1. Record Nr. UNINA9910790032003321 Autore Miklitsch Robert <1953-> Titolo

Siren city [[electronic resource]]: sound and source music in classic

American noir / / Robert Miklitsch

New Brunswick, N.J., : Rutgers University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa

ISBN 1-283-86428-2 0-8135-5392-X

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (312 p.)

Disciplina 791.4302/4

Soggetti Film noir - History and criticism

Motion pictures - Sound effects

Motion picture music - History and criticism

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

Nota di contenuto House sound: reverb, offscreen sound, and voice-over narration in

early RKO noir -- Sonic effects: sound and fury in Forties noir -- Audio technologies: intercoms and dictaphones, telephones and radios, phonographs and jukeboxes -- Blues in the night: popular and classical instrumental source music -- Singing detectives and bluesmen, black jazzwomen and torch singers -- The big number (side

b): killing them softly -- The big number (a side): siren city.

Sommario/riassunto

Hailed for its dramatic expressionist visuals, film noir is one of the most prominent genres in Hollywood cinema. Yet, despite the "boom" in sound studies, the role of sonic effects and source music in classic American noir has not received the attention it deserves. Siren City engagingly illustrates how sound tracks in 1940's film noir are often just as compelling as the genre's vaunted graphics. Focusing on a wide range of celebrated and less well known films and offering an introductory discussion of film sound, Robert Miklitsch mobilizes the notion of audiovisuality to investigate period sound technologies such as the radio and jukebox, phonograph and Dictaphone, popular American music such as "hot" black jazz, and "big numbers" featuring iconic performers such as Lauren Bacall, Veronica Lake, and Rita Hayworth. Siren City resonates with the sounds and source music of

classic American noir-gunshots and sirens, swing riffs and canaries. Along with the proverbial private eye and femme fatale, these audiovisuals are central to the noir aesthetic and one important reason the genre reverberates with audiences around the world.