

HISTORY

Roundtable est. 2017

March's Topic: Film History

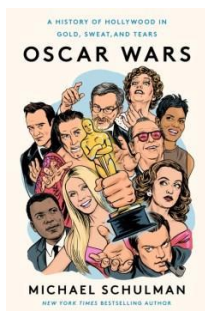
Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 25th, 2025 at 6:30pm

Register at www.greenwoodlibrary.us or by calling 317-881-1953.

More info and handout at www.greenwoodlibrary.us/historyroundtable.

Read. Watch. Listen. Discuss. Read any non-fiction book, watch a documentary, and/or listen to a podcast pertaining to **Film History**. Once you've read/watched/listened to the item, come to the roundtable prepared to summarize your book/video/podcast for all the participants. Possible resources include (but are not limited to) –

Books:



[Oscar Wars: A History of Hollywood in Gold, Sweat, and Tears](#) by Michael Schulman – NONFICTION ENTERTAINMENT MOVIES Schulman; [eBook](#) and [eAudio](#) via Libby;* [eBook](#) and [eAudio](#) via Hoopla*

In *Oscar Wars*, Michael Schulman chronicles the remarkable, sprawling history of the Academy Awards and the personal dramas, some iconic, others never-before revealed, that have played out on the stage and off camera. Unlike other books on the subject, each chapter takes a deep dive into a particular year, conflict, or even category that tells a larger story of cultural change, from Louis B. Mayer to *Moonlight*. Schulman examines how the red carpet runs through contested turf, and the victors aren't always as clear as the names drawn from envelopes.



[Classic Film Stars: Interviews from Hollywood's Golden Era](#) by James Bawden and Ron Miller – NONFICTION ENTERTAINMENT MOVIES Bawden; eBook via [Libby](#)*

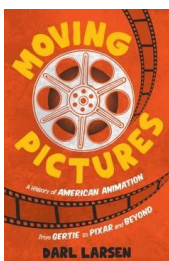
In *Conversations with Classic Film Stars*, retired journalists James Bawden and Ron Miller present an astonishing collection of rare interviews with the greatest celebrities of Hollywood's golden age. Conducted over the course of more than fifty years, they recount intimate conversations with some of the most famous leading men and women of the era, including Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Joseph Cotten, Cary Grant, Gloria Swanson, Joan Fontaine, Loretta Young, Kirk Douglas, and many more.



[Colorization: One Hundred Years of Black Films in a White World](#) by Wil Haygood – via Evergreen Indiana*

Beginning in 1915 with D.W. Griffith's *The Birth of a Nation*--which glorified the Ku Klux Klan and became Hollywood's first blockbuster--Wil Haygood gives us an incisive, fascinating, little-known history, spanning more than a century of Black artists in the film business, onscreen, and behind the scenes. He makes clear the effects of changing social realities and events on the business of making movies and on what was represented on the screen: from Jim Crow and segregation to white flight and interracial relationships; from the assassination of Malcolm X to the O.J. Simpson trial to the Black Lives Matter movement. He considers the films

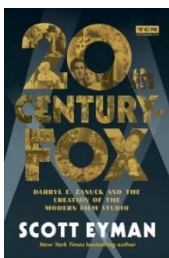
themselves, and he brings to new light the careers and significance of a wide range of historic and contemporary figures.



[Moving Pictures: A History of American Animation from Gertie to Pixar and Beyond](#) by Darl

Larsen – NONFICTION ENTERTAINMENT MOVIES Larsen;

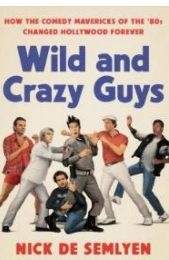
Animated films started with simple sequential drawings photographed one at a time—little bits of comedic fluff to make amateur title scenes or surreal escapist sequences. Today, animation is a worldwide industry valued at nearly \$300 billion and still growing in scope and popularity. Larsen identifies and discusses the major figures, movements, and studios across the nearly 120 years of animation in the United States.



[20th Century Fox: Darryl F. Zanuck and the Creation of the Modern Film Studio](#) by Scott Eyman

– via Evergreen Indiana*

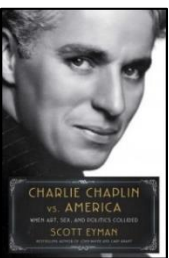
March 20, 2019 marked the end of an era -- Disney took ownership of the movie empire that was Fox. For almost a century before that historic date, Twentieth Century-Fox was one of the preeminent producers of films, stars, and filmmakers. Its unique identity in the industry and place in movie history is unparalleled -- and one of the greatest stories to come out of Hollywood. One man, a legendary producer named Darryl F. Zanuck, is the heart of the story.



[Wild and Crazy Guys: How the Comedy Mavericks of the '80s changed Hollywood Forever](#) by Nick De Semlyen

– NONFICTION ENTERTAINMENT MOVIES De Semlyen; eAudio via [Libby](#)*

Based on candid interviews from many of the stars themselves, as well as those in their immediate orbit, including directors John Landis, Carl Reiner, and Amy Heckerling, *Wild and Crazy Guys* is a fantastic insider account of the friendships, feuds, triumphs, and disasters experienced by these beloved comedians. Hilarious and revealing, it is both a hidden history of the most fertile period ever for screen comedy and a celebration of some of the most popular films of all time.



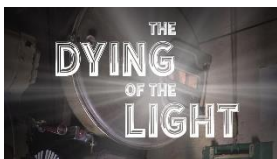
[Charlie Chaplin vs. America: When Art, Sex, and Politics Collided](#) by Scott Eyman

– via Evergreen Indiana*; [eBook](#) and [eAudio](#) via Libby*

In the aftermath of World War Two, Charlie Chaplin was criticized for being politically liberal and internationalist in outlook. He had never become a US citizen, something that would be held against him as xenophobia set in when the postwar Red Scare took hold. Politics aside, Chaplin had another problem: his sexual interest in young women. He had been married three times and had had numerous affairs. His sexuality became a convenient way for those who opposed his politics to condemn him. Eyman explores the life and times of the movie genius-- and of an

America consumed by political turmoil.

Videos:



[The Dying Art of Light: The History of Motion Picture Presentation](#) by Peter Flynn

– via Kanopy* This documentary explores the history and craft of motion picture presentation through the lives and stories of the last generation of career projectionists. The result is a loving tribute to the art and romance of the movies—and to the unseen people who brought the light to our screens.



[Hitler's Hollywood: German Cinema in the Age of Propaganda](#) by Rüdiger Suchsland

– via Kanopy* In his world-renowned and groundbreaking documentary, film historian and critic Siegfried Kracauer, developed the idea of cinema as seismograph of its context and origin – a bellwether for the cultural unconscious of its period – with fascinating results.

Hitler's Hollywood asks what the Nazi cinema of the Third Reich reveals about its period and its people.

Podcast:



[A Century in Cinema](#) with Arthur Veenema and Andrew Slaughter

Arthur and Andrew discuss a classic film from every year between 1920 and 2020, covering cinematic history and moviemaking techniques, as well as world events related to the films.

*=requires GPL Evergreen Indiana card