

# QUADROPHENIA: A WAY OF LIFE: Inside the Making of Britains Greatest Youth Film



Quadrophenia Its been over 35 years since the film Quadrophenia hit the worlds cinema screens. Jimmy the Mods search for identity against the backdrop of the May Bank Holiday riots of the 1960s, is regarded as the finest example of a British youth movie and a warmly remembered timepiece for a generation. Set against the backdrop of the Mods and Rockers riots of 1964, the film took its lead from The Whos classic rock opera of 1973. With a stellar cast including Phil Daniels, Leslie Ash, Toyah Wilcox and Police front man Sting, the film launched a whole generation of Britains finest actors. Even in 2013, the word Quadrophenia still resonates as a buzzword for youthful exuberance and Modernist imagery. As the generation that first saw it now approach their fifties with teenagers of their own, Quadrophenia has become a glorious benchmark for their own youthful excesses, hopes, dreams and nostalgia. To critics, admirers and casual observers, its intriguing: what makes a 30 plus year-old film like Quadrophenia still appealing? And similarly, why do people return to it time and time again? For the first time, QUADROPHENIA.A WAY OF LIFE explores the making of Britains great cult film and its subsequent influence on popular culture. With interviews with principal cast members, director Franc Roddam, scriptwriter Martin Stellman and other involved in the creation of the film, this is the definitive account of Britains greatest youth movie. Although most would credit Quadrophenia as a Mod film, it displays more of the fury of the late 1970s than 1960s post-war austerity. Nonetheless, this slightly surreal, timeless atmosphere the film exudes, adds to its charm. Ultimately, Mod and 1960s references aside, Quadrophenia is a classic boy meets girl, loses girl parable; a theme which is perennially identifiable with. You have done a fantastic job, reading the chapters took me right back. Very accurate,

wonderfully done. Franc Roddam  
Fantastic job!! - Gary Shail Read your  
book, loved it. - John Blundell Got it, seen  
it, like it a lot! A good read. - Bill  
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