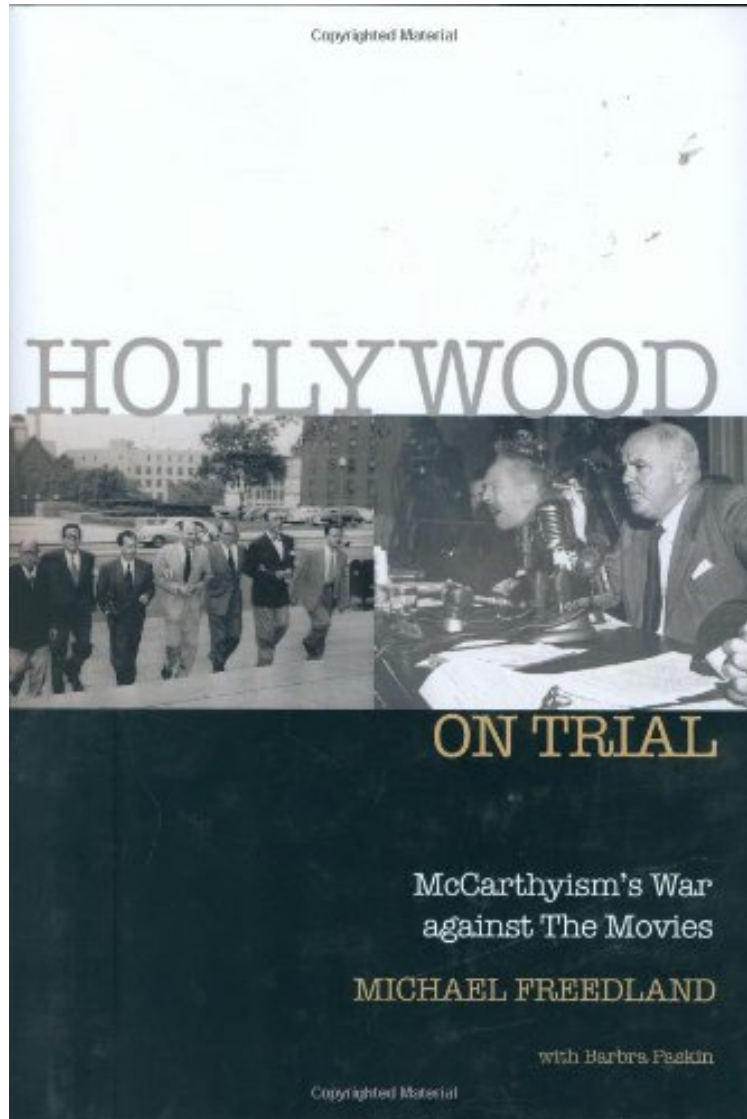


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Hollywood on Trial: McCarthyism's War Against the Movies

Michael Freedland

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Michael Freedland : Hollywood on Trial: McCarthyism's War Against the Movies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hollywood on Trial: McCarthyism's War Against the Movies:

2 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Senator McCarthy didn't Investigate Hollywood, HUAC didBy M. VillanoI have trouble understanding the willingness to juxtapose Senator McCarthy with the House investigation of Hollywood. They were separate events.McCarthy never interviewed anyone from the hearings and never even attended any of them.Conflating these 2 separate historical events into 1 commits a disservice to an accurate and

precise telling of history. The infiltration of Hollywood by communists under the direction of Stalin is only recently coming to light with excellent work by historians Kenneth Lloyd Billingsly and Ronald Radosh. The "Venona Papers" (released KGB intelligence archives) also sheds tremendous light about the presence of Soviet agents in America both in Washington, Hollywood and Los Alamos to name just a few places. We only know 1/2 of the story about Hollywood and communism but we don't know what people who work in Hollywood call "the back story." The rest of this story needs to be told. 4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Hollywood on Trial: McCarthyism's War Against the Movies By Sondra Burman I have read a great deal about the House Un-American Activities Committee and the red scare significantly escalated by Senator McCarthy. In addition to the hurtful effects on people throughout the country, I am interested in the devastation to human lives in the movie industry in the 1940's and beyond. This book presented some vital information I had not read before in the numerous books and articles I've collected on the subject. I value the book greatly and would recommend it to anyone who has been appalled by the aggressive and mean-spirited actions of the political system that encouraged and allowed this to happen.

This is the true story of how J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the UnAmerican Activities Committee made a national name for himself by ruining the lives of hundreds of people in the movie industry. Two years later, Thomas would be jailed for embezzling government money, but in August 1953 he was riding high. Hollywood on Trial relates the story of the victims of this witchhunt. Through the Committee many of Hollywood's leading lights were denied the right to work. Stars such as Charlie Chaplin and Paul Robeson were denied the passports that would have allowed them to leave America, Oscar-winning writers were forced to give their scripts to others to offer in their own names and then share the proceeds. Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Danny Kaye, and John Huston went to Washington in defense of the "Hollywood Ten", the first writers to be blacklisted, yet when Bogart and Bacall were questioned, they too buckled. The humiliations continued until the end of the 1950s. The scars, however, have remained to this day.

About the Author Michael Freedland is the author of many celebrity biographies, including Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Dean Martin: King of the Road, Doris Day, Jolson, Michael Caine, Sean Connery, Shirley MacLaine, and Some Like It Cool: The Charmed Life of Jack Lemmon.