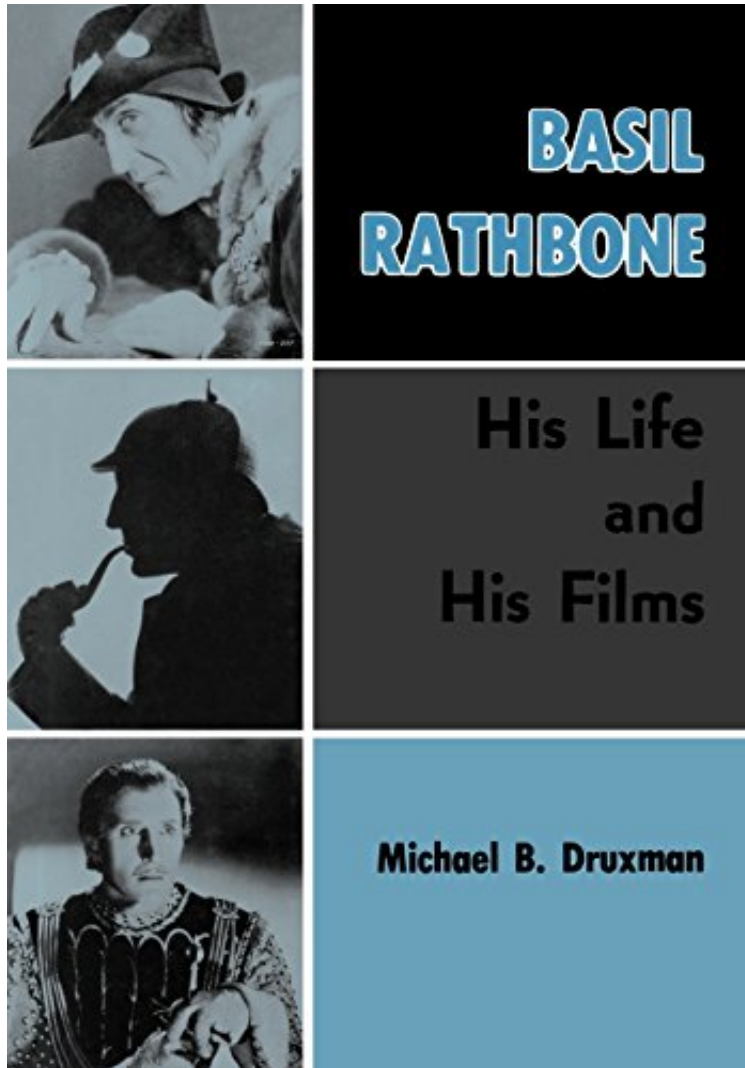


[Free pdf] Basil Rathbone: His Life and His Films

Basil Rathbone: His Life and His Films

Michael B. Druyman

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#124944 in Books BearManor Media 2011-08-31 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.00 x .76 x 7.011, 1.40 #File Name: 1593936591368 pages | File size: 33.Mb

Michael B. Druyman : Basil Rathbone: His Life and His Films before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Basil Rathbone: His Life and His Films:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. The Best book about a favorite actor By M. J. Davidson Michael B. Druyman (and the people at BearManor Media) should be congratulated for making this fine book available again after so many years. I remember purchasing the original hardcover edition in 1976 in a Sydney bookshop, loaning it to a friend who misplaced it when moving house, so it is great to have this softcover edition back in my collection. A ggod look at such a marvellous actor, his life and his films. Mr Rathbone even comes across as a likeable person off stage. This book goes into more detail about his film work than even Mr Rathbone himself did in his equally enjoyable

autobiography 'In and Out of Character'. A very readable and enjoyable book. Recommended. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Biography and filmography! By CB2712 If you are a Basil Rathbone fan, this is the book for you. Great tidbits on each movie he was in--simply incredible how many he made besides the Sherlock Holmes series. He was quite the evil villain in many of them (Robin Hood for example). He did not do an autobiography and I did not see a biography that I liked, this was just perfect! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. From Murdstone to Sherlock - an excellent biography. By Charles L. Davidson Druxman does a fine job narrating the complex Basil Rathbone biography. He provides valuable information on the production and public reception of other fine Rathbone dramatic portrayals. In so doing, the author gives important insight into the character of one of motion picture's finest actors.

