

# Stanley Kubrick's Napoleon: The Greatest Movie Never Made



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This book features the greatest film never made. It features Kubrick's unfilmed masterpiece. Tucked inside of a carved-out book, all the elements from Stanley Kubrick's archives that readers need to imagine what his unmade film about the emperor might have been like, including a facsimile of the script; a unique art object, historical document, and artistic statement. For 40 years, Kubrick fans and film buffs have wondered about the director's mysterious unmade film on Napoleon Bonaparte. Slated for production immediately following the release of "2001: A Space Odyssey",

Kubrick's "Napoleon" was to be at once a character study and a sweeping epic, replete with grandiose battle scenes featuring thousands of extras. To write his original screenplay, Kubrick embarked on two years of intensive research; with the help of dozens of assistants and an Oxford Napoleon specialist, he amassed an unparalleled trove of research and preproduction material, including approximately 15,000 location scouting photographs and 17,000 slides of Napoleonic imagery from books and libraries across Europe. No stone was left unturned in Kubrick's nearly-obsessive quest to uncover every piece of information history had to offer about Napoleon. But alas, Kubrick's movie was not destined to be: the film studios, first M.G.M. and then United Artists, decided such an undertaking was too risky at a time when historical epics were out of fashion. Taschen's sumptuous, limited-edition tribute to this unmade masterpiece makes Kubrick's valiant work on "Napoleon" available to fans for the first time. Tucked inside of a carved-out book are all the elements you need to imagine what Kubrick's film about the emperor might have been like. Along with the facsimile of Kubrick's final draft of the screenplay are 10 individual books exploring the various chapters of the director's work on the project: writing, research, costume design, location scouting, budgeting, and correspondence. The text includes the complete original treatment, an essay examining the screenplay in a historical context, an essay by Jean Tulard on Napoleon in cinema, and a transcript of interviews Kubrick conducted with Oxford professor Felix Markham. At once an art object, historical document, and artistic statement, this unique publication offers readers a chance to experience the creative process of one of cinema's greatest talents as well as a fascinating exploration of the enigmatic figure that was Napoleon Bonaparte.

作者介绍:

Alison Castle received a BA in philosophy from Columbia University and an MA in photography and film from New York University (NYU/International Center of Photography masters program). The editor of TASCHEN's *Some Like it Hot* and *The Stanley Kubrick Archives*, she lives in Paris, home of the world's best cinemas.

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