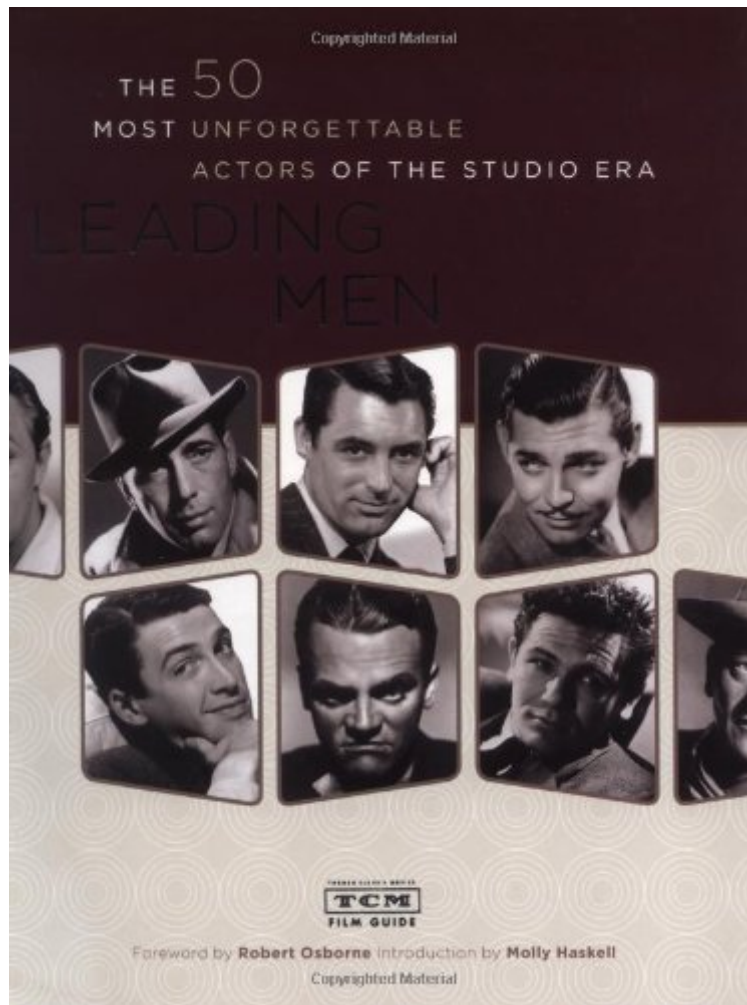


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Leading Men: The 50 Most Unforgettable Actors of the Studio Era

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Turner Classic Movies : Leading Men: The 50 Most Unforgettable Actors of the Studio Era before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Leading Men: The 50 Most Unforgettable Actors of the Studio Era:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A lookback at the matinee idols of Hollywood By Rama Rao This is definitely a collectors book, compiled by Turner Classic Movies (TCM) that brings into life some of the most unforgettable leading men during studio era. They thrilled audiences, and the studios capitalized on their looks, and appeal during the golden age of Hollywood. The movie-fans got to see their favorite lead actors and relate personally with them. These men flirted, fought, loved, suffered, sang and danced in movies, and the viewers found joy and forgot their own insecurities in life. Each of these men were unique in style; John Gilbert, Rudolph Valentino, Douglas

Fairbanks, Clark Gable, Cary Grant, Gary Cooper, John Wayne, Humphrey Bogart, Jimmy Stewart, and Frank Sinatra. All of them wanted to perform well and please the audience. But there were glitches in the early careers of some stars. Some studios had second thoughts about them. A Hollywood executive lamented about employing Fred Astaire: Cant act, slightly bald, also dances. At Warner Brothers Studios, Darryl Zanuck complained about Clark Gable as his ears are too big, and he looks like an ape. Now this is all in history, and Hollywood made the best of these men and they became very productive for the film industry. A brief summary of the book is as follows; the work of each actor in this book is narrated with a brief introduction to their movies, behind the scenes stories and a very short bio of about 50 leading men. Some of them are fascinating to read. New demystifying biographies say how strenuously icons like Cary Grant worked to fashion his glistening image as vigilant as any glamour girl. Few stars blazed as brightly or fell as precipitously as John Barrymore. He with his brother Lionel, and his sister Ethel Barrymore constituted The Royal Family of Broadway with John clearly the King. He commanded the box office. His role in the movie Dinner at Eight was clean reflection of his personal life. Humphrey Bogart was successful before he broke into movies and later became the leader of the Rat Pack, a group of drinking buddies who got together at Mike Romanoffs Restaurant in Hollywood. Frank Sinatra was just a member and became its leader when Bogie passed away. Charlie Chaplin was well known for his political controversy. He often criticized the government, law-enforcement, and big business. He was disliked during WWII by largely conservative groups. After he returned from England in 1952, he was denied re-entry to the United States, and he retired in Switzerland. Even in 1972, a decision by the Academy to honor him was considered controversial. There are numerous pictures in this book, but all are in black and white. My favorite pictures are; a rare picture of Barrymore brothers with sister Ethel Barrymore; a 1920s picture of Douglas Fairbanks with his son; a 1957 picture of Henry Fonda with daughter Jane and Peter; a 1959 picture of Doris Day and Rock Hudson; a 1920s picture of Rudolph Valentino and a memorable 1926 picture from the film Son of Sheik. This is certainly an interesting book to read, and recommended to readers interested in Hollywood history and classic films. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very Good TCM Publication about Leading Men. By MovieGuy TCM Publication, Leading Men is an outstanding overview of 50 of the greatest leading men of the movies' golden age, 1930s thru the 1950s. (Note: Some of these leading men made some good films in the 1960s but the book concentrates on the golden age of Hollywood.) The book includes some great silent film stars like Rudolph Valentino, Charlie Chaplin, Harold Lloyd and John Gilbert to name just a few. The book includes a brief biography of each star and some neat Behind the Scenes information. Highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By J. A. Troianogift

Tough, sophisticated, witty, and handsome from Rudolph Valentino to Buster Keaton, Cary Grant to Jimmy Stewart, Humphrey Bogart to Steve McQueen, each of the actors featured in this book brought a magnetic presence to the screen and made a powerful and enduring mark on film history. Produced by Turner Classic Movies, this stylish and definitive guide as the inside scoop and off-the-record reveals of fifty unforgettable actors and is also the focus of an on-air film festival on the channel. The lives and accomplishments of each actor are celebrated in an insightful career overview, accompanied by an annotated list of essential films, filmographies, behind the scenes facts, Academy Award wins and nominations. Full of surprising trivia, film stills, posters, and stunning photos, Leading Men pays tribute to the most charismatic, enduring, and elegant actors of the silver screen an essential resource for movie buffs and pop-culture enthusiasts alike.

About the Author Turner Classic Movies is widely considered the definitive resource for classic films, featuring movies from all the major studios, unedited and commercial free. Robert Osborne is the prime-time host and anchor of Turner Classic Movies and a columnist-critic for The Hollywood Reporter. Molly Haskell is co-host of TCM's "The Essentials" series and the author of several books on film. Her writing has appeared in many publications, including the Village Voice, New York magazine, and Vogue.