

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910824385703321
Titolo	Physical characteristics of early films as aids to identification // edited by Camille Blot-Wellens
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Brussels, Belgium : , : FIAF, , [2020] ©2020
ISBN	0-906973-63-5
Edizione	[Second edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (339 pages)
Disciplina	777.38
Soggetti	Motion picture film - Analysis Motion picture producers and directors
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Some Historical References.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
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## Sommario/riassunto

"Any archivists who have held a piece of film in their hands, wondering how to go about identifying it, recognize the true value of film preservationist Harold Brown's work. In 1967 Brown delivered a pioneering lecture on the identification of early films at the annual Congress of the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAP) in East Berlin. In 1990, FIAF published Brown's 'Physical Characteristics of Early Films as Aids to Identification', an updated version and a continuation of his 1967 lecture. This publication has long been archivists' trusted companion, constituting a concentrated encyclopedia on all the information that can be discovered or verified through aspects of the film other than the actual projected image - such as perforation shapes; embossed and punched marks; stock manufacturers' and producers' edge marks; frame characteristics; title styles; and production serial numbers. It also included essays on key individual production companies of the silent era. Over the last 30 years, this manual has been an invaluable reference for film archivists and scholars. However, as Brown himself acknowledged in the 1990 edition, the manual was far from definitive. Camille Blot-Wellens, the editor of this new, expanded edition of Brown's 1990 book, belongs to the new generation of researchers who have used Physical Characteristics extensively in their work and have gathered considerable new information on the subject. This new edition is the result of a project she initiated in 2014 with FIAF's support. Brown's original text is now augmented with new original research on key film manufacturers and producers by Camille Blot-Wellens and other leading archivists and researchers in the field."--Publisher's description

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