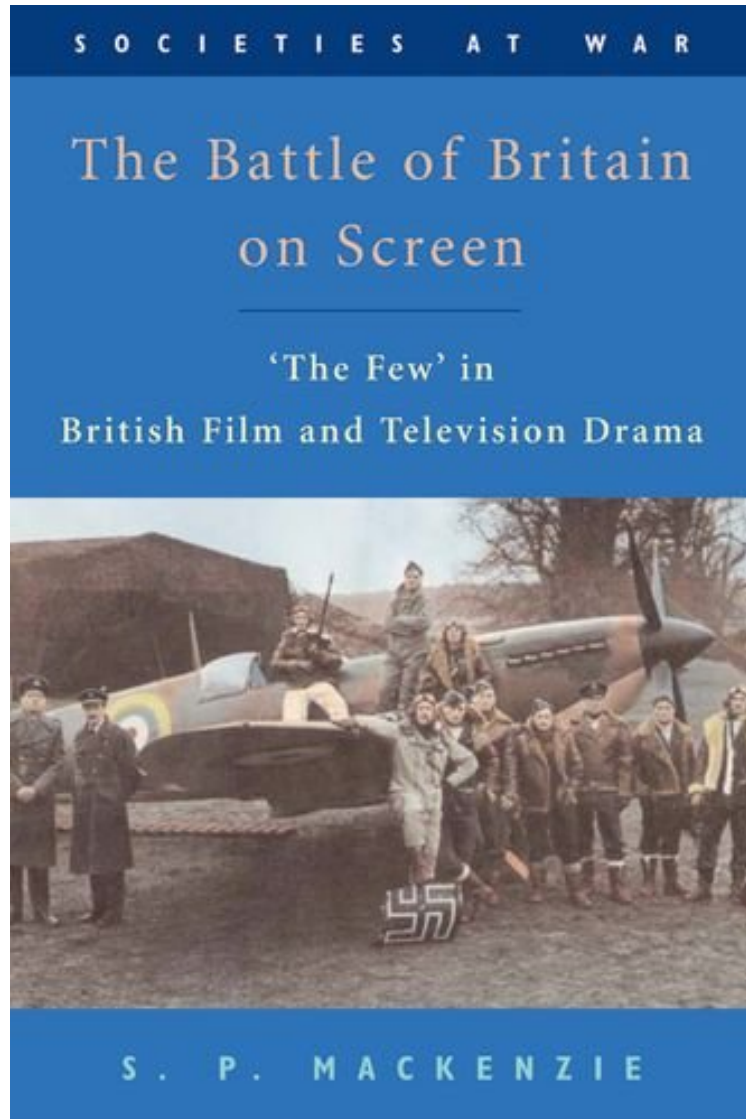


[Free] The Battle of Britain on Screen: 'The Few' in British Film and Television Drama (Societies at War)

The Battle of Britain on Screen: 'The Few' in British Film and Television Drama (Societies at War)

S.P. Mackenzie

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S.P. Mackenzie : The Battle of Britain on Screen: 'The Few' in British Film and Television Drama (Societies at War) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Battle of Britain on Screen: 'The Few' in British Film and Television Drama (Societies at War):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. BOB on screen By The Badger Excellent somewhat rare publication. A trifle academic but aimed at that audience as opposed to the historian. Good reviews of all BOB featured films and tv

programmes. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Pricey Guide to Battle of Britain Flicks/Shows! By Mike O'Connor Over the years various English producers and writers have created films or television series dealing with the 1940 Battle of Britain. Indeed few events offer greater cinematic potential than that titanic struggle. S.P. MacKenzie examines the dozen-odd BoB productions released between 1939 and 1991 in this entertaining but horrendously-overpriced volume from Edinburgh University Press. BoB cinematic/TV productions have been a mixed bag. Battle of Britain films have included "The Lion Has Wings," "The First of the Few," "Angels One Five," "Reach for the Sky" and my personal favorite "The Battle of Britain." TV series included "Piece of Cake" and "The Perfect Hero." MacKenzie examines each production in turn, relating how it came to be, production details and critical/public reaction. As he points out, each had strengths and weaknesses. What's just as fascinating as the production details is how each's "take" on the BoB was colored by contemporary societal attitudes. Nowadays some come across as little better than wartime propoganda, others were revisionist diatribes that trashed the exploits of "the Few." Though I would have enjoyed more "on-the-set" details, the book makes for interesting reading. A rather slim book, BATTLE OF BRITAIN ON SCREEN runs to 180 pages including 10 photographs. It is pricey whether you opt for hardcover (\$90.00!!) or paperback (\$34.00). Cinema fans will enjoy it and perhaps RAF buffs as well. Recommended.

This book examines in depth for the first time the origins, development, and reception of the major dramatic screen representations of 'The Few' in the Battle of Britain produced over the past seventy years. It explores both continuity and change of presentation in relation to a wartime event that acquired near-mythical dimensions in popular consciousness even before it happened and has been represented multiple times over the course of the past seven decades. Alongside technical developments, considerable social, cultural, and political fluctuation (as well as an expansion of factual knowledge concerning the battle itself) occurred in this period, all of which helped to shape how the battle came to be framed at particular junctures. The ways in which the Battle of Britain was being represented in other fictional forms as well histories and commemorations form part of the context in which screen representations are explored. Films discussed in detail include The Lion Has Wings, First of the Few, Ang

This perceptive and detailed study clearly reveals exactly how our memory of the Battle of Britain has been shaped and re-shaped by film and television. -- Michael Paris, University of Central Lancashire Journal of British Cinema and Television MacKenzie's research is exceptionally thorough and his case studies of the films are always illuminating... this is a most illuminating book that makes a valuable addition not only to the extensive historical literature on the Battle of Britain but also to the field of film and media history. -- James Chapman, H-Albion H-Net This perceptive and detailed study clearly reveals exactly how our memory of the Battle of Britain has been shaped and re-shaped by film and television. MacKenzie's research is exceptionally thorough and his case studies of the films are always illuminating... this is a most illuminating book that makes a valuable addition not only to the extensive historical literature on the Battle of Britain but also to the field of film and media history. About the Author S.P. Mackenzie is University of South Carolina at the Professor of History