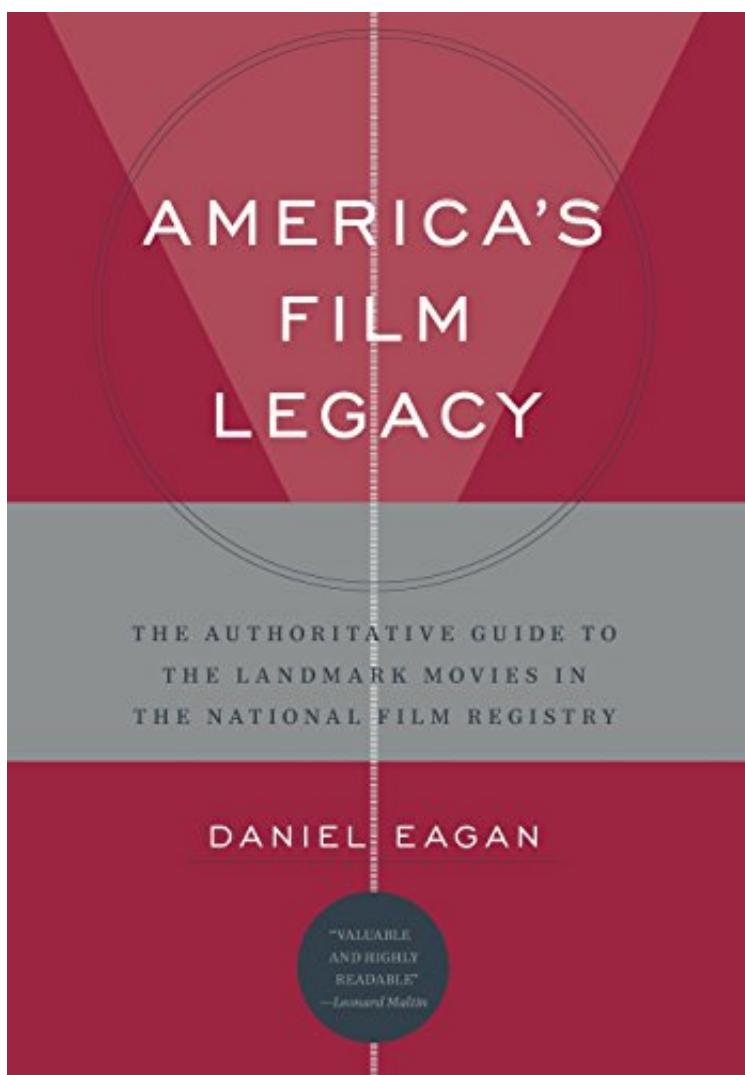


(Free pdf) America's Film Legacy: The Authoritative Guide to the Landmark Movies in the National Film Registry

America's Film Legacy: The Authoritative Guide to the Landmark Movies in the National Film Registry

Daniel Eagan

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Daniel Eagan : America's Film Legacy: The Authoritative Guide to the Landmark Movies in the National Film Registry before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised America's Film Legacy: The Authoritative Guide to the Landmark Movies in the National Film Registry:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Sean Ramsdell Pros: Titles, Summaries Cons: Wishing updated books 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A wealth of information, horribly formatted. By Mark There's a great deal of useful information on the individual films in this book, but trying to find it is frustrating

indeed. The book provides no index of titles or meaningful table of contents. The 500 titles are listed chronologically within the years of their release, the reader is first required to determine the release date, then riffle thru the book to find the section that covers those years (NOT marked on the pages themselves), and then within that section locate the title alphabetically. When I first received the book, I tried to find the entry for "Eraserhead", it took five minutes of tedious flipping through the pages to locate it. Surely providing an index would not have been too much trouble, it certainly would have been an enormous courtesy to the reader. 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Great Book By Mitchell Walker A great read. I took this to Europe with me to read on the plane and at the Airport. Lots of short articles that works for me, since I get interuptions when I am trying to read a novel..... Good information for every Film fan.

America's Film Legacy is a guide to the most significant films ever made in the United States. Unlike opinionated "Top 100" and arbitrary "Best of" lists, these are the real thing: groundbreaking films that make up the backbone of American cinema. Some are well-known, such as Citizen Kane, The Jazz Singer, All Quiet on the Western Front, The Birth of a Nation, and Boyz n the Hood. Others are more obscure, such as Blacksmith Scene, The Blue Bird, The Docks of New York, Star Theatre, and A Bronx Morning. Daniel Eagan's beautifully written and authoritative book is for anyone who loves American movies and who wants to learn more about them.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . The great, the historic, and the lousy (but, alas, influential) all find their place in this engrossing survey of titles selected by the Library of Congress's National Film Registry. Eagan (HBO's Guide to Movies on Videocassette and Cable TV) chronologically catalogues 500 Registry films, from 1893's 30-second Blacksmithing Scene to 1995's Fargo, jumbling Hollywood classics together with obscure art films, cartoon shorts, documentaries, industrial and student films, newsreel footage from the Hindenburg disaster and the Zapruder film. Each entry includes complete cast and credits lists and an engaging one- to two-page historical and interpretive essay. These are packed with biographical thumbnails of actors and directors and making-of narratives-from screenplay rewrites to on-set feuds and hysterics to final-cut showdowns-that buffs and scholars will delight in. Eagan dutifully assesses the artistic merits of each film (yes, even Animal House) in critiques that abound in pithy and sometimes contrarian opinions: he rates Clint Eastwood rather higher than either Orson Welles (Citizen Kane is, merely, "a delightful stunt with the appeal of an eager puppy") or the "glib, cruel" Robert Altman. The result is an erudite, perceptive, always entertaining cinematic encyclopedia. Photos. This valuable and highly readable book will serve equally well as a primer for newcomers to film history and a refresher course for more experienced viewers on the vast spectrum of American cinema. Best of all, it will introduce novices and veterans alike to a number of offbeat and unjustly-forgotten titles on the National Film Registry. --Leonard Maltin The opportunity to revisit and be inspired by the past is one of the purposes behind the National Film Registry. The 1915 film The Italian was preserved from a single paper copy. If prints were readily available at the time I made The Godfather, I would have enjoyed having access to it. I'm proud that The Godfather and The Godfather Part II join The Italian on the Registry, an attempt to preserve our cinematic heritage. America's Film Legacy doesn't just explore the films on the Registry, it ties together the past and the present, showing how the great movies of today can be built on the those of an earlier era. --Francis Ford Coppola I've always thought of my films as a kind of private history, a record of things that interested me, music, people, events, sometimes politics. They allowed me to watch like a cat, and not have to be a reporter. What made it risky was not explaining anything. When I got rid of the script and the narration in the early films, and went out hunting for films with a camera they were seen as sort of dicey and unorthodox and unfortunately for us, unsaleable, at least to TV. That was what got us into theaters. I really welcome the existence of the National Film Registry and Daniel Eagan's wonderful book--America's Film Legacy--about it. The NFR's determination to collect these early experimental works and not let them disappear is really collecting and preserving the history of our times. I believe that films will eventually be our most important artifact. They may well become a new language. --D.A. Pennebaker About the Author Daniel Eagan has worked for Warner Bros., MGM, and other studios as a researcher and story analyst. He edited HBO's Guide to Movies on Videocassette and Cable TV (HarperCollins) and MGM: When the Lion Roars (Turner Publishing), to which he also contributed articles. He currently writes for Film Journal, and lives in New York City.