

Astaire Dancing: The Musical Films

John Mueller

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John Mueller : Astaire Dancing: The Musical Films before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Astaire Dancing: The Musical Films:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. One of the Best BooksBy LindaI love the way John Muller has arranged the information on the Fred and Ginger Musicals and The Fred Astaire Musicals. Fred and Ginger together are pure magic. Since receiving this book I have gone to my local library and checked out books about their careers and DVDS of Ginger and Fred's movies. I have purchased their musicals on DVD. Watch them over and over and use this book to gain knowledge about their dancing. I have to say I enjoy every movie as a fan not as a critic. If you are a fan and love information about Fred and Ginger's Musicals or Fred's Musicals this is the book for you. P.S Beautiful photographs.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Best Book for Astaire's Dancing ArtistryBy R.L.Mueller's book is uniquely about Fred Astaire's dancing movies.All of them. One for each chapter. He covers almost every dance, and analyzes them in such detail as only a dancer, perhaps, can appreciate. I read this book a chapter a day, and watched almost all the movies. The book can be tedious in its detail, but his comments on the dances you've seen and the stories behind the scenes add to your understanding of the films and how they were made. He sees things you don't see in a first viewing of a film. Mueller's commentary can also be heard in several of the film DVDS as a special feature. He says less about Astaire's singing: he was a great interpreter of so many standards that were written for him. There was none better in expression of the lyric. Perhaps someone should write a book on his singing, which was a part of his great artistry.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. THE source for

astaireBy Darryl K. Clarki have many students that are researching astaire's film career. when i tell them to get this book, they stare blankly at me. i tell them it is THE seminal book about astaire. still, i get blank stares.when i realized i have always borrowed it from the library, though, i felt like a bit of a hypocrite. and now that it is out of print, i feel like the stupid, cheapskate hypocrite for not having ever invested in it.i can right that wrong now, thanks to .com.for someone who has never so much as done a time step or a pull back, mueller adroitly and adoringly supplies detailed movement anlaysis on astaire's great, hidden and even not too important numbers in each of his film musicals. he provides impartial perspectives on every partner astaire ever had from ginger rogers and cyd charisse to betty hutton and joan fontaine.once again, it is one of maybe five books any dance enthusiast should own.

Wings books. New York. 1985. 29 cm. 439 p. Encuadernacin en tapa dura de editorial con sobrecubierta ilustrada. Contiene ilustraciones en blanco y negro.. Este libro es de segunda mano y tiene o puede tener marcas y seales de su anterior propietario. Sobrecubierta ligeramente deslucida.

From Publishers WeeklyThe incomparable, magical Fred Astaire has tapped his way through some 212 musical numbers during his career. Following his vaudeville days, when he was teamed with sister Adele, he went to Hollywood to star in his first musical film, *Dancing Lady*, in 1933. Since then, he has partnered Cyd Charisse, Leslie Caron, Audrey Hepburn, Rita Hayworth and Ginger Rogers, in such film classics as *Flying Down to Rio*, *Top Hat*, *Holiday Inn*, *Silk Stockings* and *Daddy Long Legs*. Mueller, author of *Dance Film Directory*, extols Astaire's dedication to his art, describes the choreographers and directors he worked with, his roles and working methods, his relationships with various leading ladies and dance partners, his devoted marriage, which was ended by his wife's death from cancer at the age of 46 (he remarried at 80). The author covers every Astaire film, with discussion of the choreography of each of the dances, accompanied by stills from the movies. A fitting celebration of a national treasure. November Copyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalFred Astaire is considered to be one of the greatest American dancers. His major career was in films and so has been preserved. Mueller, professor of film studies, attempts to show Astaire's brilliance through a combination of stills and frame enlargements (more than 2400) from his musical films, 1933-68. He uses a system of keys that link the text decribing the dances and music to the corresponding pictures. He also presents the plot and production history of each film chronologically and provides an overview of Astaire's career, personal life, and ideas about filmmaking, especially the filming of dance numbers. This is a meticulously written and entertaining work; though it cannot rise above the inherent limitations of depicting dance through words and pictures, it will appeal to those interested in dance and cinema history and is recommended for general collections. Roy Liebman, California State Univ. Lib., Los AngelesCopyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc.