

Table of contents

I BUILDING AN EMPIRE

- 13 When Gaumont made photographic equipment
- 15 The cinématographe arrives
- 17 Alice Guy first woman film director
- 19 First in color
- 21 A show at the Gaumont Palace
- 23 The Feuillade legacy
- 25 From Bout de Zan to Fantômas
- 27 The Elgé complex
- 29 Judex creates the "Union Sacrée"
- 31 The Pax collection
- 33 Outside France
- 35 News from America

II THE CRISIS YEARS

- 39 Talking pictures
- 41 Cinemas convert to sound
- 43 Europe's largest cinema
- 45 A turn to the exotic
- 47 *Le Chaland qui Passe*
- 49 1936: The cinema goes on strike
- 51 Documentaries

III FROM GERMAN OCCUPATION TO THE FIFTH REPUBLIC

- 55 Producing in spite of all
- 57 Escapist entertainment
- 59 *Beauty and the Beast*
- 61 Winner at Cannes
- 63 Carol and Caroline
- 65 From Guitry to Bresson

IV FROM SCOOTERS TO MULTIPLEXES

- 69 New Wave
- 71 The small screen
- 73 Comedy à la carte
- 75 The end of an era

V THE DAISY AT ONE-HUNDRED

- 79 International ambitions
- 81 Discovering new auteurs
- 83 A catalog for all types of audiences
- 85 From Pagnol to Godard
- 87 Italian incursion
- 89 Popular entertainment
- 91 Multiplexes and Gaumontrama
- 93 Beineix and Besson
- 95 Hitting the jackpot with *The Visitors*

DOCUMENTS

- 98 Alice Guy, the woman at Gaumont from the beginning
- 102 The Great War and the first newsreels
- 108 When the filmgoers protest
- 112 Producing today
- 116 Gaumont theater circuit
- 118 Chronology
- 119 Further reading
- 119 List of illustrations
- 121 Index of films produced or distributed by Gaumont
- 126 Index
- 127 Photograph credits and acknowledgments