

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996208535203316
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Titolo	Jean Desmet and the early Dutch film trade / / Ivo Blom ; [translated by James Lynn] [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam : , : Amsterdam University Press, , 2003
ISBN	1-280-95878-2 9786610958788 90-485-0509-7 0-585-49641-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (472 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Film culture in transition
Disciplina	791.43/092
Soggetti	Motion pictures - Netherlands - History Motion pictures - Netherlands - Distribution
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 15 Jan 2021).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [437]-451) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Table of Contents -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- Unidentified Films -- Historical Currencies -- Introduction -- I. La Comète Belge -- II. In the Beginning... -- III. Gold Rush -- IV. Film Market Europe -- V. White Slave Girls and German Kultur -- VI. Onésime et Son Collègue -- VII. Das Ende vom Lied -- VIII. Quo Vadis? -- IX. Afterlife -- X. In Retrospect -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Photo credits -- Index of Film Titles -- General Index
Sommario/riassunto	The Netherlands Film Museum's Desmet Collection contains the estate of Dutch cinema owner and film distributor Jean Desmet (1875-1956): almost nine hundred European and American films of all genres, a collection of publicity material, and a massive business archive. These three sources form the basis of this book, the first comprehensive reconstruction of Desmet's career. From his nomadic beginnings as a traveling showman to his successful switch to permanent cinema operation and film distribution, Blom shows how Desmet's fortunes encapsulated a series of structural changes within the new culture of the cinema.