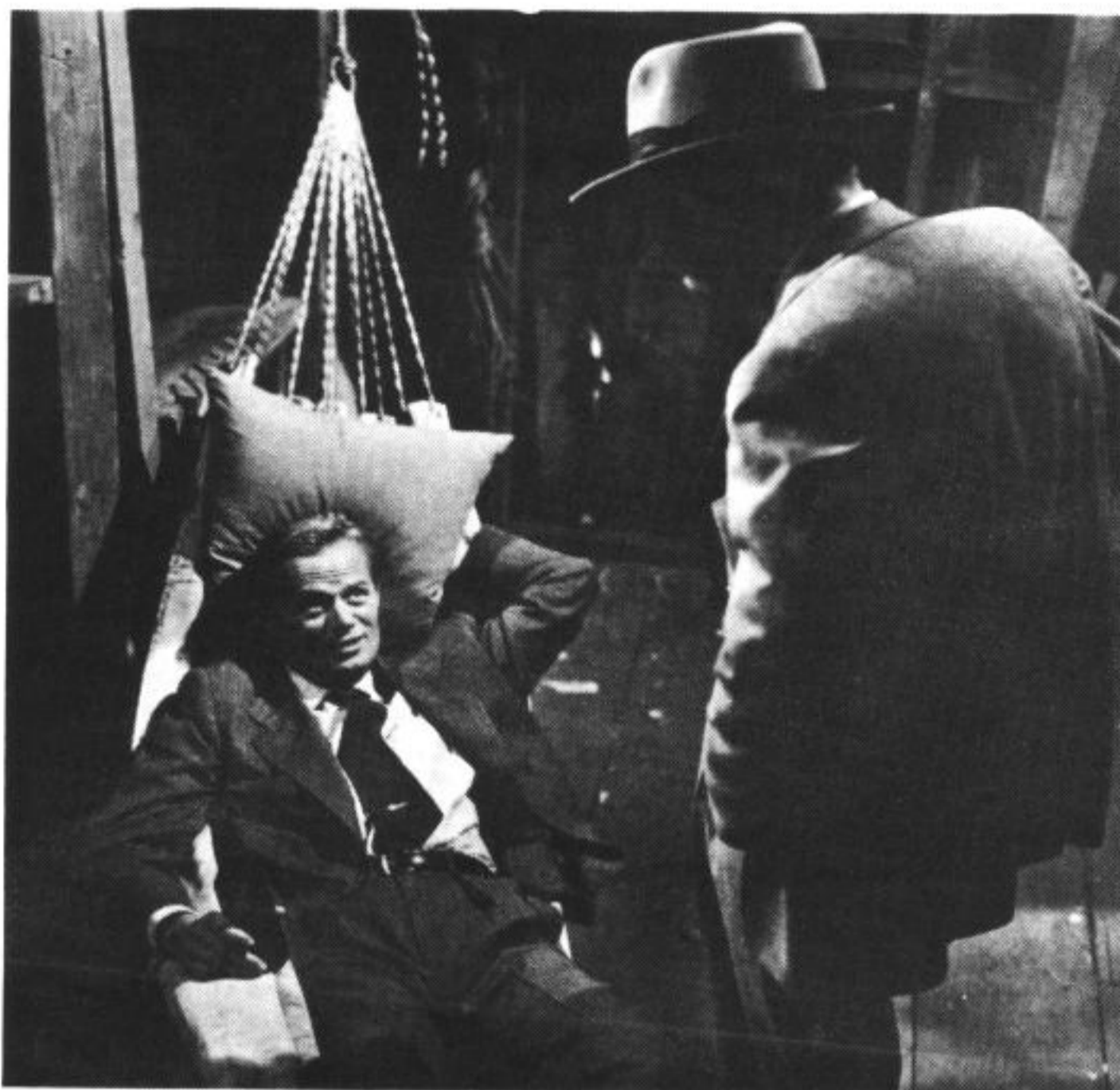


## Document Citation

Title	<b>Pick-up on South Street</b>
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Los Angeles International Film Exposition</i>
Date	1971
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Pickup on South Street, Fuller, Samuel, 1953

**Sunday, November 14, (Museum) Continued**



**PICK-UP ON SOUTH STREET—1953**

Director: Sam Fuller

Producer: Jules Schermer

Screenplay: Sam Fuller

Cinematography: Joe MacDonald

Leading

Players:

Richard Widmark

Jean Peters

Thelma Ritter

Running Time: 80 minutes

Source: 20th Century-Fox

Film noir is not a genre, defined, as are the western and gangster genres, by conventions of setting and conflict, but rather a style, defined by the more subtle qualities of tone and mood. It is also a specific period in film history, referring in general to those Hollywood films of the forties and fifties which portrayed the world of dark city streets, crime and corruption.

Film noir prefers compositional tension to physical action. Stylistically the mood is created of an irretrievable past, a pre-determined fate and an all-enveloping hopelessness. Frequently a complex chronological order reinforces the feelings of hopelessness and lost time. Although the French have been students of film noir for some time, American critics, until recently, have neglected the period. For a long time, film noir with its emphasis on corruption and despair was considered an aberration of the American character, while the gangster films and westerns with their emphasis on the moral values and Horatio Algerism were considered more American. This prejudice was reinforced by the sort of economic snobbery which still lingers in some critical circles . . . film noir was ideally suited to a low budget and the best film noir were in fact "B" films.

The seven films selected for this series are among the finest and least known noir films. **A discussion will follow the last film. Included on the panel will be Paul Schrader, Sam Fuller and Robert Aldrich.**