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Weimar Cinema: An Essential Guide To Classic Films Of The Era (Film And Culture Series)



Synopsis

Taken as a whole, the sixteen remarkable films discussed in this provocative new volume of essays represent the brilliant creativity that flourished in the name of German cinema between the wars. Encompassing early gangster pictures and science fiction, avant-garde and fantasy films, sexual intrigues and love stories, the classics of silent cinema and Germany's first talkies, each chapter illuminates, among other things: the technological advancements of a given film, its detailed production history, its critical reception over time, and the place it occupies within the larger history of the German studio and of Weimar cinema in general. Readers can revisit the careers of such acclaimed directors as F. W. Murnau, Fritz Lang, and G. W. Pabst and examine the debuts of such international stars as Greta Garbo, Louise Brooks, and Marlene Dietrich. Training a keen eye on Weimar cinema's unusual richness and formal innovation, this anthology is an essential guide to the revolutionary styles, genres, and aesthetics that continue to fascinate us today.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Weimar Cinema is the volume on this fascinating era of international film history. (Gerd Gemünden Bookforum) A super collection of essays about sixteen dynamite flicks. (944 Los Angeles) This superb collection... [is] an excellent overview of the critical frameworks of German film studies... Essential. (Choice) A well-constructed and welcome introduction to a number of classics. (Philipp Stiasny German History) Weimar Cinema will prove equally useful to teachers of

undergraduates as to those engaging in ongoing scholarly research into this fascinating period in German film history. (Ian Roberts Historical Journal of Film, Radio, and Television) With its detailed filmography and intelligently organized index, this work could easily serve as the primary textbook for a survey of Weimar film. (Glenn R. Cuomo German Studies Review)

Noah Isenberg is associate professor of University Humanities at Eugene Lang College-The New School, where he teaches literature, film, and intellectual history. He is the author, most recently, of *Detour* (British Film Institute, 2008).

A very interesting and in depth look at selected, important Weimar, or pre-WWII films, their intentions, meaning, messaging and effect on German (Berlin) culture and the Western film world. Very well written and researched, lively enough prose to keep one entertained as well. An important contribution to this unique 'flowering' of the arts in Berlin.

This is a great source book for introductory film classes on Weimar cinema. It would be perfect if it had an introduction that included more extensive material on the social, cultural, and political context of the Weimar era.

Great book, very informative

The subtitle is exceedingly appropriate: Isenberg has selected films which indeed are classic representatives of film produced during the Weimar Republic; in addition, the information and commentary he provides deserve the appellation "essential," as the presentation is solidly factual, well thought out and stated in language that makes both the period and these films accessible to a wider audience.

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