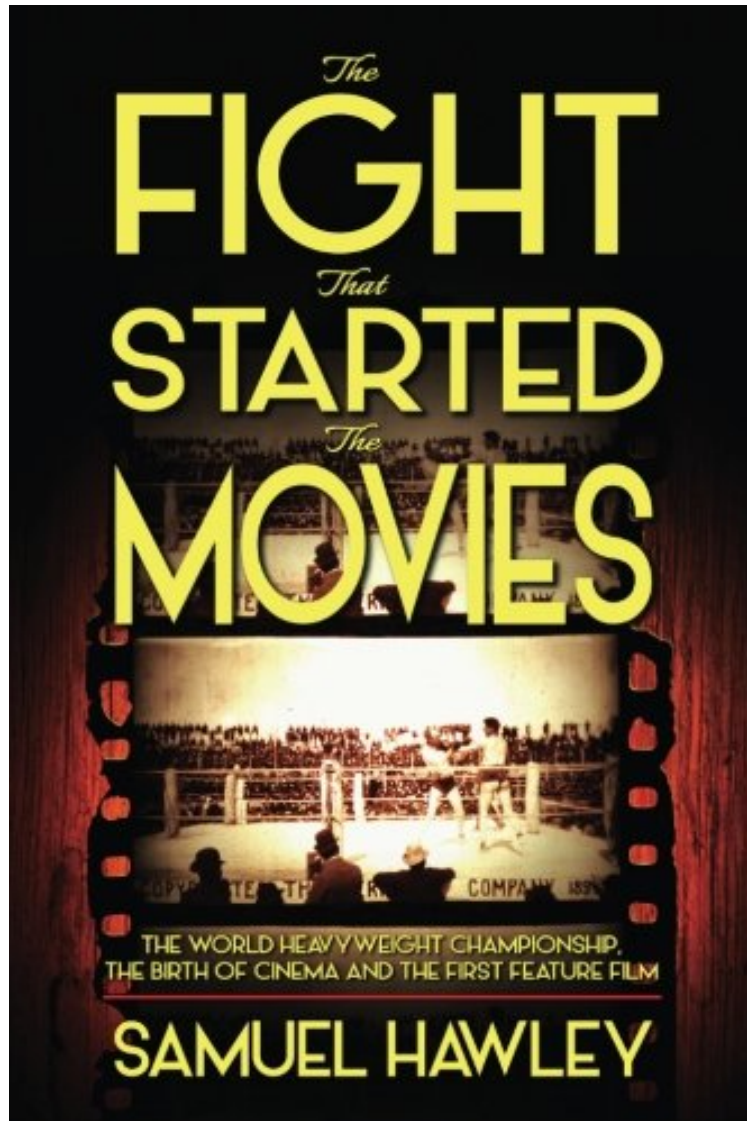


[Read ebook] The Fight That Started the Movies: The World Heavyweight Championship, the Birth of Cinema and the First Feature Film

The Fight That Started the Movies: The World Heavyweight Championship, the Birth of Cinema and the First Feature Film

Samuel Hawley

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#5641556 in Books Ingramcontent 2016-09-20Original language:English 9.00 x 1.03 x 6.00l, #File Name: 0992078687410 pagesThe Fight That Started the Movies The World Heavyweight Championship the Birth of Cinema and the First Feature Film | File size: 40.Mb

