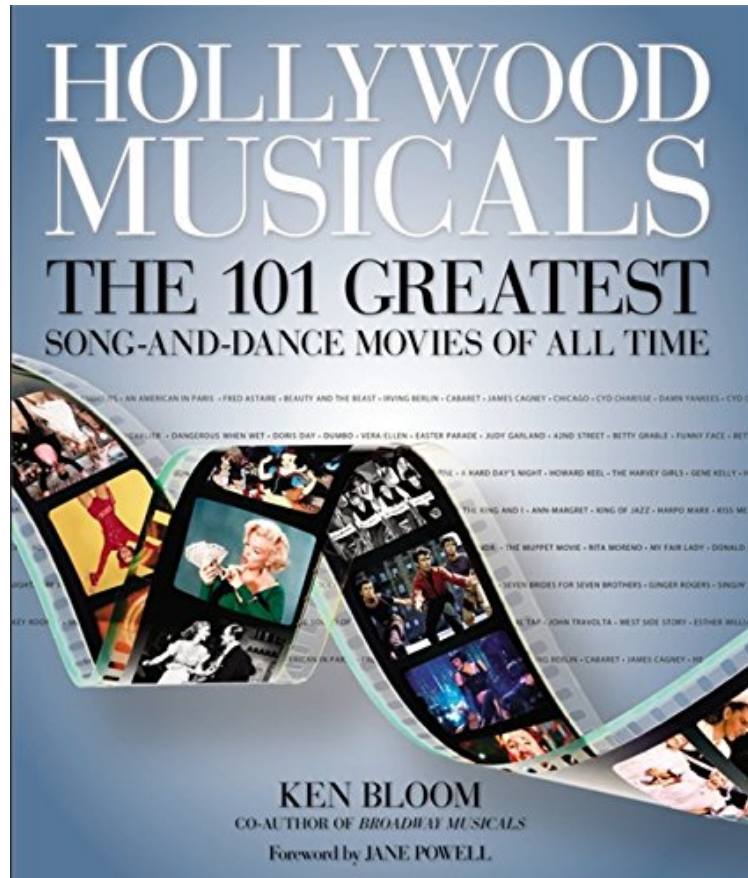


Hollywood Musicals: The 101 Greatest Song-and-Dance Movies of All Time

Ken Bloom

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Ken Bloom : Hollywood Musicals: The 101 Greatest Song-and-Dance Movies of All Time before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hollywood Musicals: The 101 Greatest Song-and-Dance Movies of All Time:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Who doesn't love HOLLYWOOD MUSICALS - Every page is MAGICAL - 5 STARS !!!!By Richard of ConnecticutEvery major Hollywood musical is in this book. There are dozens of performers with pictures to boot. Composers are on every page, and writers, and designers. Each film is presented over several pages, and the pictures are fantastic. The author uses a very distinctive template so you know what to expect for each musical. With every story you are going to see the following:* A plot synopsis* The Cast* Song lists* Production details* Behind the scenes anecdotes* QuotationsIt's the photography that is very special in this book. There are color photographs and black and whites as well. You will see production stills, and off camera shots that are intriguing. Each musical also has the original film poster that was associated with the show.Among the more than 100 musicals that are portrayed in this book are:* An American in Paris* The Music Man* My Fair Lady*

Oklahoma* Singin' in the Rain* The Sound of Music

CONCLUSION: I bought the book for my former wife who runs a theatre school, and then I started to look through it before I gave it to her. I wound up reading the whole book. It was that enthralling. I don't think it is possible to just glance at Hollywood Musicals. Once you pick it up and open it, you get hooked. Then you start looking for your favorites, and you get hooked even more. I guess I'm going to have to get my own copy and thank you for reading this review.

Richard C. Stoyeck 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Great Overview of the Hollywood Musical Genre By Andrew Nelson

While a number of the selections in the book are contentious - as is any list which is necessarily subjective - I think the author's purpose was to present an overview of the entire genre and be truly representative. So while every Astaire / Rogers film could have been included within the list on merit, only two were included so enable other trends in the musical genre such as the 60s beach musicals and 2000 high school musicals to be considered. While I probably would have bone with a list of the 100 'best' films myself, I think the objective of being representative and acknowledging the diversity within a remarkable genre should be respected. I think the selection also acknowledges the diversity amongst the audience who likes musicals. I would never include 'Hedwig and the Angry Inch' on my own personal list, but I know there are many who really respect this film and believe their voice should be heard too. So, I'm not too disappointed by the final selections at all. Debates over selections are all part of the fun really with an undertaking such as this anyhow!!!!

In terms of the 'big calls': "greatest films" include heavyweights such as 'Oz', 'St Louis', 'Singin'; "greatest film star", Judy, "greatest dancer" Astaire, I thought the author spot on, demonstrating an extremely sound grasp of the genre. I loved the layout of the book - each film gets a few pages with cast list, synopsis, song list and evaluative comment - and the photos are sensational. Visually, it is a really beautiful book. Whilst acknowledging the contentiousness of some of the films included on the list, I would still strongly recommend this book to any lover of the genre, or anyone interested in enhancing their understanding of the Hollywood musical film genre.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

A FRESH LOOK AT AN OLD SUBJECT By JOHN GAY

FORDA delightfully designed and beautifully produced coffee table book illustrated with many carefully chosen unusual photographs of our beloved classic musical stars as well as scenes and off camera moments from many movies. The text is surprisingly fresh and expresses a young point of view that makes the whole thing up to date. It is a bit camp, but fun to read, even if a person who grew up with the genre through its peak period might disagree with some opinions and choices of films included. As in most modern publications, there are a few typos and misprints, which is a pity, but we live in a world of haste and imperfection so we must overlook such minor details. On the whole I liked it very much and highly recommend it to all generations of musical movie lovers as it contains a vast amount of information presented in a way to whet the reader's appetite and, hopefully, win fans and influence people. I'm glad I bought it and suggest you do too.

A spectacular, information-packed celebration of the most beloved movie musicals, from *My Fair Lady* and *Singin' in the Rain* to *Moulin Rouge* and *High School Musical*. The follow-up hit to the bestselling and acclaimed *Broadway Musicals*, *Hollywood Musicals* pays grand tribute to the 101 most popular and enduring musical movies. Beginning in 1927 and continuing to the present it celebrates all of the greatest films of the genre including *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, *Cabaret*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The King and I*, *A Star is Born*, *West Side Story*, *Funny Face*, *The Jazz Singer*, and *All That Jazz*, as well as more recent movie musicals such as *The Nightmare Before Christmas* and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Organized alphabetically, each film is featured across several spreads, which are jam-packed with expert commentary that places the film in historical and cultural context. Also included are features on the film's creators and cast, plot synopses, song lists, production details, behind-the-scenes anecdotes, original movie posters, and much more. Beautifully reproduced photographs of the most memorable and pivotal scenes, the stars, and off-camera shots adorn the pages and illuminate the text. Sidebars include cast albums, flops, the greatest scores, and lesser-known musicals.

About the Author Ken Bloom and Frank Vlastnik are the co-authors of *Sitcoms*. Bloom is the author of *The American Songbook: The Singers, the Songwriters, and the Songs*; Jerry Herman: *The Lyrics*; and a two-volume history of Twentieth Century-Fox music, among other books. He lives in New York City.