

Scandals and Follies: The Rise and Fall of the Great Broadway Revue



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SCANDALS AND FOLLIES: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE GREAT BROADWAY REVUE



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Limelight Editions, 2000. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: From the 1920s through the 40s, theatre seasons would have been incomplete, & possibly insolvent, without their constantly replenished supply of Broadway revues. They evolved from the rich turn-of-the-century tradition of burlesque, minstrel shows & spectacles, & they combined slapstick & satire with abundant chorus girls, music & opulence to reflect & comment upon the ever-changing styles & values of their times. & whether George White's Scandals or Ziegfeld Follies, whether Little Shows or Passing Shows, they introduced to the world such immortals as Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, Al Jolson, Will Rogers, Jack Benny, Fred Allen, Sophie Tucker, Helen Morgan, Fanny Brice, Fred Astaire, Ethel Waters, Bert Lahr & Bob Hope--to name but a few. What would the last century have been like without them? All of the legendary talents, as well as the fabulous, often outrageous impresarios who brought them to Broadway, are revisited in Lee Davis's bountifully illustrated, superbly researched trip through time. The journey begins in the 1900s, marked by Florenz Ziegfeld's Follies of 1907, the first of an eventual 22 editions. Other producers were soon drawn to the revue, which after World War I reached new heights of popularity as its zaniness & spectacle became funhouse mirrors to the Jazz Age itself. In the decade that followed, starkly different in character, much of the madness & extravagance was replaced with social satire & political comment, but the momentary escape revues continued to provide what was perhaps treasured even more than before. With the coming of World War II, when escapism blended with patriotism & restraint, the traditional revue form had entered its final phase. Soon its glory, glamour & glitz were dimmed by the ubiquitous light of the...



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