

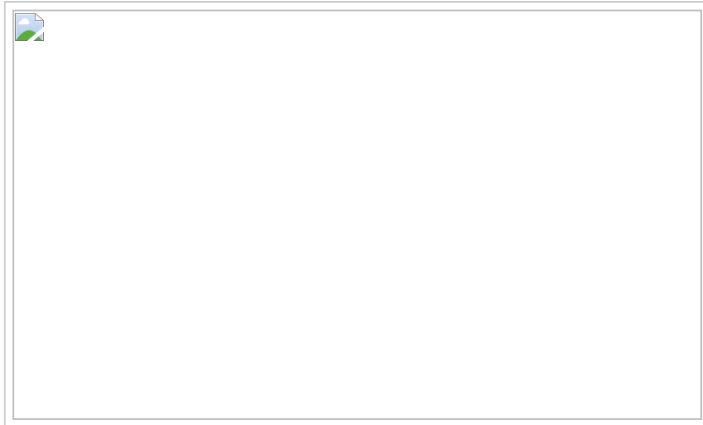
THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR

A LONG, STRANGE JOURNEY TOWARD A RETROSPECTIVELY INEVITABLE DESTINATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2009

Mad Men and Y&D;

By [Keith Uhlich](#)



We're a little slow on content upload this week (new entries coming tomorrow), so I wanted to share two recent web postings that have stoked my interest:

First, Glenn Kenny of *Some Came Running* has written a terrific response to several end-of-summer, state-of-the-art doomsaying articles. It's titled "[Young and dumb versus old and in the way](#)", and as befits Glenn it's an illuminating mix of autobiography and critical observation.

Second, a hearty welcome to video essay land for the *Film Freak Central* crew. Contributor Jefferson Robbins has just posted a tribute to *Mad Men* in anticipation of its premiere this Sunday. I've embedded the video below the jump, but be sure to head on over to [the *Film Freak* blog itself](#) and let Jefferson know your thoughts.

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[John Barrymore: Sweet Prince of Irony](#)

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[The Films of Ulrich Seidl](#)

POSTED BY KEITH UHLICH AT 9:30 AM 

LABELS: [FILM FREAK CENTRAL](#), [GLENN KENNY](#), [JEFFERSON ROBBINS](#), [KEITH UHLICH](#), [MAD MEN](#), [PLACEHOLDERS](#)



10 COMMENTS:

SRP said...

Fantastic way to start the day! (It's five PM here...but I'm on a weird schedule)

The GK thread is fascinating...don't know how I missed it. A bit late to jump in there. I do love how Armond White used the phrase "the now overrated Hurt Locker" two weeks in a row (unfortunately, he does have a point now, with Ebert's harping. Still hilarious, classic Armond-ism).

And that Mad Men piece really hit the spot- I skipped it on tv to catch it on DVD, where it looks stunning.

8/12/2009 10:27 AM 

Rasselas said...

I liked Glenn's piece.

As for *Mad Men*, I think I'm going to stay off that particular train forever; if something is so shallow that James Wolcott, Jezebel.com and apparently the entirety of the liberal blogosphere can join hands and adore it, I feel like a little resistance is appropriate.

8/12/2009 11:04 AM 

Phantom of Pulp said...

Excellent piece on a superb drama.

8/12/2009 12:11 PM 

Craig said...

As for Mad Men, I think I'm going to stay off that particular train forever; if something is so shallow that James Wolcott, Jezebel.com and apparently the

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entirety of the liberal blogosphere can join hands and adore it, I feel like a little resistance is appropriate.

Ostensible shallowness aside, Wolcott has long been a dissenting voice. Example [here](#). And [here](#). Not to mention [constant wisecracks](#) (scroll down) on the now-defunct Newcritics' regular live-blogs for each episode.

8/12/2009 1:53 PM 

Anonymous said...

Don't you just love when someone makes a point of staying off a bandwagon to make a point of some kind of moral superiority? I know I do.

I've never watched the show either, but I certainly don't use that as an axe to grind against the people who do. It's just never really piqued my interest -- not because I'm so special, but because it just hasn't.

8/12/2009 3:19 PM 

Rasselas said...

Well, Anonymous, some of us are just too morally superior to be expected to keep it to ourselves.

8/12/2009 3:57 PM 

Matt Zoller Seitz said...

This is an excellent video essay, one that really showcases the medium's ability to analyze form. It's also a great example of the interplay of narration and moving pictures, showing how words can direct one's attention to aspects of film form that one might miss while simply watching the show, or reading a description of it.

8/12/2009 4:53 PM 

Divers and Sundry said...

I just wish it didn't autoplay.

8/12/2009 6:05 PM 

Ben said...

Great video. I can't wait for the new season. Does anybody else notice the video shuttering or is just my setup? The audio seems fine.

8/12/2009 9:21 PM 

Jefferson Robbins said...

Thanks for the repost, Keith, and to everyone here for the feedback. I'm already mixing Old Fashioneds for Sunday night.

8/12/2009 11:13 PM 

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- [Big Media Vandalism](#) (Steven Boone, et al)
- [Boredom at Its Boredest](#) (Michael Tully)
- [Bright Lights After Dark](#)
- [Bright Lights Film Journal](#)
- [Chicago Reader](#) (Jonathan Rosenbaum, J.R. Jones, et al)
- [Cinemia](#) (Dan Jardine)
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- [Cinepassion](#) (Fernando F. Croce)
- [Dave Kehr](#) (Official Site)

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girish (Girish Shambu)
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THE HOUSE CONTRIBUTORS

Dan Jardine
andrew schenker
Craig
Michael Crowley
Matt Maul
Will Lasky
barry maupin
Joan
Jeremiah Kipp
Sheik Yerbootie
kenjfu
Logan
Josh Shelov
James Martin Moran
Bob Cumbow
wstrob
Alan Sepinwall
Jason Bellamy
Elise Nakhnikian
m.b.
Aaron Aradillas
Tony Dayoub
Melissa Tuckman
Michael Peterson
ed gonzalez
tmhoover
Steve Garmhausen
Andrew Johnston
odienator
John Lichman
Todd
Matt Zoller Seitz
Sarah D. Bunting
brandon
Foz
Matt Noller

Dr. D'Oh!
Fernando F. Croce
Luke
mbpoland
J.J. Faulkner
Jonathan Pacheco
Paul Schrodt
Z. Wigon
Max Winter
N.P. Thompson
Edward Copeland
Sean Burns
Ali Arikan
Myles
Annie Frisbie
Steven Boone
The Diatribe
Ed Howard
Lauren Wissot
Bob Westal
Wagstaff
Sheila O'Malley
Brendon Bouzard
Ross Ruediger
Andrew Chan
Andrew Dignan
Peet Gelderblom
alsolikelife
That Fuzzy Bastard
Ryland Walker Knight
Simon Abrams
Ted Pigeon
Jeffrey Hill
chris anthony diaz
Brad LaBonte
rob humanick
Justine Elias
Steven Cooper
Evan
Vadim
Simon Hsu
Dan Callahan
brotherfromanother
Hannah
Keith Uhlich
Libby