To the average moviegoer, the name of Basil Rathbone conjures up an image of fiction's most famous detective - Sherlock Holmes. Certainly, of all the actors who have played the Baker Street sleuth, his interpretation was definitive. Yet, for cinema aficionados, the actor was much more than the personification of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's character. He began his film career in 1921 in *Innocent*, which was one of several silent films in which he appeared. He was also Mr. Murdstone in *David Copperfield*, Richard III in *Tower of London*, Louis XI in *If I Were King*, Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet*, Captain Estaban Pasquale in *The Mark of Zorro*, Sir Guy of Gisbourne in *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, and Baron Wolf von Frankenstein in *Son of Frankenstein*. For most of his years in motion pictures, Rathbone was the victim of type casting. During the 1930s, he was known as the screen's ultimate villain, constantly in demand by producers to carry out dastardly deeds against such heroes as Errol Flynn, Tyrone Power, Ronald Colman, Gary Cooper, and Leslie Howard. He also appeared opposite such leading ladies as Greta Garbo, Norma Shearer, Loretta Young, Olivia de Havilland, and Joan Crawford. Rathbone earned Academy Award nominations for Best Actor in a Supporting Role for his performances as Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet* (1936) and as King Louis XI in *If I Were King* (1938). He portrayed Sherlock Holmes in fourteen Hollywood films made between 1939 and 1946 and in an Old Time Radio series. His later career included roles on Broadway, as well as television work. He received a Tony Award in 1948 as Best Actor in a Play. Through the 1950s and 1960s, he appeared on television as a panelist on the game show *The Name's the Same* (in 1954), and he also took roles in cheap film thrillers of far lesser quality, such as *The Black Sleep* (1956), *Queen of Blood* (1966), *The Ghost in the Invisible Bikini* (1966), *Hillbillys in a Haunted House* (1967, also featuring Lon Chaney Jr and John Carradine.), and his last film, a low-budget, Mexican horror film called *Autopsy of a Ghost* (1968). He is also known for his spoken word recordings, including his interpretation of Clement C. Moore's "The Night Before Christmas." Rathbone's readings of the stories and poems of Edgar Allan Poe are collected together with readings by Vincent Price in Caedmon Audio's *The Edgar Allan Poe Audio Collection* on CD. Rathbone also made many other recordings, of everything from a dramatised version of *Oliver Twist* to a recording of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* (with Leopold Stokowski conducting) to a dramatised version of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*. On television he appeared in two musical versions of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*: one in 1954, in which he played Marley's Ghost opposite Fredric March's Scrooge, and the original 1956 live-action version of *The Stingiest Man In Town*, in which he starred as a singing Ebenezer Scrooge. In the 1960s, he also toured with a one-man show titled (like his autobiography) *In and Out of Character*. In this show, he recited poetry and Shakespeare, as well as reminisced about his life and career. He appeared with Vincent Price and Boris Karloff, in *Tower of London* (1939) and *The Comedy of Terrors* (1964). The latter was the only film to feature the "Big Four" of American International Pictures' horror films: Out-of-print for over thirty-five years, Michael B. Druxman's *Basil Rathbone: His Life and His Films* is a carefully researched work that thoroughly examines the life and professional career of one of Hollywood's most respected character actors. This new edition includes an Introduction by the author, a Biography, Filmography, and more than 250 rare photographs.

"Michael Druxman's book is well-researched and well-written--a "must have" for every Basil Rathbone fan." - Marcia Jessen, *Basil Rathbone: Master of Stage and Screen* website

From the Back Cover To the average moviegoer, the name of Basil Rathbone conjures up an image of fiction's most famous detective - Sherlock Holmes. Certainly, of all the actors who have played the Baker Street sleuth, his interpretation was the most definitive. Yet, for the true aficionado of the cinema, the actor was much more than the personification of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's character. He was also Mr. Murdstone in *David Copperfield*, Richard III in *Tower of London*, Louis XI in *If I Were King*, Tybalt of *Romeo and Juliet*, Captain Estaban Pasquale in *The Mark of Zorro*, Sir Guy of Gisbourne from *The Adventures of Robin Hood* and, of course, the *Son of Frankenstein*. For most of his years in motion pictures, Rathbone was the victim of type-casting. During the 1930s, he was known as the screen's ultimate villain - constantly in demand by producers to carry out dastardly deeds against such heroes as Errol Flynn, Tyrone Power, Ronald Colman, Gary Cooper and Leslie Howard, as well as leading ladies like Greta Garbo, Norma Shearer, Loretta Young, Olivia de Havilland and Joan Crawford. Then, he assumed the guise of Sherlock Holmes and his past accomplishments were virtually forgotten. Although the role brought him more fame than he had ever before been accorded, it at the same time irrevocably damaged his acting career. Out-of-print for over thirty-five years, Michael B. Druxman's *Basil Rathbone: His Life and*

His Films is a carefully researched work that thoroughly examines the life and professional career of one of Hollywood's most respected character actors, and the quintessential Sherlock Holmes. This new reprint edition mirrors the original 1975 biography/filmography, including its more than 250 rare photographs, and also contains a new Introduction by the author.

About the Author Michael B. Druxman is a veteran Hollywood screenwriter. His credits include CHEYENNE WARRIOR with Kelly Preston; DILLINGER AND CAPONE starring Martin Sheen and F. Murray Abraham; and THE DOORWAY with Roy Scheider, which he also directed. He is also a playwright. His one-person play, JOLSON has had many productions around the country. Other stage credits include one-person plays about Clark Gable, Carole Lombard, Spencer Tracy and Orson Welles. Mr. Druxman is the author of 15 other books, including nonfiction works about Hollywood, its movies, and the people who make them (e.g., PAUL MUNI: His Life and His Films, MAKE IT AGAIN, SAM: A Survey of Movie Remakes, MERV [Griffin] and THE MUSICAL: From Broadway to Hollywood). He has written 2 novels, NOBODY DROWNS IN MINERAL LAKE and SHADOW WATCHER, plus the humorous revisionist history, ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD: From the Secret Files of Harry Pennypacker, and a book of short stories, DRACULA MEETS JACK THE RIPPER Other Revisionist Histories. An acknowledged Hollywood historian, he has also written documentaries and has been interviewed for various retrospective featurettes that have accompanied DVD releases of classic films (e.g. THE MALTESE FALCON). Mr. Druxman is a former Hollywood publicist of 35 years experience who has represented many film and TV stars, as well as noted directors, producers and composers. He has taught dramatic writing and film appreciation courses in an adult university and is the author of How to Write a Story...Any Story: THE ART OF STORYTELLING, which has been used as a college text. A native of Seattle who graduated from Garfield High School and the University of Washington, Mr. Druxman moved with his wife, Sandy, from Los Angeles to Austin, TX in 2009. His memoir, MY FORTY-FIVE YEARS IN HOLLYWOOD AND HOW I ESCAPED ALIVE, was published in 2010.