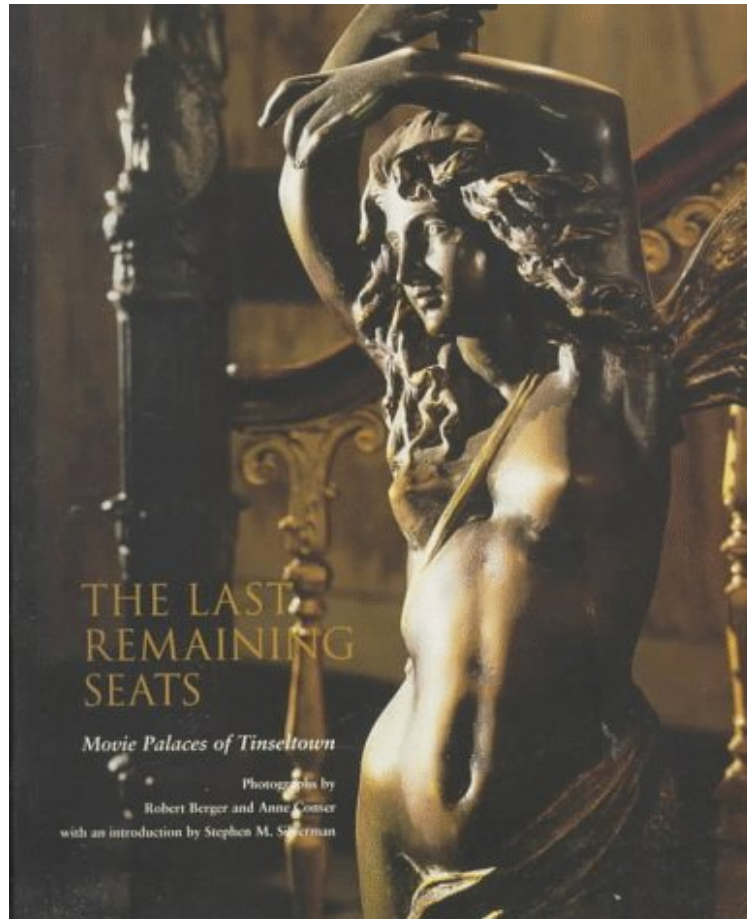


[Download pdf ebook] The Last Remaining Seats: Movie Palaces of Tinseltown

## The Last Remaining Seats: Movie Palaces of Tinseltown

*Berger and Conser, Stephen M. Silverman, Robert Berger, Anne Conser  
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**Berger and Conser, Stephen M. Silverman, Robert Berger, Anne Conser : The Last Remaining Seats: Movie Palaces of Tinseltown** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Last Remaining Seats: Movie Palaces of Tinseltown:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A GRAND LOOK AT AN ERA LONG GONE By Jack E. Levic As the home of the motion picture industry, luxurious movie theaters were built in the city in the early 1900's. THE LAST REMAINING SEATS pays homage to an era long gone when movie-going was an experience to thrill the senses on all levels. Opulent movie palaces were built unlike any others. No expense was spared. Sid Grauman is remembered for his Hollywood CHINESE THEATER complete with the footprints of famous actors out front, but he also commissioned the MILLION DOLLAR THEATER in downtown Los Angeles in 1918. No doubt the most luxurious and expensive theater of its day, it earned its name for its cost to build. Imagine the value of 1 million dollars in 1918 money. Robert Berger and Anne Conser take us on a tour of the remaining opulent theater palaces in Los Angeles. Sadly, many theaters are gone or have been converted to other uses, but a few remain and here they are in all their glory. THE LAST REMAINING SEATS is basically a book of glorious full-color pictures of the interiors of the

theaters. Each theater is giving a few lines of background and history but this book is about the pictures. There are no archival pictures. The pictures show the interiors of the theaters as they are today. Although the pictures are magnificent, I was hoping for then and now pictures along with more information on the history of the theaters. The book focuses on the interiors so there are no pictures of the exteriors. It's a great picture book if you are interested in the interiors of surviving classic Los Angeles movie palaces. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Much to recommend dealer for quality and value and communications. By Courtney Must have for lovers of architecture and theatre. Much to recommend dealer for quality and value and communications. Swift delivery. A+++ 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Dave Reynolds Fantastic photos of historic movie palaces we won't see again.

One hundred vivid color images by architectural photographers Robert Berger and Anne Conser record in lavish detail the spectacular, sumptuous, and often whimsical interiors of 16 of Los Angeles's most important movie palaces built during the '20s and '30s. This breathtaking book will thrill anyone interested in Hollywood's rich past and become a treasured cornerstone in the library of every movie buff.

An unsurprising number of these theaters went bankrupt not long after their klieg-lit opening nights. Berger and Conser spent six years documenting the surviving follies around Los Angeles, and selected 16 of the most extravagant for this collection. The architectural-style names alone are worth the admission price: "Zigzag Moderne," "Movie Palace Rococo," "Aquarium Decco, with a smattering of Botticelli." So are the amber-tone detail shots and sweeps of interior dreamwork, with pagodas rising over a snack stand and Egyptian scarabs crowning a proscenium. Fortunately, evidence of peeling, fading, and bad repair work has not been cropped out. The brief texts cover premieres of important movies like *Citizen Kane* and Charlie Chaplin's *City Lights* and equally prophetic debuts of live performers like Frances Gumm (later Judy Garland), followed by declines into abandonment with the rest of L.A.'s downtown. (Scholars, though, may be frustrated by the inconsistent details about the interior motifs, alterations, and current uses of buildings). A helpful addendum gives addresses for the 16 theaters highlighted, plus 4 more that behind unspoiled facades have been ravaged into retail stores. -- Interiors Enhanced with an informative and highly readable introduction by Stephen Silverman, *The Last Remaining Seats* is a photographic tour-de-force of classic motion picture theatres from the golden age of Hollywood and the silver screen, when going to the movies was an esthetic experience long before the lights went down and the screen lit up. These "movie palaces" were architectural wonders of art, decor, imagery to excite the visitor and give an almost "temple" or "cathedral" experience of worship, a feeling that transformed a mundane entertainment into a weekly pilgrimage. *The Last Remaining Seats* documents an era now gone -- but not forgotten in the memories of those of us who are old enough to remember how hard times were left outside while dreams were spun in the darkness for all who had the price of a ten cent ticket. -- Midwest Book From the Publisher Los Angeles is still blessed with some of the most remarkable movie theaters built during Hollywood's golden age. The Million Dollar, The Wilton, The Mayan, The Chinese. This book, brought back into print by continuing demand, documents these and other Southland theater masterpieces in 134 rich and evocative color photographs that are breathtaking in capturing the decorative excessiveness and over-the-top beauty of these palaces.