1. Record Nr. UNINA9910148852203321 Autore Skweres Artur Titolo Homo Ludens as a Comic Character in Selected American Films / / by Artur Skweres Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Springer,, Pubbl/distr/stampa 2017 **ISBN** 9783319479675 Edizione [1st ed. 2017.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (XVIII, 97 p. 20 illus.) Collana Issues in Literature and Culture, , 2365-9688 791.43617 Disciplina Soggetti Art - Study and teaching Motion pictures, American Creativity and Arts Education American Film and TV Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters. Nota di bibliografia Comic Character as Homo Ludens -- Agon in Groundhog Day and Feds Nota di contenuto -- Alea in Spies Like Us, Bowfinger, Taking Care of Business, and Brewster's Millions -- Mimicry in ¡Three Amigos!, Austin Powers, and HouseSitter -- Ilinx in Rush Hour and Showtime -- Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto This book reveals the hitherto critically disregarded ludic elements in popular American comedy films, building on and expanding the theories developed by Johan Huizinga in his classic study Homo Ludens (1938) and Roger Caillois in Les jeux et les hommes (1958). To address the lack of attention paid to the play principle in film comedy studies, this book focuses exclusively on the elements typical of play that can be found in movies. It introduces two new categories describing play: óneiros and pragma, which allow analysis of how play in comedies is influenced by the relations between the player and non-players. The text is supplemented by the use of the author's drawings, which, because of their analytical and selective nature, are used as a tool for visual study. The play principle has a long tradition in American humor and the films examined here were chosen for their popularity and wide appeal, often acting as vehicles for Hollywood stars (e.g.Chevy Chase, Dan Aykroyd, Bill Murray, Steve Martin, Eddie Murphy, Goldie Hawn,

Mike Myers, Jackie Chan or Chris Tucker). The actors' status allowed

the filmmakers to construct situations in which the protagonists distanced themselves from the fictional situation. It is argued that the playful detachment from reality, typifying many of the fictional characters portrayed by actors with star status, is characteristic of the play principle in film. Another major consideration is the hotly debated notion of the accomplishment of goals in playful activities, and the book strongly supports the position that in narratives, play can (but does not have to) yield important results. The introduction of the categories of óneiros and pragma in play serves to highlight the complex relation between playfulness and practicality in the films discussed. Building on a comprehensive analysis of the ludic elements in selected popular American comedies, the book makes an important contribution to film studies, providing a unique perspective through its focus on the concept of homo ludens as a comic hero.

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Autore Small Robin <1944->

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Absolute becoming -- From becoming to time -- The time-atom theory -- Motion, ways, and time -- Gateway and lanes -- Linear and circular time -- The eternal perspective -- The way of greatness Preface -- Introduction -- 1. Absolute Becoming -- 2. From Becoming to Time -- 3. The Time-Atom Theory -- 4. Motion, Ways and Time -- 5. Gateway and Lanes -- 6. Linear and Circular Time -- 7. The Eternal Perspective -- 8. The Way of Greatness -- Bibliography -- Index

Puzzles about time - about past, present and future, and the nature of becoming - have concerned philosophers from the ancient Greeks to the present day. Yet few have been as radical in their thinking as Friedrich Nietzsche. Time and Becoming in Nietzsche's Thought explores Nietzsche's approach to temporality, showing that his metaphorical and literary presentations lend themselves, in surprising detail, to the debates that have engaged other thinkers. Like Heraclitus, Nietzsche is a philosopher of becoming who sees reality as a continual flow of change. Time is an interpretation of becoming, designed to enable its tensions and fluctuations to be grasped conceptually by our minds. From this starting point, Robin Small explores the emergence of sharply contrasting models of temporality which express differing forms of life. The book concludes with a return to Nietzsche's Dionysian vision of playful participation in becoming as a never-ending creation and destruction. Time and Becoming in Nietzsche's Thought reveals Nietzsche as a major contributor to our thinking about temporality and its significance for human life.