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The Making of on Her Majesty's Secret Service

Charles Helfenstein

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#997630 in Books Helfenstein Charles 2009-12-18Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 11.02 x .75 x 8.50l, 2.05 #File Name: 0984412603290 pagesThe Making of on Her Majesty s Secret Service | File size: 51.Mb

Charles Helfenstein : The Making of on Her Majesty's Secret Service before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Making of on Her Majesty's Secret Service:

40 of 41 people found the following review helpful. The AMAZING story of an amazing film!!!!By John CorkThe Making of On Her Majesty's Secret Service is a landmark book for anyone interested in cinema and popular culture. Charles Helfenstein has dug deep into the archives for amazing depth, uncovering many unreported facts about the Bond film most cherished by hard-core fans. Where Helfenstein shines best is his research into the development of the film with screenwriter Richard Maibaum and the influence of director Peter Hunt. He gives fans everything they could ask for with an abundance of information on the film's release and promotion. The section covering the film's production gives a wonderful overview of the film's complex shooting and challenging locations.As someone who has personally been through many of the core production documents on this movie, read scripts and interviewed many of the cast and filmmakers, I was stunned how much Helfenstein uncovered that I never knew!The book shines with

passion for the film. This is, in its own way, a love story, a compelling exploration of the sixth official James Bond film, the one that almost killed the series but ignited a fire in the hearts of many Bond fans. The book itself is part of a larger story of one of the most successful and enduring film series ever produced, yet it stands on its own. The book takes you inside this often over-looked, but deeply influential film. I give this my highest recommendation. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service' (1969) Revealed By Chris Wright It is my understanding that the James Bond series' long-time editor Peter Hunt was once promised directorial duties for 1967's 'You Only Live Twice' (YOLT) starring Sean Connery. When the producers decided to hire Lewis Gilbert to helm the picture instead, Mr. Hunt was promised the next one. At some point during the production of YOLT, Sean Connery became disillusioned with the series and decided to retire from the role that made him an international superstar. When it was Peter Hunt's turn to direct 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service' (OHMSS), one important thing was missing...a star to play the legendary spy! Nearly everybody in the industrialized world has seen at least one James Bond film in their lifetime but not everybody knows the amount of work and drama that goes on during the production of these films. THE MAKING OF ON HER MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE by Charles Helfenstein meticulously chronicles the story of how the most underappreciated entry in the James Bond film series went from being a 1963 novel by Ian Fleming to an 140 minute feature film starring an unknown Australian actor named George Lazenby as 007. I've been a member of the online James Bond fan community for seven years now and whenever I hear the name Charles Helfenstein, I automatically think of the sixth James Bond film. His name is synonymous with this particular film because of his enormous passion and breadth of knowledge for all things relating to OHMSS. After years of painstaking research and by describing every major aspect of production and post-production, Mr. Helfenstein provides readers with the most comprehensive look at 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service' ever produced. You could watch the DVD documentaries and/or read the film's Wikipedia article for information about OHMSS but those only provide you with 1% of the overall story. For the other 99%, you must read this book because Charles Helfenstein is the only living person capable of telling this unique and fascinating story. I've been a Bond fan for nearly a decade and I used to buy a lot of James Bond reference books until I realized that the majority of them are crap. The really bad ones just recycle photographs and tidbits that I've heard repeated numerous times before. THE MAKING OF ON HER MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE is different because every single page is filled with information and photographs that I've never heard or seen before. I was astonished because prior to reading the book, I thought I knew everything there was to know about OHMSS. Wrong! Some people have complained about the \$54 price but after holding the book in my hands and giving it a thorough read, I can honestly tell you that it's worth every penny. It wasn't just written for hardcore James Bond fans like myself but also for students of film and popular culture. In addition to discussing OHMSS's unique production, the book gives brilliant insight into the art of filmmaking as well as how the people involved work together to create a cinematic masterpiece, a term that many Bond fans are beginning to bestow upon 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service' 40+ years after its release. If you're a James Bond fan or simply a movie buff, not owning THE MAKING OF ON HER MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE would be extremely foolish. That's a fact. Chris Wright Executive Editor FelixLeiter.com 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Bond and Beyond By Gay J. Hanson This book was a real labor of love, and it shows. Charles Helfenstein, the premiere authority on the sixth official James Bond film, has written The Making of On Her Majesty's Secret Service, a detailed, authoritative history of the film that many Bond fans regard as among the best movies based on the adventures of British Secret Service agent 007. Replete with photos, with numerous interviews, the book traces the development of the film from Fleming's wonderful novel, through the film's eventual premiere and its aftermath. The heart of the book details the production of the film, and there are detailed accounts of the twists and turns the screenplay took before being filmed as perhaps the Bond story most faithful to its literary source. There's also a detailed description of the often-rumored lost scene, a planned foot chase across the rooftops of the City of London that ultimately never made it onto film. Helfenstein describes all of this, and more. He takes us inside the controversial casting of Australian newcomer George Lazenby as the man chosen to play James Bond at his most vulnerable, the selection of the locations (they actually considered locating the villain's headquarters inside the remnants of France's Maginot Line), the numerous and unforeseen production difficulties, and the very considerable contribution of director Peter Hunt, to whom the book is dedicated. Forty years after the making of the film, Helfenstein brings it all to life, providing a most satisfying look at how this story came to the screen. Engagingly written, The Making of On Her Majesty's Secret Service never fails to entertain and inform, earning pride of place on the bookshelf of every 007 fan.

Step back in time to the late 1960s, when Sean Connery resigned from playing James Bond, producers Harry Saltzman and Cubby Broccoli decided to gamble and doubled down with an untested director and an unknown star and came up with the crown jewels: On Her Majesty's Secret Service. Based on years of research, hundreds of interviews, and exclusive access to the archives of author Ian Fleming, screenwriter Richard Maibaum, and director Peter Hunt, this inside look features never-before-published script details, storyboards, production documents, interviews, memos, marketing material, call sheets, and hundreds of rare, behind-the-scenes photographs of the cast and crew, including sequences and entire sets not seen in the film. From novel to script to screen, this book details the incredible journey of

making the most unique entry in the James Bond film series, the longest running, most successful film franchise in history. This is not the white-washed "authorized" story, but the real story.

The depth of the research is jaw-dropping, the pictorial content is amazing, and the labor of love that obviously went into this valuable addition to the Bondian library is palpable. --James Bond author Raymond Benson