[Mobile book] The Ancient World in the Cinema: Revised and Expanded Edition

The Ancient World in the Cinema: Revised and Expanded Edition

Jon Solomon
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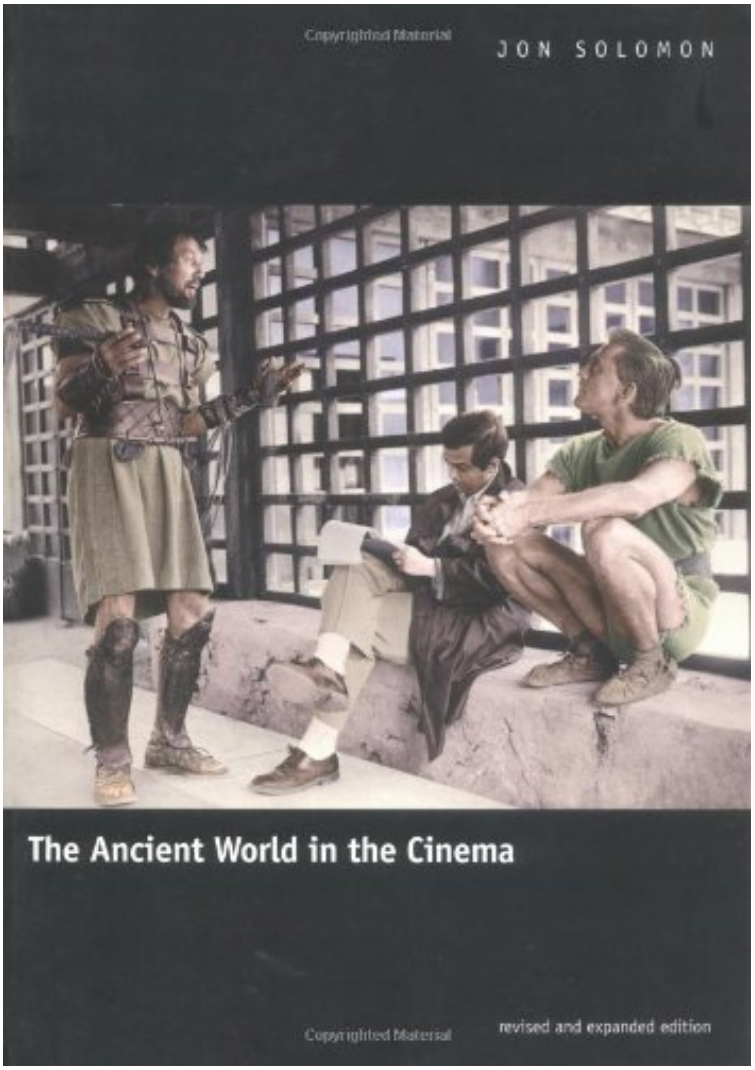

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#468239 in Books 2001-03-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.99 x .97 x 7.01l, 1.77 #File Name: 0300083378384 pagesGreat book! | File size: 30.Mb

Jon Solomon : The Ancient World in the Cinema: Revised and Expanded Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ancient World in the Cinema: Revised and Expanded Edition:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Suzi Flynnreally good to read but a bit dry0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Robert E. HolladayWonderful reading!!!6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Interesting book on moviesBy Dave F.This is an interesting, easy-to-read book on how the ancient world has been depicted in movies. The author primarily focuses on the Greco-Roman world pre-5th century C.E., with a fair bit of attention also given to the Mideast (primarily in terms of biblical epics). The book has more range than some similar works because it gives a fair bit of attention to foreign and non-English-language

movies, especially Italian ones, and also discusses plenty of early silent movies, some quite obscure, rather than solely focusing on Hollywood productions and relatively recent big hits.While I very much enjoyed Jon Solomon's light and humorous writing style -- he clearly enjoys movies, even a number of somewhat outright cheesy ones -- a key point I'd stress about this book is that it's much more about movies than it is about ancient history. Solomon doesn't devote a great deal of time or attention to using the movies he's discussing to explicate ancient history; he's really more interested in the movies themselves than in the history that their stories are based upon. For the opposite tack (a book on cinematic depictions of historical events that's more focused on the actual history than on the movies themselves) I might suggest "Past Imperfect: History According to Hollywood," edited by Mark Carnes. "Past Imperfect" also covers a much, much broader range of history than Solomon's "ancient" time frame. I'd have to say, though, that "Past Imperfect," being a collection of essays, lacks the consistency and tone that makes "The Ancient World in the Cinema" a fairly fun read.Finally, at the risk of nitpicking, Solomon's book has quite an appalling number of editing errors, ranging from simple misspellings to repeated or misplaced words. The errors tend to be concentrated in certain sections of the book, which makes me wonder if they were accidentally introduced when the book was being revised for this updated edition. Still, such errors can't help but slightly undermine your confidence in the book's factual statements.

This entertaining and useful book provides a comprehensive survey of films about the ancient world, from The Last Days of Pompeii to Gladiator. Jon Solomon catalogues, describes, and evaluates films set in ancient Greece and Rome, films about Greek and Roman history and mythology, films of the Old and New Testaments, films set in ancient Egypt, Babylon, and Persia, films of ancient tragedies, comic films set in the ancient world, and more. The book has been updated to include feature films and made-for-television movies produced in the past two decades. More than two hundred photographs illustrate both the films themselves and the ancient sources from which their imagery derives.