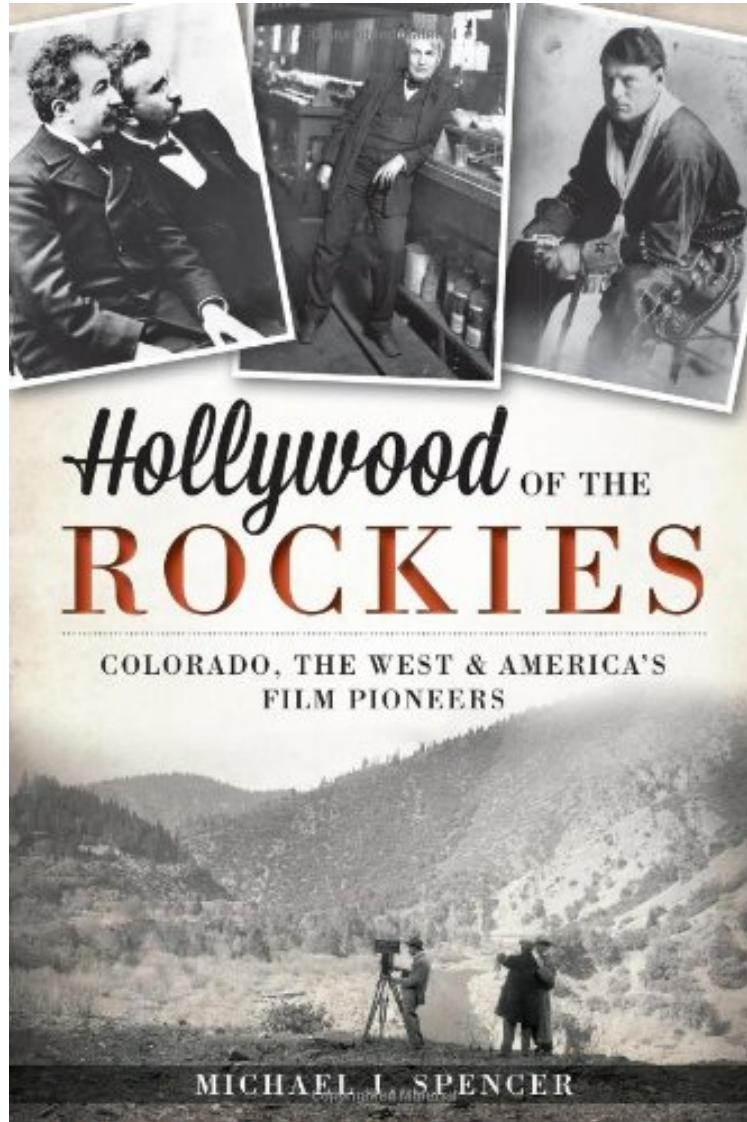


(Download ebook) Hollywood of the Rockies:: Colorado, the West and America's Film Pioneers

Hollywood of the Rockies:: Colorado, the West and America's Film Pioneers

Michael J. Spencer

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Michael J. Spencer : Hollywood of the Rockies:: Colorado, the West and America's Film Pioneers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hollywood of the Rockies:: Colorado, the West and America's Film Pioneers:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Silent Film Era in the WestBy Daniel E Mercure[[VIDEOID:moZHT24C6TE8GJ]]Based on a television show that the author, Michael Spencer, produced for

public television in Denver, "Hollywood of the Rockies" unearths rare stills from the forgotten silent film era that thrived in the Rocky Mountains. Informative, fascinating and droll, Michael captures the Wild West spirit that the early filmmakers embodied. Just as the settlers of the West pushed physical boundaries to expand the so-called "Manifest Destiny" of the United States, silent movie producers, directors and actors pushed beyond the rooftops of New Jersey and the East to actually film western stories in the West. A very enjoyable read. Disclaimer: I was the video editor of the public television program "Hollywood of the Rockies." It's wonderful to see that half-hour expanded into book form. Attached to this review is the :30 promo for the show. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Rollicking Ride through Film History! By book duke I thought I knew just about all there was to know about America's pre-Hollywood story, but I was happily surprised to learn about this lost chapter. Michael Spencer sheds light on the adventures of the dashing and daring men and women of the early Westerns when they first began shooting films in realistic locations out West. The movie stars at the time were hugely popular (and rich) celebrities who were known and practically idolized all over the world and it's incredible to realize that their names and movies are all but forgotten today. Spencer's breezy narrative brings them all back to larger-than-life in this rollicking ride through cinema's early days. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great new vision on our film history. By Trish Lewin You don't have to have grown up or currently live in Southern CA to be fascinated by Hollywood and all its trappings. Spencer captures the early beginnings of pictures in the West with incredible clarity and flowing prose. Not only is his writing clear and concise but also picturesque and stimulating; I was on the spot in my mind for these early 20th century films. His descriptions and pictures gives one a sense of going back in time, following the people and places and "action" from my Kindle! I heartily recommend this book as it is. to only good reading, it is a part of our history.

In the early days of the twentieth century, movies weren't made in California. As America's film pioneers traveled westward, Colorado became a beacon to them, contributing to the early motion picture business with all the relish and gusto of a western saga. The gorgeous natural scenery was perfect for the country's (and the world's) growing infatuation with the West, turning Colorado itself into a bigger star of the early cinema than any particular actor. Using rare photos and contemporary accounts, writer and filmmaker Michael J. Spencer explores the little-known filmmaking industry that flourished in the Rocky Mountains between 1895 and 1915--west of New York but east of Hollywood.

When one hears the term Hollywood, many images come to mind--movie stars, bright lights, glamour, wealth and the birthplace of the film industry. But the American film industry actually began in the Northeastern United States, and it took about two decades before the industry settled permanently in California. This history is central to filmmaker/writer Spencer's story, which highlights that brief moment in time when Colorado played a major role in the genesis of the Western film. The pioneers who flourished there were household names, such as Colonel Selig (not really a colonel), famous for his Selig Zoo; Gilbert "Broncho Billy" Anderson, a well-known producer and the first cowboy star who couldn't ride a horse; and Otis B. (Obie) Thayer, who produced, acted in, and directed his films. VERDICT These pioneers were as wild as the West in which they worked, and Spencer's offering is a fast-paced, humor-filled, romping read. This book will appeal to both film and Western history buffs, but it is also so well written and engaging that the general reader will be enthralled -- --Teri Shiel, Library Journal About the Author Michael J. Spencer studied film at NYU. He has written and produced a number of award-winning programs for various cable, broadcast and corporate organizations. His subjects cover topics as diverse as martial arts to a Papal mass, from the frontiers of modern medicine to the culture of tourism. Spencer divides his time between Colorado and New York.