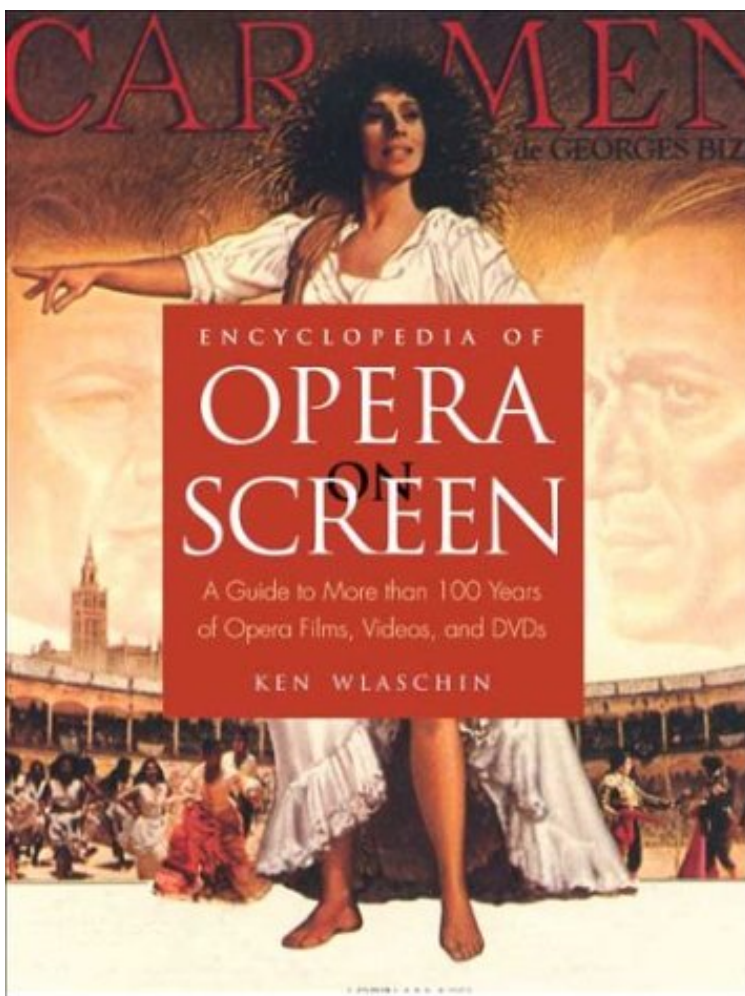


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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Reference Book of Opera, Operetta on Film, VHS or DVD -By Dennis E. Ferrara This is THE reference book for anyone who loves opera, operetta, Spanish Native opera, or German operetta. Ken Wlaschin certainly has done his homework and covers the entire gamut starting on film as early as 1896. He goes into the history of each opera or operetta as well as making select comments on specific availability of select performances. AMAZON offers this book at excellent prices. The Contents - Encyclopedia of Opera on Screen: A

Guide to More than 100 Years of Opera Films, Videos and DVDs - Ken Wlaschin - Yale University Press - New Haven and London - (2004). 872 pages. Numerous B W photographs. Contents - i. Introduction; ii. Abbreviations; iii. Subject Entries; iv. Opera on Screen - A - Z; v. Bibliography; vi. Distributors; vii. Index. 13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Marjan Kiepura By Marjan V. Kiepura This book is a "must buy" for any person interested in opera, operetta, singers, conductors, writers and numerous related topics and its profound effect on the film medium. Whether a connoisseur or professional in the field of opera or screen, this book has it all. You may use this book as a definitive reference, but you will also find it fascinating, entertaining and brilliantly written. There are lots of illustrations. Buy it. You'll love it.

This bountiful book is a comprehensive guide to the thousands of films, DVDs, and videocassettes featuring operas and opera singers from 1896 to the present. From ABC Television to Franco Zeffirelli, the encyclopedia is a storehouse of fascinating information for film and opera aficionados and casual browsers alike. Find answers to such questions as: * What were the first operas filmed? * Why did they make silent films of operas? * Why was a pseudo-opera written for Citizen Kane? * What was the title of Maria Callas' only film? Organized alphabetically with more than 1,900 fully cross-referenced entries, the book casts a wide net that covers not only expected topics operas, operettas, zarzuelas, composers, singers, conductors, writers, and film directors but also the unexpected and offbeat animated opera, first operas on film, puppet opera films, silent films about opera, and many other lesser-known topics. Encyclopedia of Opera on Screen illuminates the many intersections between opera and film as never before.

From Booklist The enjoyment of reviewing this book took a downward spiral after it was discovered that portions of the book were published earlier by the author in Opera on Screen (Sunburst, 1997), even though the introduction to the new volume states "There is no other guide like it." Entries have been revised from the earlier title, and there are also new entries. The arrangement remains the same, with singers, cities, operas, halls, composers, etc., interfiled in a letter-by-letter alphabetization. Wlaschin also provides subjective entries, such as Best opera on video and Worst opera on film. Within entries, films are listed chronologically, with a short summary, the cast, timing, format, and distributor included. The breadth of opera is illustrated in entries for Walt Disney and Maurice Sendak. A smattering of musicals, operettas, and even requiems are also mentioned. There are a few black-and-white photos interspersed in the text. Some typographical errors are annoying--Colin Davis (not David), Albert Coates also referred to as Eric Coates (another English composer). The index cites only people and works. Consequently, one cannot find productions of small opera companies such as the Santa Fe Opera or the Glimmerglass Opera unless the name of the opera is known. A selective bibliography and addresses of DVD and VHS distributors complete the volume. Academic and public libraries with a strong opera collection should consider this comprehensive, readable encyclopedia, although they may not want to purchase it if they own Opera on Screen. Christine Bulson Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Essential purchase" - Alan Blyth, Opera