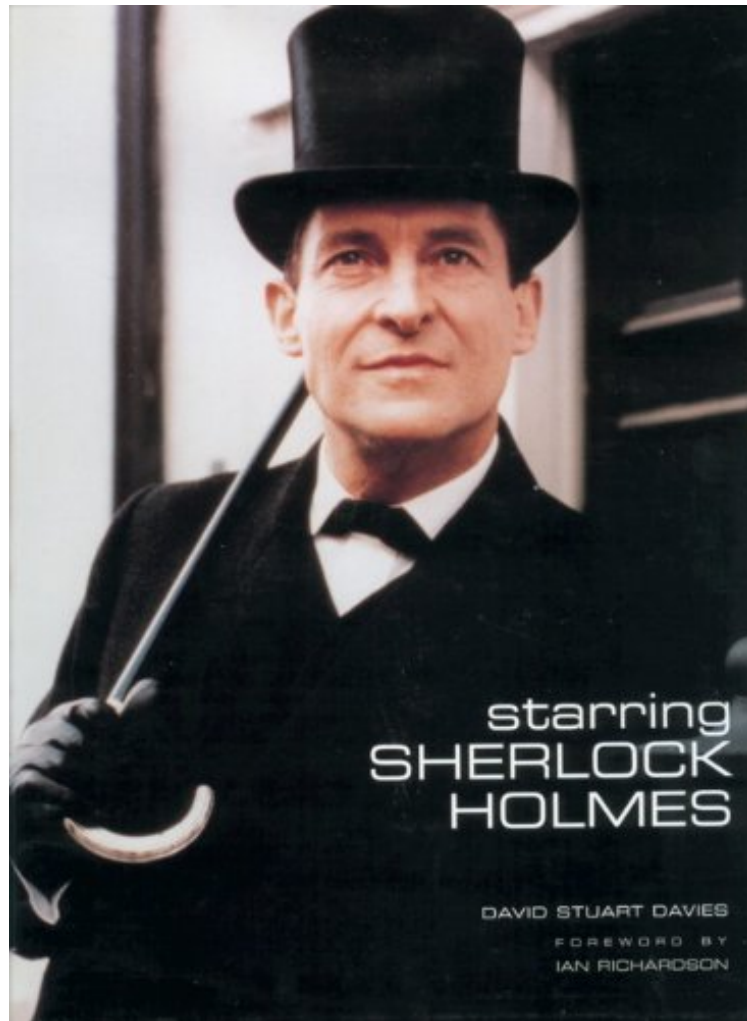


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Starring Sherlock Holmes: A Century of the Master Detective on Screen

David Stuart Davies

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David Stuart Davies : Starring Sherlock Holmes: A Century of the Master Detective on Screen before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Starring Sherlock Holmes: A Century of the Master Detective on Screen:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Good Reference for Sherlock Holmes FansBy RDDIn "Starring Sherlock Holmes: A Century of the Master Detective on Screen", David Stuart Davies, author of six Sherlock Holmes novels, examines the Master Detective from his earliest film appearance in the one-minute-long "Sherlock Holmes Baffled" (1900) by American Mutoscope and Bioscope Company through the 2007 television serial "Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars". Though Davies focuses primarily on American and British films, he does not leave

out various silent-era films, comic takes on Holmes, foreign films, and cartoons. Davies spends the most time examining the Basil Rathbone film series and Jeremy Brett television series, perhaps the two most authoritative screen versions of Holmes and the ones that had the greatest influence. Davies briefly summarizes each of the films, examining how those based on Conan Doyle's original stories adapted that material or how films borrowed elements from previous adaptations of the same stories. He also critically appraises the different screen adaptations, presenting either his own opinion supported with film critics' thoughts or, when this is not possible as in the case of several early films, he quotes from contemporary reviews. Davies discusses several boom periods in popularity for the Great Detective and modern readers will find parallels to the recent resurgence that led to the Robert Downey, Jr. films, the television series "Sherlock" and "Elementary", and the Ian McKellen film. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent Sherlock Holmes reference work By Locksley - lover of truth These are deep waters, Watson, but David Stuart Davies' book is superb, just about the best of the Sherlock Holmes in media books. Although he too often writes in British slang terms not that well known in the States, the amount of research he's devoted to the subject is astounding. Although I noticed he is unaware of one or two minor points, and he makes a couple of inferences which are not accurate, "Starring Sherlock Holmes" is a tremendously enjoyable reference work. If you enjoy Holmes on the big or small screen - or even on radio - do not fail to get ahold of this book! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book By Brewski2010 I enjoyed the book very much. I received it in a timely manner. I am new to Sherlock Holmes and I had no idea how many movies had been made featuring this wonderful character.

Sherlock Holmes has been portrayed on screen more often than any other character in history, and this stunning book is the definitive illustrated guide to the films and television series featuring the master detective. Every Sherlock Holmes film and TV series is covered (including foreign and lesser known productions), from the silent movies, through the portrayals of Basil Rathbone and Peter Cushing, to the Jeremy Brett television series and beyond. Illustrated with stills, posters, lobby cards and behind-the-scenes shots, including much rare, previously unpublished material, and also covering the stage and radio works, Holmes world and Conan Doyle himself, this is simply a must for any fan!

From Publishers Weekly British Holmes expert Davies has updated the original 2001 edition of his comprehensive, copiously illustrated look at the film and TV portrayals of the great detective. As such, this is a must-have for die-hard Sherlockians, though film students and others may fault the author for not having done a better job of balancing breadth with depth. There are interesting tidbits and trivia throughout, starting with the earliest known Holmes film, *Sherlock Holmes Baffled* (1900), which ran for less than a minute. Davies intersperses his chronological survey of the films with chapters on such topics as Dr. Watson, prominent actors in the Holmes role (most notably Basil Rathbone and Jeremy Brett), and radio adaptations. Some might wish for more comparative analysis of, say, the many (mostly unsuccessful) efforts to translate *The Hound of the Baskervilles* to film. In addition, given that the last serious Holmes movie, *Murder by Decree*, appeared in 1979, more discussion of why such a staple of the cinema has fallen on hard times would have been welcome. Finally, in a page devoted to unmade films, Davies (*Sherlock Holmes and the Scroll of the Dead*) devotes disproportionate space to his own pastiches. Still, those who fondly remember Chris Steinbrunner's classic *The Films of Sherlock Holmes* (1978) will find much to like. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Slickly presented ...the text itself is satisfyingly thorough. A genuine pleasure to browse through, this truly is a class act. -- *Film* 1 October 2001 Well-researched ... A hugely enjoyable read from end to end. Undoubtedly one of the best Sherlock tomes. -- *Total Film* magazine 1 October 2001 About the Author David Stuart Davies is one of Britain's leading Sherlockian writers. He was the editor of *Sherlock Holmes The Detective Magazine*, and is the author of several Holmes novels, the hit play *Sherlock Holmes: The Last Act*, and an acclaimed biography of Jeremy Brett. He is also an advisor to Granada Studios Sherlock Holmes museum, and he contributed commentaries to the DVD releases of the Basil Rathbone Holmes films.