

Chaplin and American Culture

Charles J. Maland

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AND AMERICAN CULTURE



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Charles J. Maland : Chaplin and American Culture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chaplin and American Culture:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Robert ThompsonExcellent6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An excellent achievement!By Lucy CrawfordMaland offers a very interesting and well-researched perspective in this ambitious project. He does not give us a strait-forward biography but rather shows how

profoundly Chaplin affected American Culture and vice-versa. In framing his analysis, Maland references movie reviews, the press, promotional materials released by the studios, and (most informatively) Chaplin's movies. I recommend this book not only to those interested in Charlie Chaplin, but also to those wanting to learn more about the culture of fear and propaganda that prevailed before and after World War II.

Charles Maland focuses on the cultural sources of the on-and-off, love-hate affair between Chaplin and the American public that was perhaps the stormiest in American stardom.

From Library Journal
In the centenary of his birth, much has already been published about one of the most closely scrutinized figures in film history. Maland's intention is take Charlie in the "context" of his times, to examine how he fell from grace (and was rehabilitated), both as a film artist and as a public figure. Maland is stronger on the latter, detailing Chaplin's agonizing paternity suit and his subsequent political persecution and final exile to Switzerland. But there is little new here, either in material unearthed or fresh insights. The superior work on the same subject is David Robinson's *Chaplin: The Mirror of Opinion* (LJ 11/1/83).- Thomas Wiener, formerly with "American Film" Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A fascinating, ambitious and incisive look at American culture and at the cinematic genius."--Robin Lippincott, New York Times Book "Maland pioneers a new approach to Chaplin.... Anyone interested in Chaplin must read it. And those engaged in the task of bringing to film history a new awareness of the cultural and political context of film production and reception will find this a book to think about, argue with, and learn from."--Tom Gunning, *Film Quarterly*"[Here is] the story behind Charlie Chaplin's rise and fall from grace in the public eye, his attempts to redeem his stardom, his twenty-year banishment from the United States, and his qualified rapprochement.... [Maland] puts us in touch with those times past but also confronts us with those still-lurking societal instincts that urge a culture's killing of its prophets."--Gerard Molyneux, *Flashback*
From the Back Cover
Here finally in a single, exhaustively researched volume, a reader can find the story behind Charlie Chaplin's rise and fall from grace in the public eye, his attempts to redeem his stardom, his twenty-year banishment from the United States, and his qualified rapprochement with the American public.