is a particularly idiosyncratic film that betrays its origin outside the Hollywood mainstream. Featuring a convoluted narrative, an excessive, often anti-classical, visual style,

and belonging to the generic category of the 'con game film' which often challenges the spectator's cognitive skills, *The Spanish Prisoner* is a film that bridges genre filmmaking with personal visual style, independent film production with niche distribution, and mainstream subject matter with unconventional filmic techniques. This book discusses *The Spanish Prisoner* as an example of contemporary American independent cinema while also using the film as a vehicle to explore several key ideas in film studies, especially in terms of aesthetics, narrative, style, spectatorship, genre and industry.

About the Author Yannis Tzioumakis is Lecturer in Media and Communication Studies at the University of Liverpool.