

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910826369403321
Autore	Spadoni Robert <1964->
Titolo	Uncanny bodies : the coming of sound film and the origins of the horror genre // Robert Spadoni
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2007
ISBN	0-520-94070-9 1-281-38562-X 9786611385620 1-4356-5365-3
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (204 p.)
Disciplina	791.43/6164
Soggetti	Horror films - United States - History and criticism Sound motion pictures - 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 (p. 163-177) and index. Includes filmography: p. 179-181.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- INTRODUCTION -- 1. The Uncanny Body of Early Sound Film -- 2. Ludicrous Objects, Textualized Responses -- 3. The Mystery of Dracula -- 4. Dracula as Uncanny Theater -- 5 Frankenstein and the Vats of Hollywood -- CONCLUSION -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Films Cited -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In 1931 Universal Pictures released Dracula and Frankenstein, two films that inaugurated the horror genre in Hollywood cinema. These films appeared directly on the heels of Hollywood's transition to sound film. Uncanny Bodies argues that the coming of sound inspired more in these massively influential horror movies than screams, creaking doors, and howling wolves. A close examination of the historical reception of films of the transition period reveals that sound films could seem to their earliest viewers unreal and ghostly. By comparing this audience impression to the first sound horror films, Robert Spadoni makes a case for understanding film viewing as a force that can powerfully shape both the minutest aspects of individual films and the broadest sweep of film production trends, and for seeing aftereffects of the temporary weirdness of sound film deeply etched in the basic character

of one of our most enduring film genres.
