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PRESS RELEASE

From “Mutter Krause” to “Dr. Mabuse”.
Movie stills like they’ve never been seen before.
Taken from the greatest films of the Weimar Republic.
***Licht und Schatten* – a superlative film book.**

The German cinema of the Weimar Republic (1918–1933), and especially the silent films and early talkies of the era, played a vital role in the visual arts of the 20th century. Movies like *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, *Nosferatu*, *The Golem*, *Metropolis*, *Pandora’s Box*, *The Blue Angel*, and *M* long set the international standard of cinematic modes of expression with their powerful imagery.

With the aid of technical innovations and masterly dramatic composition, thoughts and emotions, futuristic visions and contemporary history were transformed into moving images that were not without impact on the other visual arts.

This book compiles the most aesthetic and interesting still images from 72 of the most important film productions and thereby provides an account of filmmaking during the entire epoch. The spectrum of fascinating fictional characters ranges from the diligent “Mutter Krause” to the unscrupulous “Dr. Mabuse.” The array of character actors and actresses ranges from Conrad Veidt to Heinz Rühmann and from Pola Negri to Marlene Dietrich and Louise Brooks.

Hitler’s rise to power in 1933 put an end to what was probably the most exciting chapter in German cinematic history: directors, screenwriters, cameramen, actresses and actors were forced to emigrate in droves. They carried their skill, their visual ideas, and their tradition with them to Hollywood, whence they conveyed them to the world.

Hans Helmut Prinzler, former director of the Deutsche Kinemathek Berlin, selected and compiled the images and films for this book. His observations and the plethora of images transform this book into an encyclopedia and movie guide that visually reveals to the reader the innovativeness and great star potential of German cinema of the time.

What were once lobby photos for advertising purposes are now, years later, museum pieces. We have printed this precious pictorial material in exceptionally high quality, making this book a feast for the eyes that will appeal to a broad audience.

Further information:

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Hans Helmut Prinzler
LICHT UND SCHATTEN
Die großen Stumm- und Tonfilme
der Weimarer Republik
335 film stills from “Mutter Krause”
to “Dr. Mabuse”
308 pages with 443 illustrations
ISBN 978-3-8296-0588-5
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