
THE SILENT CLOWNS

Part One The Silent Camera

1. The Pickford Paradox and the Choice of Silence 2
2. The Unique Experience 9
3. The Fact in the Fantasy 15
4. The Fantasy in the Fact 24
5. Fantasy Intensified: Music and the Dancing Image 32
6. Serious Film: The Disadvantages of Silence 39

Part Two Comedy Reborn

7. Comedy in Search of Its Freedom 50
8. Sennett: The Insensitive Master Carpenter 61
9. Chaplin: An Outline Becomes a Character 74
10. Chaplin: Playfulness Unleashed 86
11. Harold Lloyd: Hard Work 98
12. The Roach Lot: A Bit More Method in the Madness 108
13. An Inquisitive Keaton and a Generous Arbuckle 117
14. The Keaton "No" 127
15. Keaton: Exploring the Gap Between Life and Lens 135
16. The Keaton Curve: A Study in Cooperation 143
17. Some Imperfect Fools 151

Part Three The Struggle Toward Maturity

- 18. The Risks of Length and Complexity:
Chaplin Takes the Plunge 160**
- 19. The Chaplin Breakthrough: Making Seriousness Funny 170**
- 20. Chaplin Betwixt and Between 181**
- 21. Lloyd: The Virtuous Filmmaking of the Virtuous American 190**
- 22. Lloyd: Architect of Sympathy 203**
- 23. The Keaton Quiet 211**
- 24. Keaton as Film 225**
- 25. Keaton: The Girl and the Grave 236**
- 26. Two Epics 246**
- 27. Who Was Harry Langdon? 262**
- 28. Langdon: Creating an Ambiguity 270**
- 29. Langdon: The Ambiguity Dissolves 279**
- 30. The Demiclowns 288**
- 31. The Unexpected Raymond Griffith 298**
- 32. Missing Film 309**

Part Four The Twilight Dance

- 33. Laurel and Hardy: The First Turnaround 318**
- 34. Laurel and Hardy: The Saving Turnaround 329**
- 35. The Transition, After and Just Before:
A Self-conscious Chaplin 336**
- 36. Chaplin Confronts Himself 344**
- 37. The End Without an Ending: Chaplin Defines The Road 353**
- Photo Sources 367 Index 369**