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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Table of Contents -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- Unidentified Films -- Historical Currencies -- Introduction -- I. La Comète Belge -- II. In the Beginning... -- III. Gold Rush -- IV. Film Market Europe -- V. White Slave Girls and German Kultur -- VI. Onésime et Son Collègue -- VII. Das Ende vom Lied -- VIII. Quo Vadis? -- IX. Afterlife -- X. In Retrospect -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Photo credits -- Index of Film Titles -- General Index
Sommario/riassunto	The Netherlands Film Museum's Desmet Collection contains the estate of Dutch cinema owner and film distributor Jean Desmet (1875-1956): almost nine hundred European and American films of all genres, a collection of publicity material, and a massive business archive. These three sources form the basis of this book, the first comprehensive reconstruction of Desmet's career. From his nomadic beginnings as a traveling showman to his successful switch to permanent cinema operation and film distribution, Blom shows how Desmet's fortunes encapsulated a series of structural changes within the new culture of the cinema.

