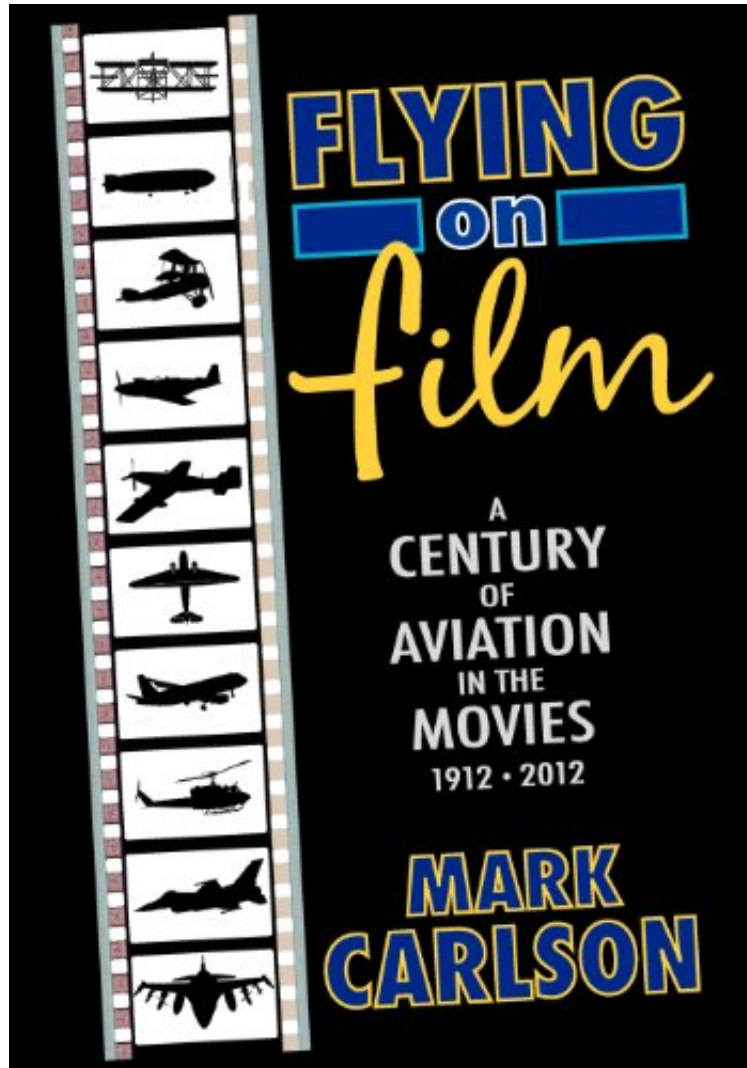


[Pdf free] Flying on Film: A Century of Aviation in the Movies, 1912 - 2012

Flying on Film: A Century of Aviation in the Movies, 1912 - 2012

Mark Carlson

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Mark Carlson : Flying on Film: A Century of Aviation in the Movies, 1912 - 2012 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Flying on Film: A Century of Aviation in the Movies, 1912 - 2012:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Every "airplane movie" ever made, in candid detailBy John A. EneyAviation movie buffs are nitpicky and hard to please. Only a few really good books that catalog and review "airplane movies" over the ages were ever published, usually giving each film only a truncated synopsis with a short list of aircraft used in the story. Mark Carlson's new softcover book covering the past 100 years of flying films is a rather monumental effort that goes way beyond its predecessors. Somehow, this author managed to find and interview

actual participants in the production companies on each and every film covered, some going back to the late 1920s. Photos accompany each film discussion, many never before published. This makes a book that is difficult to put down once you start reading it, and also serves as a future reference book and guide for refreshing your knowledge as these films reappear in TV cable shows featuring vintage feature movies without commercial interruption, such as Turner Classic Movies and Encore. The only failing, by no means disqualifying, is an unmet need for thorough proofreading, particularly of the photo captions. Aircraft are misidentified, as are personalities in some of the photos. Also, there is no demarcation in the text between the lengthy discussions of one movie from the next. The subject changes abruptly without warning. All this warrants a revised edition, perhaps hardbound, to make this into the premium cocktail table reference book it deserves to be. It rates 5 stars even as it is in this first printing. It's a KEEPER!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An indispensable reference for the aviation film buff!

