



The Genius of the System: Hollywood Filmmaking in the Studio Era

Thomas Schatz

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At a time when the studio is making a stunning comeback, film historian Thomas Schatz provides an indispensable account of Hollywood's traditional blend of business and art. This book lays to rest the persistent myth that businesspeople and producers stifle artistic talent and reveals instead the genius of a system of collaboration and conflict. Working from industry documents, Schatz traces the development of house styles, the rise and fall of careers, and the making-and unmaking-of movies, from *Frankenstein* to *Spellbound* to *Grand Hotel*. Richly illustrated and highly readable, *The Genius of the System* gives the definitive view of the workings of the Old Hollywood and the foundations of the New.

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