Contents

- 1. A Survey, 3
- 2. The Beginnings, 16
- 3. The Birth of Film Grammar, 30
- 4. The Early Features, 54
- 5. Griffith and The Birth of a Nation, 72
- 6. Intolerance, 90
- 7. Stabilization, 100
- 8. The Art of the Sub-Title, 126
- 9. The Directors, 142
- 10. The Early Twenties, 150
- 11. Griffith in the Twenties, 177
- 12. The Mid-1920's: The New Dominance of the Female Star, 194
- 13. Genres, 205
- 14. The Western, 238
- 15. Comedy, 260
- 16. The Peak Years, 281
- 17. Art Direction and Production Design, 299
- 18. European Influences, 317
- 19. Transition to Sound: Early Talkies, 334

Appendix. The State of Film Scholarship in America— The Silent Film: Books, Films, Archives, and Other Reference Tools, 349

Chronology. The Movies in America: Art and Industry– A Chronological Survey of Highlights of the Silent Period, 367 Index, 375