



Animating Culture: Hollywood Cartoons from the Sound Era

By Eric Smoodin

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 studios such as MGM, Warner Bros. , and Disney and shown at movie theaters along with a newsreel and a feature-length film. Smoodin explores animated shorts 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 Mouse? Smoodin argues that cartoons appealed to a wide audience, not just children, and did indeed contribute to public debate about political matters. He examines issues often ignored in discussions of animated film, issues such as social control in the U. S. army's Private Snafu cartoons, and sexuality and race in the sites of Betty Boop's body...



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