

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778973803321
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Titolo	Movies about the movies : Hollywood reflected // Christopher Ames
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lexington, Kentucky : , : The University Press of Kentucky, , 1997 ©1997
ISBN	0-8131-0938-8 0-8131-4887-1 0-8131-7024-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (265 p.)
Disciplina	791.43/657
Soggetti	Motion picture industry in motion pictures
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes filmography (p. 227).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction: Hollywood Stories; 1. Cautionary Tales; What Price Hollywood? (1932); A Star Is Born (1937); The Star (1952); 2. Singin' on the Screen; Singin' in the Rain (1952); A Star Is Born (1954); 3. Let a Smile Be Your Umbrella; Sullivan's Travels (1941); Pennies from Heaven (1981); 4. Screen Passages; The Purple Rose of Cairo (1985); Last Action Hero (1993); 5. No Business Like; Stand-In (1937); The Bad and the Beautiful (1952); 6. Picturing Writers; Boy Meets Girl (1938); In a Lonely Place (1950); 7. Offing the Writer Sunset Boulevard (1950)The Player (1992); Epilogue: California Dreams; Appendix: Film and Videotape Availability; Notes; Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; V; W; Y; Z
Sommario/riassunto	Hundreds of Hollywood-on-Hollywood movies can be found throughout the history of American cinema, from the days of silents to the present. They include films from genres as far ranging as musical, film noir, melodrama, comedy, and action-adventure. Such movies seduce us with the promise of revealing the reality behind the camera. But, as part of the very industry they supposedly critique, they cannot take us behind the scenes in any true sense. Through close analysis of fifteen critically acclaimed films, Christopher Ames reveals how the idea of Hollywood is constructed and constructs itself.

