Animating Culture: Hollywood Cartoons from the Sound Era



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(Prof. Leonardo Parker)

ANIMATING CULTURE: HOLLYWOOD CARTOONS FROM THE SOUND ERA



Rutgers University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 240 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.6in.Long considered childrens entertainment by audiences and popular media, Hollywood animation has received little serious attention. Eric Smoodins Animating Culture is the first and only book to thoroughly analyze the animated short film. Usually running about seven or eight minutes, cartoons were made by major Hollywood studiossuch as MGM, Warner Bros., and Disneyand shown at movie theaters along with a newsreel and a feature-length film. Smoodin explores animated shorta and the system that mass-produced them. How were cartoons exhibited in theaters How did they tell their stories Who did they tell them to What did they say about race, class, and gender How were cartoons related to the feature films they accompanied on the evenings bill of fare What were the social functions of cartoon stars like Donald Duck and Minnie MouseSmoodin argues that cartoons appealed to a wide audiencenot just childrenand did indeed contribute to public debate about political matters. He examines issues often ignored in discussions of animated filmissues such as social control in the U. S. armys Private Snafu cartoons, and sexuality and race in the sites of Betty Boops body and the cartoon harem. Smoodins analysis of the multiple discourses embedded in a variety of cartoons reveals the complex and sometimes contradictory ways that animation dealt with class relations, labor, imperialism, and censorship. His discussion of Disney and the Disney Studios close ties with the U. S. government forces us to rethink the place of the cartoon in political and cultural life. Smoodin reveals the complex relationship between cartoons and the Hollywood studio system, and between cartoons and their audiences. This item ships from multiple locations. Your book may arrive from Roseburg, OR, La Vergne, TN. Paperback.

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