



WORKING-CLASS HOLLYWOOD

SILENT FILM AND THE SHAPING OF CLASS IN AMERICA

STEVEN J. ROSS

Working Class Hollywood Paperback 1999 Steven J Ross

Stephen Neale



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Working-Class Hollywood Steven J. Ross, 2020-06-30 This path breaking book reveals how Hollywood became Hollywood and what that meant for the politics of America and American film Working Class Hollywood tells the story of filmmaking in the first three decades of the twentieth century a time when going to the movies could transform lives and when the cinema was a battleground for control of American consciousness Steven Ross documents the rise of a working class film movement that challenged the dominant political ideas of the day Between 1907 and 1930 worker filmmakers repeatedly clashed with censors movie industry leaders and federal agencies over the kinds of images and subjects audiences would be allowed to see The outcome of these battles was critical to our own times for the victors got to shape the meaning of class in twentieth century America Surveying several hundred movies made by or about working men and women Ross shows how filmmakers were far more concerned with class conflict during the silent era than at any subsequent time Directors like Charlie Chaplin D W Griffith and William de Mille made movies that defended working people and chastised their enemies Worker filmmakers went a step further and produced movies from A Martyr to His Cause 1911 to The Gastonia Textile Strike 1929 that depicted a unified working class using strikes unions and socialism to transform a nation J Edgar Hoover considered these class conscious productions so dangerous that he assigned secret agents to spy on worker filmmakers Liberal and radical films declined in the 1920s as an emerging Hollywood studio system pressured by censors and Wall Street investors pushed American film in increasingly conservative directions Appealing to people s dreams of luxury and upward mobility studios produced lavish fantasy films that shifted popular attention away from the problems of the workplace and toward the pleasures of the new consumer society While worker filmmakers were trying to heighten class consciousness Hollywood producers were suggesting that class no longer mattered Working Class Hollywood shows how silent films helped shape the modern belief that we are a classless nation The Classical Hollywood Reader Stephen Neale, 2012 First Published in 2012

Routledge is an imprint of Taylor Francis an informa company **The Marx Brothers and America** Robert E. Weir, 2022-08-31 The ground has shifted from the days in which serious history and boring went hand in glove Textbooks and lectures have their place but less traditional classrooms can be powerfully immersive and insightful Take the 1929 Marx Brothers film The Cocoanuts and what it teaches about both the Great Depression and early sound films The Marx Brothers are among the funniest comedy teams of all time Four of their 13 films are on the American Film Institute s list of the 100 greatest American comedies ever made For many contemporary viewers though getting the jokes is not always easy because the humor can be subjective and timebound This work looks at the American past through the lens of the Marx Brothers films and other projects Each of the chapters focuses on a specific film contextualizing the world at the time and how the Marx Brothers lampooned those subjects Along the way the book demonstrates what the Marx Brothers revealed about weighty topics like gambling gender relations immigration medical care Prohibition race and war all leavened with offbeat humor

