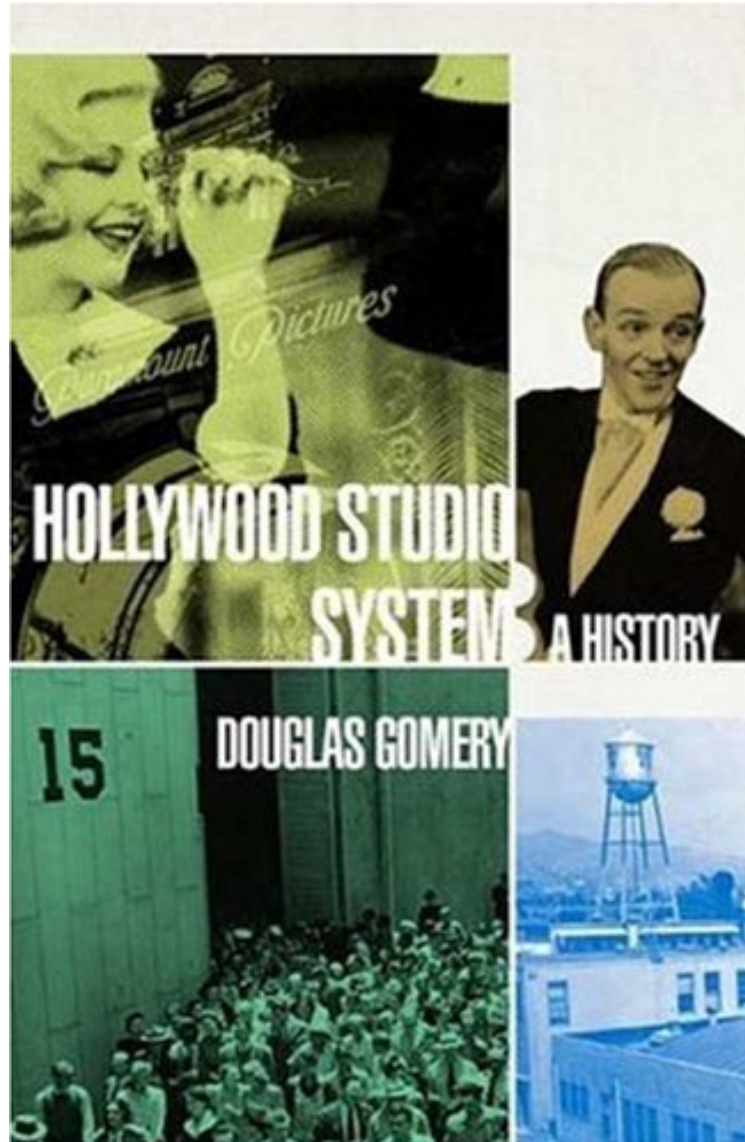


(Free pdf) The Hollywood Studio System: A History

The Hollywood Studio System: A History

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NA NA : The Hollywood Studio System: A History before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hollywood Studio System: A History:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Different view of Hollywood By oz reader This is a quite interesting book and definitely looks at Hollywood from a different perspective. It isn't really a balanced look, though, as it definitely has its loves and hates. Loves old Paramount/Zukor and Wasserman (Universal), hates Zanuck (20th Century Fox) and Hughes (RKO). With Hughes he states numerous times that he destroyed RKO but then only provides a two-sentence

reason. Given all the space he gives to Zukor and Wasserman, a better description would be helpful. Sometimes he assumes the reader has no knowledge of an event goes on ad nauseum, other times he assumes you know all the details and gives you none. Toward the end he bails and declines to go in depth on a couple of studios because the head is still around (Disney) even tho he's been there for 20 years. More description and even analysis is possible. It also has some really stupid basic mistakes which proofreaders should have caught - million instead of billion, years movies came out, especially Snow White the Seven Dwarfs (which is given 3 different years). But overall a very good read. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Very complete history

By Eric Mascarin Perigault Unlike other histories of the major Hollywood studios that stop at the time when these were sent to separate their production operations, distribution and exhibition, which along with the advent of television decayed produced a to them, this book goes further and reaches modern times. It is interesting to know how they were born, who founded and worked the studios and their creators, all its difficulties, but we should know of those studios now, as Sony is Columbia Pictures, and Paramount sold its catalog to Universal, WB to Seven Arts and all that. These are issues rarely touched in other books on the subject. Interesting and complete. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. excellent history of the studio system

By Jeffrey Hart Doug Gomery has written a fine book on the history of the Hollywood studio system. Whereas earlier treatments of this topic tend to neglect the period after the rise of television, Gomery does an excellent job of covering that period as well. One argument in the book that scholars will recognize as original is that the studio heads have always been quite concerned about distribution issues and that even though they no longer directly control the majority of movie screens they still have a lot to say about what gets screened and where. There is considerable detail in the book on the history of each of the major studios based on archival materials and interviews. This book should be required reading, in short, for anyone writing about Hollywood in the future.

Despite being one of the biggest industries in the United States, indeed the World, the internal workings of the 'dream factory' that is Hollywood is little understood outside the business. The Hollywood Studio System: A History is the first book to describe and analyse the complete development, classic operation, and reinvention of the global corporate entities which produce and distribute most of the films we watch. Starting in 1920, Adolph Zukor, Head of Paramount Pictures, over the decade of the 1920s helped to fashion Hollywood into a vertically integrated system, a set of economic innovations which was firmly in place by 1930. For the next three decades, the movie industry in the United States and the rest of the world operated by according to these principles. Cultural, social and economic changes ensured the demise of this system after the Second World War. A new way to run Hollywood was required. Beginning in 1962, Lew Wasserman of Universal Studios emerged as the key innovator in creating a second studio system. He realized that creating a global media conglomerate was more important than simply being vertically integrated. Gomery's history tells the story of a 'tale of two systems' using primary materials from a score of archives across the United States as well as a close reading of both the business and trade press of the time. Together with a range of photographs never before published the book also features over 150 box features illuminating aspect of the business.

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About the Author Douglas Gomery is Resident Scholar at the Library of American Broadcasting and Film at the University of Maryland.