Samuel Hawley : The Fight That Started the Movies: The World Heavyweight Championship, the Birth of Cinema and the First Feature Film before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fight That Started the Movies: The World Heavyweight Championship, the Birth of Cinema and the First Feature Film:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Ringside Seat to History By Jeffrey Miller One of the most popular and beloved boxing films of all time hands down would be 1976's Rocky. Without question, it was a cinematic masterpiece from Sylvester Stallone's gritty screenplay to some of the more innovative boxing scenes (courtesy of Garrett Brown's Steadicam) ever filmed. It was the kind of film that resonated strongly with viewers, especially the role of Rocky Balboa as the underdog with a shot at the world heavyweight crown. While Rocky joined a long list of films with boxing as the main theme, what's most interesting is that the theme of boxing for a film has been around for as long as there have been feature-length films. Indeed, one of the first fight movies was 1897's *The Corbett-Fitzsimmons Fight*, which was the world's first feature-length film that created the cinema. In an impressive and exhaustive study of that film and the events leading up to it, *The Fight That Started the Movies: The World Heavyweight Championship, the Birth of Cinema, and the First Feature Film*, author Sam Hawley gives readers a ringside seat to the early days of motion pictures. With a colorful cast of personalities from boxing legends John L. Sullivan and Jim Corbett, to Thomas Edison, Wyatt Earp, and Bat Masterson, Hawley deftly brings the historical confluence of boxing and movies to the fore and offers numerous insights into how this confluence led to the first feature film. Hawley brings alive this period of boxing and cinematic history with love and admiration for both. What I found most interesting in Hawley's writing style is that his book reads more like a film script. From the opening pages to the aftermath of the famous fight, readers will be on the edge of their seats the same way that spectators must have been at the fight in Carson City or in the audiences who had the chance to witness history in the making at one of the venues where the movie was shown. Hawley is a wonderful storyteller with a keen eye for detail and drama. Whether you are a boxing fan or movie buff, you are going to want to add this book to your collection. Jeffrey Miller, *The Roads We Must Travel* 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Terrific Book! By Daisy I received this book in exchange for an honest review, and although I thought it looked interesting from the description, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I wasn't disappointed. The book is wonderful, well-researched, and splendidly written in a very entertaining manner. It covers a part of history not very commonly known, and it is staggering in its thoroughness and accuracy. It takes you through the story of the invention of motion pictures, throughout its evolution, and it delves into the great minds that made it happen. It also tells the stories behind champion boxers Bob 'Fitz' Fitzsimmons and 'Gentleman Jim' (a.k.a. 'Pompadour Jim') Corbett, perhaps the two greatest fighters of the late 1800's. It was the world championship match between these two boxers that became the first ever feature-length film, totaling an unprecedented hour and 15 minutes (a marvelous achievement, considering that the longest one to proceed it was only eight minutes). This story also touches on names that are familiar to everybody, such as Wild West legends Judge Roy Bean, Bat Masterson, and the brothers Virgil and Wyatt Earp (who may not be the good-guy you thought him), actors such as Edwin Booth, Alan Hale, Oliver Hardy, and Al Jolson, and big-time boxers like Jack Johnson, Jack Dempsey, and John L. Sullivan. Any history buff should acquaint himself/herself with this book; this book just has so much to give! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. History Comes Alive, In the Ring and On the Screen By phlipside Here is a fascinating book that shows how big time sports (in this case boxing, back in its heyday, and the movies are deeply intertwined. When motion pictures were still an experimental medium, that no one was sure would ever be a money maker, the opportunity to film the biggest fight of the day, the heavyweight championship between "Gentleman" Jim Corbett and Bob Fitzsimmons, was also the chance for the movies to take off. Samuel Hawley has a LOT to balance in the telling of this story. The boxers, Thomas Edison (who thought that moving pictures were mostly a bust as a money maker) and a supporting cast of some of the most colorful characters you're likely to come across any time soon. He does a masterful job of weaving all those story lines and characters together into an endlessly interesting tale. This should be a must read for boxing fans, history fans and movie fans.

Movie buffs and boxing buffs alike will relish this! (Publishers Weekly) An extremely well-researched tale. (Kirkus Reviews) On March 17, 1897, in an open-air arena in Carson City, Jim Corbett and Bob Fitzsimmons fought for the heavyweight championship of the world. The contest was recorded by film pioneer Enoch Rector from inside an immense, human-powered camera called the Veriscope, the forgotten Neanderthal at the dawn of cinema history. Rector's movie of the contest premiered two months later. Known today as *The Corbett-Fitzsimmons Fight*, it was the world's first feature-length film. *The Fight That Started the Movies* is the untold story of Corbett's and Fitzsimmons' journey to that ring in Nevada and how the landmark film of their battle came to be made. It reveals how boxing played a key role in the birth of the movies, spurring the development of motion picture technology and pushing the concept of film from a twenty-second peephole show to a full-length attraction, a complete evening's entertainment, projected on a screen. The cast of characters in the tale is rich and varied. There are inventors Eadweard Muybridge, Thomas Edison, William Dickson and Eugene Lauste, figuring out how to photographically capture and reproduce motion. There are the playboy brothers Otway and Gray Latham, who first saw the commercial potential of fight films, and their friend and partner Enoch Rector, who pushed that potential to its fruition. There are fighters Jim Corbett with his scientific methods of boxing; Bob Fitzsimmons with his thin legs and turnip-on-a-chain punch; hard-drinking John L. Sullivan and the original Jack Dempsey and the gifted but ultimately doomed Young Griffo. There are loud-mouthed fight managers and big-talking promoters, and Wild West legends like Bat Masterson and Judge Roy Bean

when the story heads to the Rio Grande river. And finally, there is the audience, our collective ancestors, discovering that movies were more than just a curiosity to gape at, but a new and enduring form of entertainment to rival the theater.

About the Author Samuel Hawley taught English in East Asia for many years. His books include *Speed Duel*, about the 1960s land speed rivalry between Craig Breedlove and Art Arfons; *I Just Ran*, the biography of sprint legend Percy Williams, the "World's Fastest Human" in the late 1920s; *The Imjin War*, the most comprehensive account in English of Japan's 16th-century invasion of Korea and attempted conquest of China; and the thriller *Homeowner With a Gun*. He lives in Kingston, Ontario.