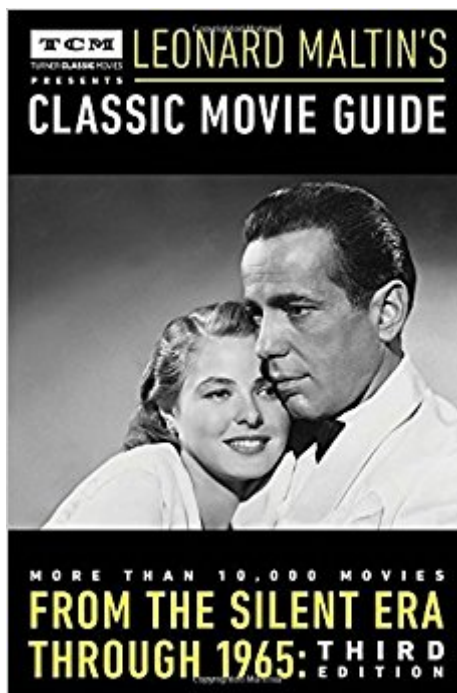




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Turner Classic Movies Presents Leonard Maltin's Classic Movie Guide: From The Silent Era Through 1965: Third Edition



Synopsis

The definitive guide to classic films from one of America's most trusted film critics. Thanks to Netflix and cable television, classic films are more accessible than ever. Now co-branded with Turner Classic Movies, *Leonard Maltin's Classic Movie Guide* covers films from Hollywood and around the world, from the silent era through 1965, and from *The Maltese Falcon* to *Singin' in the Rain* and *Godzilla, King of the Monsters!* Thoroughly revised and updated, and featuring expanded indexes, a list of Maltin's personal recommendations, and three hundred new entries—including many offbeat and obscure films—this new edition is a must-have companion for every movie lover.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“A must-have for movie buffs, but also a standard reference for industry insiders.” —Clare Swanson, *Publisher's Weekly* “Indispensable.” —*Los Angeles Times* “Head and shoulders above the rest.” —*The New York Times* “Belongs next to every TV in every home.” —*USA Today* “The single most important reference book in every American home.” —*Esquire*

Leonard Maltin is an American film critic and historian. His many books include *Of Mice and Magic: A History of American Animated Cartoons*, *Leonard Maltin's 151 Best Movies You've Never Seen*, and *Leonard Maltin's Movie Guide*. He lives in Los Angeles, California.

I have relied on Leonard Maltin's Movie Guides for many years; I love the fact that this edition is larger than the standard paperback and the print is easier to read. I am sorry to hear that there evidently will be no more print editions. We have worn out every copy we have. Although I use a smartphone, I prefer to have the paper guide handy and would purchase it every year or so if it was available (in other words, online reviews do not substitute for this wonderful gem!). Thank you so much for printing this...we will try to make it last!

I am thrilled to have this book. There are so many movies in here that had not even been listed in the older copies of Leonard Maltin's Movie Guide (until about the 2000, before films had to be removed for space reasons). The one recommendation I would make is that a movie guide be created that includes TV movies, as the older LMMG's used to include. There is no printed guide (other than Videohound, which still lists some of them) that includes these anymore, and since many of these films are available in digital format, a guide would be a great addition.

In the trusted Leonard Maltin tradition, this third edition of Classic Movie Guide is a priceless film reference book. More than just capsule reviews and * to **** ratings but an invaluable and entertaining collection of movie lore. I've never missed an edition of Leonard's movie guides, ever since the first was published in the mid-sixties, when such information was scant and this book was a godsend for the movie buff. It has yet to be and equalled for accuracy and dependability. Even today, with so much info available in various outlets, this book is essential for concise, comprehensive and no nonsense reviews. Some 10,000 films are covered from the silent era through to 1965 and with so many rare and obscure films from this period becoming more and more available to collectors, especially in the pre and early talkie era, this guide has become even more important and valuable. I may be old fashioned but I much prefer to consult this fountain of knowledge for reliable and correct information than rely on other outlets such as the internet which suffers from dubious facts and not overly trustworthy reviews. And this easy to read, perfectly designed book, one reference search leads to hours and hours of discovering so much more. A credit to Leonard and his expert team of long serving, film loving contributors.

Gotta love the oldies on TCM! This classic movie guide from the Amazing Mister Maltin will help you decide whether or not you REALLY want to stay up and watch 'Face of the Screaming Werewolf' ("BOMB"), or catch some Z's and be rested and refreshed when 'A Face in the Crowd' ("3&1/2 stars") airs tomorrow. You know Leonard is the BEST reviewer out there-just buy it, Bomba!

I own the second edition of this book. This third edition is better. It reviews more movies-many of which have been discovered after the second edition was published. This is the only book that reviews older "classic movies" -the ones I love. Do I always agree with the ratings? No, But I find many, many movies in this book that I never knew existed until I read the review. If you love movies, this book belongs on your shelf.

