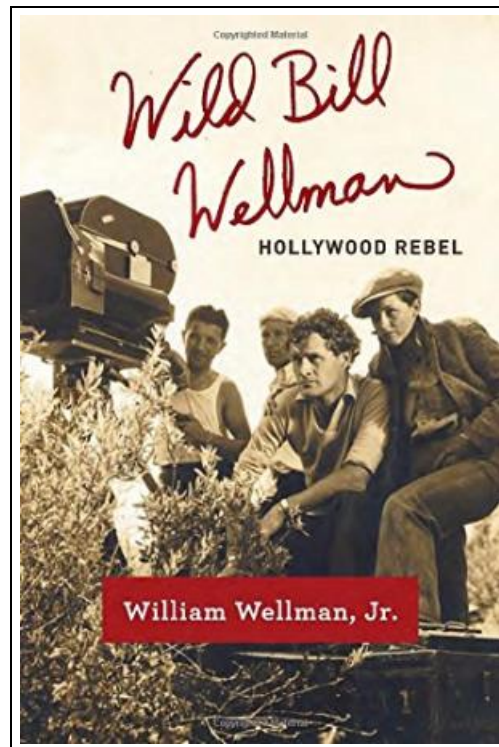


Wild Bill Wellman: Hollywood Rebel (Hardback)



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Reviews

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(Irving Roob)

WILD BILL WELLMAN: HOLLYWOOD REBEL (HARDBACK)



Random House USA Inc, United States, 2015. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 238 x 172 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The extraordinary life the first of the legendary, undercelebrated Hollywood director known in his day as Wild Bill (and he was!) Wellman, whose eighty-two movies (six of them uncredited), many of them iconic; many of them sharp, cold, brutal; others poetic, moving; all of them a lesson in close-up art, ranged from adventure and gangster pictures to comedies, aviation, romances, westerns, and searing social dramas. Among his iconic pictures: the pioneering World War I epic Wings (winner of the first Academy Award for best picture), Public Enemy (the toughest gangster picture of them all), Nothing Sacred, the original A Star Is Born, Beggars of Life, The Call of the Wild, The Ox-Bow Incident, Battleground, The High and the Mighty. David O. Selznick called him one of the motion pictures greatest craftsmen. Robert Redford described him as feisty, independent, self-taught, and self-made. He stood his ground and fought his battles for artistic integrity, never wavering, always clear in his film sense. Wellman directed Hollywood's biggest stars for three decades, including Clark Gable, Gary Cooper, Barbara Stanwyck, John Wayne, Lauren Bacall, and Clint Eastwood. It was said he directed like a general trying to break out of a beachhead. He made pictures with such noted producers as Darryl F. Zanuck, Nunnally Johnson, Jesse Lasky, and David O. Selznick. Here is a revealing, boisterous portrait of the handsome, tough-talking, hard-drinking, uncompromising maverick (he called himself a crazy bastard) juvenile delinquent; professional ice-hockey player as a kid; World War I flying ace at twenty-one in the Lafayette Flying Corps (the Lafayette Escadrille), crashing more than six planes (We only had four instruments, none of which worked. And no parachutes...



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