Record Nr. UNINA9910815119803321 Autore Lunde Arne Olav Titolo Nordic exposures: Scandinavian identities in classical Hollywood cinema / / Arne Lunde Seattle,: University of Washington Press, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-295-80084-4 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (233 p.) Collana New directions in Scandinavian studies Disciplina 791.43/6529395 Soggetti National characteristics, Scandinavian, in motion pictures Motion pictures - United States - History - 20th century 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 Racializing Vinland: the Nordic conquest of whiteness in technicolor's The viking -- Scandinavian/American whiteface: ethnic whiteness and assimilation in Victor Sjostrom's He who gets slapped -- Hotel Imperial: the border crossings of Mauritz Stiller -- Garbo talks! Scandinavians, the talkie revolution, and the crisis of foreign voice -- Charlie Chan is Swedish: the Asian racial masquerades and Nordic otherness of Warner Oland -- Two-faced women: Hollywood's and Third Reich cinema's war for the Nordic female star. Sommario/riassunto Nordic Exposures explores how Scandinavian whiteness and ethnicity functioned in classical Hollywood cinema between and during the two world wars. Scandinavian identities could seem mutable and constructed at moments, while at other times they were deployed as representatives of an essential, biological, and natural category. As Northern European Protestants, Scandinavian immigrants and emigres assimilated into the mainstream rights and benefits of white American identity with comparatively few barriers or obstacles. Yet Arne Lunde demonstrates that far from simply manifesting a normative unmarked

whiteness, Scandinavianness in mass-immigration America and in Hollywood cinema of the twentieth century could be hyperwhite, provisionally off-white, or not even white at all. Lunde investigates key silent films, such as Technicolor's The Viking (1928), Victor Sjostrom's He Who Gets Slapped (1924), and Mauritz Stiller's Hotel Imperial (1927). The crises of Scandinavian foreign voice and the talkie

revolution are explored in Greta Garbo's first sound film, Anna Christie (1930). The author also examines Warner Oland's long career of Asian racial masquerade (most famously as Chinese detective Charlie Chan), as well as Hollywood's and Third Reich Cinema's war over assimilating the Nordic female star in the personae of Garbo, Sonja Henie, Ingrid Bergman, Kristina Soderbaum, and Zarah Leander.