Leonard Maltin's Classic edition of his movie guide costs twice as much, but has half the page count compared to his "Modern Era" movie guide. I know the sales of this historic series hasn't been good in recent years, but overpricing it certainly won't help. Although nowhere in this book does it say that this is the last edition of the Classic movie guide, we can't help but see the handwritings on the wall. The previous edition of the Classic guide was SIX years ago. So this latest 3rd edition COULD be the last. The "Modern Era" guide, of course, was already discontinued 2 years ago when the 2015 edition came out. The Modern guide, by the way, does have about 2000 pre-1965 movies, but thankfully all of them (as far as I can see) can also be found in the Classic guide. As its title indicates, only titles up to those in 1965 are included in the latest 3rd edition of the Classic guide. But of course it still has a ton of movies missing due to reasons that long-time readers are all too familiar with: (a) the editors haven't gotten around to adding them, (b) short films are never added, (c) the book doesn't have room to hold any more titles. The lack of short films is especially disappointing since any movie fan knows that the silent era, especially the early years, is composed of a high proportion of short films. For a book supposedly dedicated to classic films, these omissions are disappointing. You won't find "A Trip to the Moon", "The Great Train Robbery", "L'age d'or", "Un chien andalou", any of Charlie Chaplin's Keystone, Essanay, or Mutual classic shorts, any of the 500 shorts by D.W. Griffith, or any of the Disney animated shorts. You won't find any serials here either, even if the total running time is well over feature length. Even though the classic French serials "Les Vampires" and "Fantomas" run several hours in total each, this book stubbornly treats them as shorts and doesn't include them. In fact, you won't find any titles made before 1912 in this book. It is a HUGE portion of film history omitted by this book. Among feature-length films, you won't find such notable films as "The Patchwork Girl of Oz" (1914), which is the very first film adaptation of the classic Oz novel, the 1921 Swedish silent classic "The Phantom Carriage", the 1923 French silent "C'  ur fid  le", the 1924 Baby Peggy flicks "Captain January" and "Helen's Babies" (co-starring Clara Bow), the 1927 Russian classic "Bed and Sofa", the 1927 Lon Chaney classics "London After Midnight" and "Mr. Wu", and surely a lot more. We have the usual 11 pages of "About

the author" (3 pages), "About the editors" (2 pages), "Memorable Performance A to Z" (1 page), "Key to this Book" (1 partial page), "Mail Order Sources for Home Video" (3 pages), and "Widescreen Glossary" (1 page). Are those verbose bios of the editors and mail order sources really necessary? Condense a few pages, and there would be room for a lot more titles. The Classic edition contains about 10,000 titles. Both the Classic and Modern editions contain only about 26,000 reviews total, which is, of course nowhere close to the millions of titles found in websites like IMDb and Wikipedia. My 1997 edition of Maltin's guide has about 26,000 titles. That means the book has hardly increased the number of titles over the years, while more and more films are made every year. Understandably, there are only so many titles a physical book can hold. And you would think that migrating the book to electronic formats would solve that problem, but it didn't. Maltin's book was already made available electronically long time ago, via those Microsoft "Cinemanía" CD-ROMs in the 90s. The real problem is that Maltin simply never had the manpower (nor money, surely) to curate millions of titles the same way IMDb does it for free with volunteer contributors. So all the limitations of Maltin's book have never been remedied over the years. To its credit, among the capsule reviews, the Classic guide also provides lists of titles that belong in series, such as the Philo Vance series, the Andy Hardy series, etc. The "Modern Era" edition used to do this too, but has stopped long ago to save space. The heart and soul of Maltin's book are the capsule reviews, which were once indispensable in the pre-Internet, pre-personal computer days, but are now quite antiquated. A mere few sentences of summary for each title is just not satisfying compared to the much more detailed info available elsewhere. A cast list is provided for each review, but only for major roles, and minor roles played by notable actors. The director's name is the only crew listed, and there is no mention of writers, editors, producers, and other crews, unless Maltin mentions them specifically in his review. Silent films are often not indicated as such. While a review does show a movie's country or countries of origin, it doesn't mention a movie's language. While reading this book, you get the feeling that due to the lack of space, it is unable to include some of the most basic information. The Kindle edition of the Classic guide, which I bought, is an exact duplicate of the print edition. There are no hyperlinks for titles nor people that enable quick navigation; you can only navigate by flipping one page at a time. The only way to search titles is via Kindle's built-in word search function, which can take a long time due to the book's high page count (800-plus). The ability to change font size is probably the only positive of the Kindle edition.

Great book, and nice to know subsequent editions won't get much larger page-wise. Could be a little larger so type-size could notch up a bit - most of the people reading it will have old, tired eyes.

Great book!

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