

(Free pdf) Chaplin: His Life and Art

## Chaplin: His Life and Art

*David Robinson*

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**David Robinson : Chaplin: His Life and Art** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chaplin: His Life and Art:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thoroughly enjoyableBy 111222333444555\*\*\*\*This is an excellent book. David Robinson is such a good writer. If you're already a fan of Charlie Chaplin, this book is difficult to put down. I haven't read the whole book yet, but I know other earlier reviewers have written about the book in great detail that you can refer to. So far, I've really enjoyed reading the information on his early life as a child in England, up to age 16. It's fascinating. It's so chock full of facts that really I think this book is going to last me a long time, because now that I've got past the first bit, I've settled into more of a routine of reading a few pages at a time and digesting what I've read. For the first time, I'm learning in more detail about the music halls of England, and how Charlie Chaplin got started in his profession, along with his brother Sydney. Love it. I can tell I'm going to enjoy the whole book!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Didn't like. Boring.By jmc2Thought this a rather lengthy, boring book. Did't finish it and donated the book to the library.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Chaplin: His Life and ArtBy yontI finally managed to find a new copy of David Robinson's Chaplin: His Life and Art from the US (I live in Ireland)and even though it cost (including shipping)nearly 50 euros it was worth every penny.If like me you are a Chaplin fan or a fan of early cinema you should find this an invaluable addition to your collection.I read Chaplin's own My Autobiography and while it is a very charming read it is generally agreed that it contains many glaring omissions especially fellow work colleagues and hardly discusses his movies at all. David Robinson who was given unbridled access to Chaplin's records documents Chaplins life from his childhood in London to his death in

Switzerland. Great attention is given to Chaplin's film making methods especially the great classics. The book contains many photos and over a hundred pages of appendices. A very enjoyable book to read. A must for Chaplin fans.

Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977) revolutionized the language of cinema and became one of the most loved performers of all time. But he was also a man plagued by loneliness and driven by the search for artistic perfection. His life was an extraordinarily dramatic one, and David Robinson explores the often tragic story of Chaplin's alcoholic father; his mentally disturbed mother; his marriages to very young women; the white slavery case against him; and his persecution by anti-Communist forces during the McCarthy era, which ultimately forced Chaplin to leave America. This is the only biography written with full access to his archives contains many provocative revelations about his private life, romances, business dealings, and the making of his magical films. The text is studded with unexpected gems, from the multilingual lyrics of his song in *Modern Times* (the first time his voice was heard on the screen) to the step-by-step choreography of his celebrated dance with the balloon globe of the world in *The Great Dictator*. The author tells of the many famous figures who sought Chaplin out, including Picasso, Gandhi, and Khrushchev. The book vividly recreates the different worlds in which Chaplin moved: from Victorian to Edwardian London, through the glamorous birth and sad decline of Hollywood's studio system, to the nightmare of McCarthyism, after which America once again came to adore the Little Tramp. Illustrated with eighty pages of rare photographs from the family albums, *Chaplin* contains a detailed chronology, filmography, list of theater tours, a summary of the secret FBI file on him, and a *Chaplin who's who*. This is the definitive and monumental biography of a mesmerizing artist.

Of the many books about Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977), among them the Tramp's own charming but evasive 1964 autobiography, this magisterial volume does by far the best job of detailing and analyzing his genius as a filmmaker. Chaplin's widow allowed David Robinson to examine their personal archives in Switzerland, and he makes good use of this access in his meticulous descriptions of the movies that created the legend, including *City Lights* and *Modern Times*. Robinson is less interested in Chaplin's tumultuous personal life, skating rather lightly over the lawsuits and scandals that plagued his later years in the United States. No matter: Chaplin lovers will find their understanding of his films enhanced; those unfamiliar with his artistry will learn why an actor-director whose greatest work was done before 1940 remains a key figure in the history of motion pictures. From *Library Journal* LJ's reviewer asserted that Robinson offers "unprecedented insights into Chaplin's methods in this thorough biography" (LJ 9/1/85), although he added that the book should be read in conjunction with Robinson's other Chaplin titles. For film and biography collections. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.