Against Obscenity Leigh Ann Wheeler, 2004 Through the activities of Gilman and her associates Wheeler explains how the rise and fall of women's anti obscenity leadership shaped American attitudes toward and regulation of sexually explicit material even as it charted a new era in women's politics *Women Filmmakers in Early Hollywood* Karen Ward Mahar, 2006-11-10 Publisher description [Bible and Cinema](#) Adele Reinhartz, 2022-03-30 Bible and Cinema An Introduction is a comprehensive examination of how the Bible has been used and represented in mainstream cinema to develop its plots characters and themes The book considers two general types of films Bible movies that retell biblical stories such as the Exodus and the life of Jesus and Bible related movies that make use of biblical books stories verses and figures and Bibles themselves to tell non biblical often fictional narratives Topics covered include the contribution of Bible and Bible related movies to the history of the Bible's reception the ways in which filmmakers make use of scripture to address and reflect their own time and place the Bible as a vehicle through which films can address social and political issues reflect human experiences and emotions explore existential issues such as evil and death and express themes such as destruction and redemption the role of the Bible as a source of ethics and morality and how this role is both perpetuated and undermined in a range of contemporary Hollywood films and film as a medium for experiences of transcendence and the role of the Bible in creating such experiences This thoroughly updated second edition includes insightful analysis of films such as Noah Gods and Men Mary Magdalene and The Shawshank Redemption paying attention to visual and aural elements as well as plot character and dialogue The book also includes pedagogical resources including discussions of film theory as well as key words and discussion questions Teachers students and anyone interested in the intersection of Bible and cinema will find this an invaluable guide to a growing field **The Routledge History of Twentieth-Century United States** Jerald Podair, Darren Dochuk, 2018-05-02 The Routledge History of the Twentieth Century United States is a comprehensive introduction to the most important trends and developments in the study of modern United States history Driven by interdisciplinary scholarship the thirty four original chapters underscore the vast range of identities perspectives and tensions that contributed to the growth and contested meanings of the United States in the twentieth century The chronological and topical breadth of the collection highlights critical political and economic developments of the century while also drawing attention to relatively recent areas of research including borderlands technology and disability studies Dynamic and flexible in its possible applications The Routledge History of the Twentieth Century United States offers an exciting new resource for the study of modern American history [Anglo-American Stage and Screen Drama](#) Mike Ingham, 2023-11-27 Anglo American Stage and Screen Drama analyses and discusses the contemporary role of stage and screen drama as a critical forum for progressive thinking in an increasingly polarised geopolitical world The book addresses the cultural politics of socially engaged 21st century stage plays and films and makes the case for drama as a sociopolitical forum in which the complex and contentious issues that confront society can be explored and debated It conceives of

Anglophone political drama as a significant intervention in today's culture wars representing the latter as a convenient distraction from the ongoing depredations of neoliberalism. In the main part of the book selected case study plays and films from each of the first two decades illustrate drama's capacity to influence critical debate on social justice issues. All of the case study texts under discussion express a powerful aesthetics of resistance to right wing ideology and promote inclusive and enlightened values. This broader orientation underlines drama's role as a channel for critical agency in today's putative post socialist post democratic climate.

Medieval Art and the Look of Silent Film Lora Ann Sigler, 2019-07-11 The heyday of silent film soon became quaint with the arrival of talkies. As early as 1929 critics and historians were writing of the period as though it were the distant past. Much of the literature on the silent era focuses on its filmic art, ambiance and psychological depth, the splendor of the sets and costumes, yet overlooks the inspiration behind these. This book explores the Middle Ages as the prevailing influence on costume and set design in silent film and a force in fashion and architecture of the era. In the wake of World War I designers overthrew the artifice of prewar style and manners and drew upon what seemed a nobler, purer age to create an ambiance that reflected higher ideals.

Shoot It! David Spaner, 2011-12-27 Shoot It is a revealing history of how Hollywood, with its eye on the bottom line, arguably lost its ability to support the work of creative filmmakers; it is also a passionate portrait of the American independent film scene that has produced some of the best movies of the last two decades and inspired those in other countries to do the same. The book examines the Hollywood studio system over several decades, from the period when moguls like Harry and Jack Warner and Louis B. Mayer made quality yet commercially viable films to today when studios seem only interested in surefire sequels and comic book adaptations aimed at a global audience. By the same token, Shoot It also celebrates today's great movies produced outside of the studio system, chronicling the international independent film movement in seven countries: the United States, Canada, Mexico, Britain, France, Romania, and South Korea, from its roots in French New Wave, British Kitchen Sink, the New York scene, to the revolutionary impact of digital technology. It also features commentary from indie film notables such as Gus Van Sant, Mike Leigh, Claire Denis, Atom Egoyan, Catherine Breillat, Sally Potter, John Sayles, and Ken Loach. While the studios envisage a generic universe repressing local film cultures, along the way talented independents continue to tell local stories with universal appeal. This book is a celebration of those determined filmmakers who, despite it all, overcome all obstacles and just shoot it. David Spaner is a film critic and freelance journalist in Vancouver, British Columbia.

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