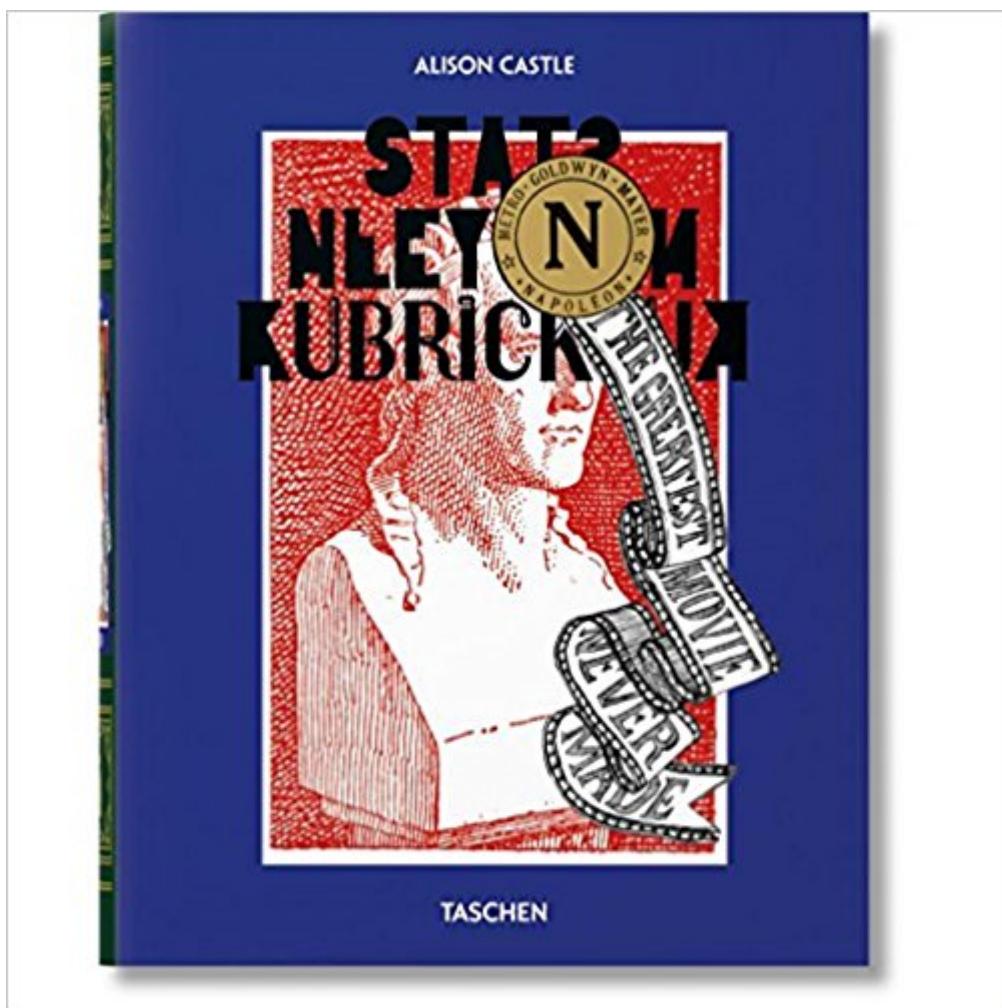


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# Stanley Kubrick's Napoleon: The Greatest Movie Never Made



## Synopsis

strong> Ten books in one tell the fascinating tale of Kubrick's unfilmed masterpiece. 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. 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 tribute to this unmade masterpiece makes Kubrick's valiant work on "Napoleon" available to fans for the first time. Based on the original 2009 limited edition which featured ten books hidden inside of a carved out reproduction of a Napoleon history book, this publication brings all the original elements together in one volume. Herein, all of the books from the original edition are reproduced in facsimile: correspondence, costume studies, location scouting photographs, research material, script drafts, and more. Kubrick's final draft is reproduced in its entirety. The text book features the complete original treatment, essays examining the screenplay in historical and dramatic contexts, an essay by Jean Tulard on Napoleon in cinema, and a transcript of interviews Kubrick conducted with Oxford professor Felix Markham. The culmination of years of research and preparation, 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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"You have to see it to believe it, which is appropriate when you consider Kubrick's obsession... it could be that the project has found its perfect home as the most grandiose book ever made." (New York Magazine)" --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Alison Castle received a BA in philosophy from Columbia University and an MA in photography and film from NYU/International Center of Photography. She is editor of photography, film, and design titles, including *Some Like It Hot*, *The Stanley Kubrick Archives*, *Linda McCartney. Life in Photographs*, and *Marc Newson. Works*.

I have to say I have never sat down and read this book in the normal way. Instead I tend to read it by browsing through and choosing a particular section and then just enjoying that section. The way it is set up, this kind of periodic enjoyment is perfect, as there are many different sections and each has a distinct topic. In particular I enjoyed the archived correspondence and the technical details of the film planning -- budgets, camera plans, cast logistics. There are relatively few studies of large film productions from this era, so even though this film was never made, the details are fascinating to read. Be warned, this is a huge and heavy book. It is hard to hold on your lap and really needs a horizontal place of honor for storage. I hate to suggest a coffee table but maybe a Napoleonic cabinet would work.

An enormous compendium of the encyclopedic research Kubrick did for his unmade film. What a fantastic project this book must have been, to retrace the research steps taken by that master Kubrick and then to present them in such a beautiful and rich form. Heirloom quality.

Beyond my expectations!

I found no better definition than this: "You have to see it to believe it, which is appropriate when you

consider Kubrick's obsession... it could be that the project has found its perfect home as the most grandiose book ever made." (New York Magazine)"

Absolutely stunning book. Delivery wasn't exactly speedy, but whaddya expect if you're ordering something from Germany.

HUGE volume. Plenty of material to read. Contains a lot of art work he clipped from books for reference as to how sets should look,,etc.

AWESOME!!!!

great book,great photos and behind the scenes content. got it for my fiancÃfÂ© as a Christmas present, and he loves it

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