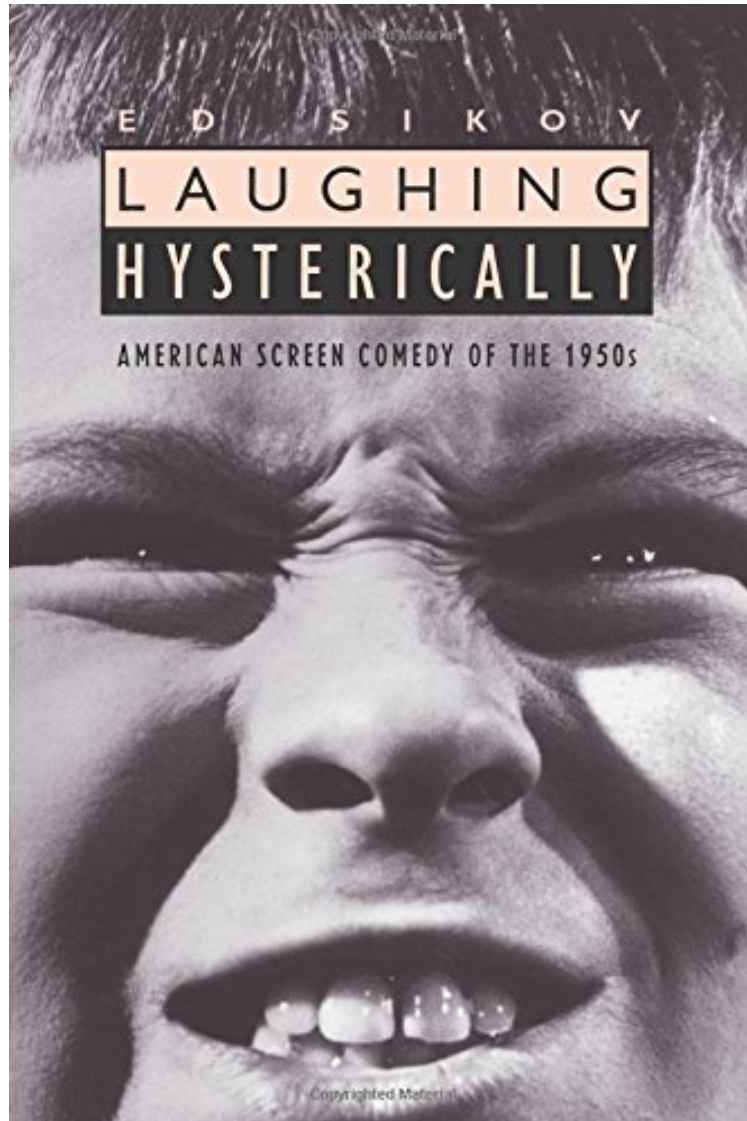


(Mobile pdf) Laughing Hysterically

Laughing Hysterically

Ed Sikov

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#2173795 in Books 1996-04-15 1996-11-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .74 x 6.00l, .98 #File Name: 0231079834282 pages | File size: 35.Mb

Ed Sikov : Laughing Hysterically before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Laughing Hysterically:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Laugh a MinuteBy Walter L. HarrisonThis is a "must-read" for anyone trying to understand the origins of American humor in film. Written for a scholarly audience, the book is easily accessible for the everyday film buff.

A tour de force through the landscape of American comedy in the 1950s.

From Publishers Weekly Rejecting the notion that the 1950s was a bleak, conformist decade in the U.S., this engaging, sophisticated study argues that the era's film comedies reflect the period's underappreciated artistic and social rebelliousness. Sikov focuses on four directors-Howard Hawks (*Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*), Billy Wilder (*Some Like It Hot*), Alfred Hitchcock (*The Trouble With Harry*) and Frank Tashlin (*Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?*)-whose comedies undercut drab normality, attack moral hypocrisy, satirize the powerful, and expose sexual repression and frustration. Sikov (*Screwball: Hollywood's Madcap Romantic Comedies*) also examines filmic references to homosexuality in the context of the period's antigay obsessions, exploring, for example, the "homophilic" bond between screen buddies Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin. Illustrated. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Film scholar Sikov closely analyzes a choice group of the funniest and most complex films by Howard Hawks, Billy Wilder, Alfred Hitchcock, and Frank Tashlin, including *Some Like It Hot*, *Monkey Business*, and *Artists and Models*. He is interested in how these films cleverly present, question, and satirize the intricate web of societal values and repressions that characterized America in the Fifties. In particular, Sikov analyzes-with vehement intensity-such issues as the double-edged representations of women's roles, homosexual innuendo, intimate relationships, and family structure. He studies dialog, roles, situations, contrasts, and film technique, occasionally debating positions taken by other scholars. A unique study for large film collections. Carol J. Binkowski, Bloomfield, N.J. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. Rejecting the notion that the 1950s was a bleak, conformist decade in the U.S., this engaging, sophisticated study argues that the era's film comedies reflect the period's underappreciated artistic and social rebelliousness. (Publishers Weekly)