Fred Astaire (Icons of America)



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著者:Joseph Epstein

出版者:Yale University Press

出版时间:2009-10-06

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780300158441

Joseph Epstein's "Fred Astaire" investigates the great dancer's magical talent, taking up the story of his life, his personality, his work habits, his modest pretensions, and above all his accomplishments. Written with the wit and grace the subject deserves, "Fred Astaire" provides a remarkable portrait of this extraordinary artist and how he came to embody for Americans a fantasy of easy elegance and, more complicatedly, of democratic aristocracy. Tracing Astaire's life from his birth in Omaha to his death in his late eighties in Hollywood, the book discusses his early days with his talented and outspoken sister Adele, his gifts as a singer (Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, and Jerome Kern all delighted in composing for Astaire), and his many movie dance partners, among them Rita Hayworth, Eleanor Powell, Cyd Charisse, and Betty Hutton. A key chapter of the book is devoted to Astaire's somewhat unwilling partnership with Ginger Rogers, the woman with whom he danced most dazzlingly of all. What emerges from these pages is a fascinating view of an American era, seen through the accomplishments of Fred Astaire, an unassuming but perfectionist performer who transformed entertainment into art and gave America a new and yet enduring standard for style.

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评论

读之前以为是biography,结果读完才发现就是一本criticism,作者是一位知名学者,全书都是他自己的分析和观点,从各方面着手,也引用了很多书和其他名人。【分析他长相和身材的那一章节好扯啊呵呵。。隐隐觉得作者是kelly黑唉\(~o~)Y

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