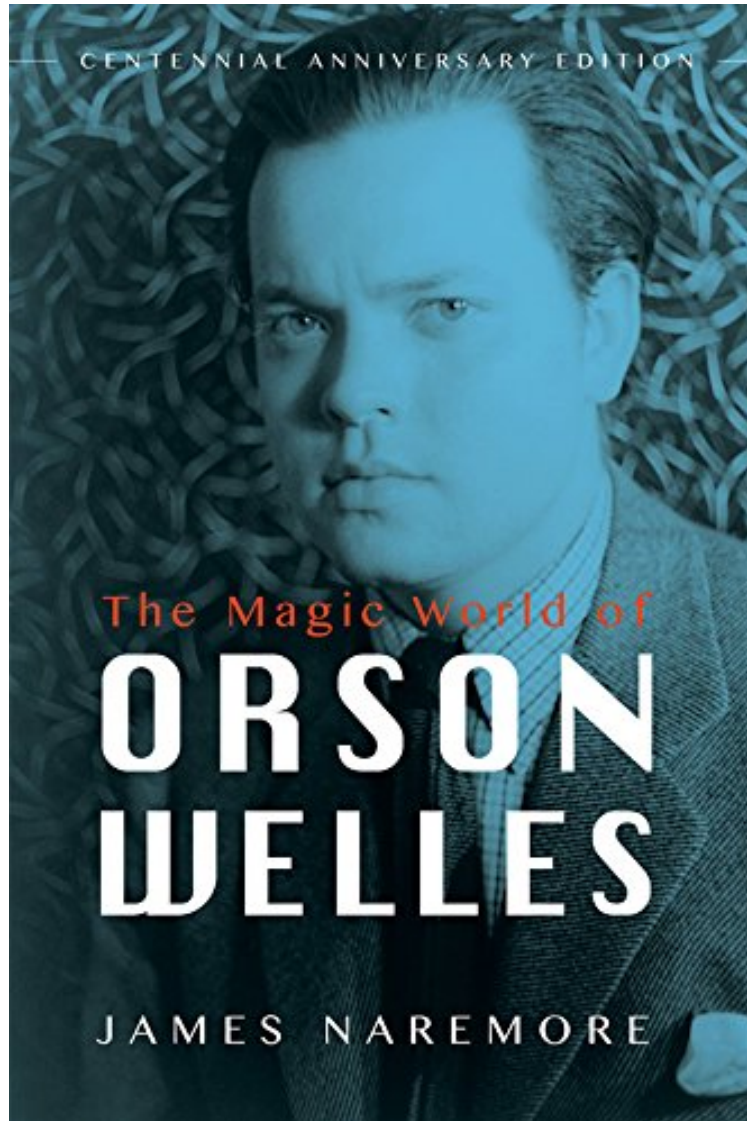


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The Magic World of Orson Welles

James Naremore

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James Naremore : The Magic World of Orson Welles before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Magic World of Orson Welles:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. The best critical study of WellesBy Joseph McBrideIt's good to see a new updated edition of James Naremore's classic study of Orson Welles -- the best critical study of Welles ever written. There are some revisions and a thoughtful new introduction, "Orson Welles at 100." Naremore has a way of getting to essential aspects of Welles's staggeringly complex career and analyzing them in depth. He deals with aspects often slighted, such as Welles's keen interests in politics and education (some of the leads to these topics were revealed by Welles's FBI file, which Naremore managed to get released). I'd recommend this new edition to anyone interested

in Welles, including those who have read the two earlier editions. I've been rereading older parts with pleasure. A good book has that way of inviting you to return and remember and discover. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Engaging and Entertaining. By Amber L. An amazing book that does not try and make a case for Welles's genius, but let's the historical facts do all the talking. Naremore has collected the best sources and information to craft a biography that not only engages on a narrative level, but constantly challenges the reader to form their own opinions on the man who was Orson Welles. 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The full Welles By Dr. Reneacute; Codoni Naremore-Welles (1989) James Naremore : The Magic World of Orson Welles Southern Methodist, 1989, new and revised (first OUP, 1978) For the first time in history, Sight Sound, the monthly magazine of the slightly eclectic British Film Institute, has voted Citizen Kane (1941) No. 2, switching place with Hitchcock's Vertigo (1958), which is now No. 1 (191 against 157 votes) of the World's 50 best films of all times (past, of course). This statement says a few devastating things about ranking in general, and about datedness no problem for top rankers. In my judgment, this particular ranking is too wide in spread (over 100 years) and too narrow in sample. That it also elected Jean-Luc Godard four times and Francis Ford Coppola with three best films further ridicules the approach. Welles, whatever anybody votes, to me remains clearly a more interesting filmmaker, not unlike Hitchcock, who is also using much sophisticated camera work, but Welles is altogether more innovative, with more real drama than the calculated thrillers Hitchcock offers. In a way, they are both history, where they managed to attract crowds. Hitchcock today is as much as easier as he always was: films all available on dvd, always. Welles had many parallel careers, as actor also, as a Shakespearean director and actor, as a narrator, and an author of many amounts of filmed material. He also liked working in Europa, where he is still considered the top authority on film language and camera work. Of all of Welles' works, I myself concentrate on five: Citizen Kane, The Lady from Shanghai, The Third Man (actor only), Touch of evil, The trial. Naremore's book analyses four (less the Third Man), but of course all the others as well. As the disparate pieces of Welles's work can not be bridged easily, it is analytically easier to concentrate on a selection (as Brecht would likely have done). His strength on Shakespeare makes Naremore (who was Professor of English next to film) a natural on the subject - I find it belongs more to the theatre. Analytical skill is clearly spent on not so important matters - getting all Welles under one hat may be felt to be an obligation to the reader, but the price is too high and the result too meager. Still makes it four out of five. fbuser81 - Naremore-Welles (1989) - The full Welles - 19 December 2012

Prodigy. Iconoclast. Genius. Exile. Orson Welles remains one of the most discussed figures in cinematic history. In the centenary year of Welles's birth, James Naremore presents a revised third edition of this incomparable study, including a new section on the unfinished film *The Other Side of the Wind*. Naremore analyzes the political and psychological implications of the films, Welles's idiosyncratic style, and the biographical details--both playful and vexing--that impacted each work. Itself a historic film study, *The Magic World of Orson Welles* unlocks the soaring art and quixotic methods of a master.

"The most perceptive study of Welles's art.--Andrew Sarris "Naremore's book, with its wealth of background and close commentary, is certainly the best study of Welles."--Tag Gallagher, *Film Comment* "The Magic of Orson Welles remains one of the important works that notes the frisson the world experienced with him."--afterimage nbsp;