By Hal Bryan I'm a lifelong pilot and amateur aviation historian, not to mention an avid movie collector. Somewhere around a third of my movies exist in my collection solely because they're aviation-related in some way. When I first heard of this book, it was immediately a "must-have." There have been other books on the subject, but none are anywhere near as comprehensive as this one. The book traces the parallel histories of aviation and motion pictures chronologically, but with a twist: the films are grouped largely by when they take place as opposed to when they were produced. This simple but extremely clever idea makes the book far more readable, and offers the opportunity to compare and contrast things like historical technical accuracy among films made, in some cases, decades apart. The author is an accomplished writer with an impressive CV, and it shows. The book is clear and engaging and, as I said, quite readable, making it far more than just an invaluable reference book. That said, it's well indexed by film title, interviewee, and even aircraft type - as a hardcore aviation geek, that last bit is extremely important to me. Most readers, I suspect, might initially cherry-pick their way through, looking up films of particular interest, but the author's insights on history and film-making will inevitably draw them in deeper, until they've journeyed cover-to-cover. There's no shortage of photos in the book, including a number of contemporary images as well as some photos showing surviving aircraft as they exist today. It's great to see images of exceedingly rare types like the Capelis XC-12 and fictional types like the "Rutland Reindeer" from "No Highway in the Sky." A small handful of the photos weren't reproduced as well as they could have been, and show up as fairly pixilated or extremely dark or both. Those are very minor issues, but essentially the only reason I've gone with 4 stars instead of 5. To me, a 5 star review means I could find no way to improve the product whatsoever; there are very, very few "5 star things" in my life. For anyone with even a passing interest in the subject matter, this book is absolutely a must-have. I've bought two copies so far, and, come Christmas, you can bet I'll be picking up some more.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Worth having for the aviation enthusiast

By Ole Doc Glad to have the book, and will enjoy picking through it. While the author put in a huge amount of work, it is not a book everyone would enjoy reading cover-to-cover. I find the contents "scattershot" and the kind of information I'd like to find quickly often be buried. The absence of a skilled editor's touch is evident. Still, the anecdotes and testimony of aviators, actors, and others who "were there back in the day" make it worth having for the aviation enthusiast who wants to learn more about aviation in films. Other reviewers have pointed out factual errors, typos, and mislabeled pictures, but I am not deeply enough into the book to have found serious issues of that kind.

Airplanes and motion pictures were born within a year of one another. In 100 years they have both risen from uncertain infancy through growing adolescence to robust maturity. While Hollywood's actors and directors learned the art of making movies, the aircraft industry and pilots learned how to conquer the sky. In peace and war, prosperity and depression, the airplanes and motion pictures have become a part of American culture. The relationship was symbiotic. While airplane movies helped sell box office tickets, the movies helped promote aviation. In Flying on Film movie fans and aviation buffs can find their common bond. From wooden biplanes to armadas of warplanes, from majestic China Clippers to huge 747s, from slow monoplanes to swift jets, the movies told the story of the airplane. William A. Wellman's 1927 masterpiece Wings was the first of the breed, the standard to be emulated. Flying on Film is the history behind the films. Veterans and aviators from past and present tell the real story of one of the most fascinating genres of motion pictures in Hollywood. About the Author: Mark Carlson is an aviation historian, writer, classic film buff and student of filmmaking. He has written articles for several national aviation magazines and organizations. As a docent and researcher at the San Diego Air Space Museum and member of many aviation-related organizations, Carlson has gained an insight into the people who lived the world of airplanes and the movies. He and his wife live in San Diego.