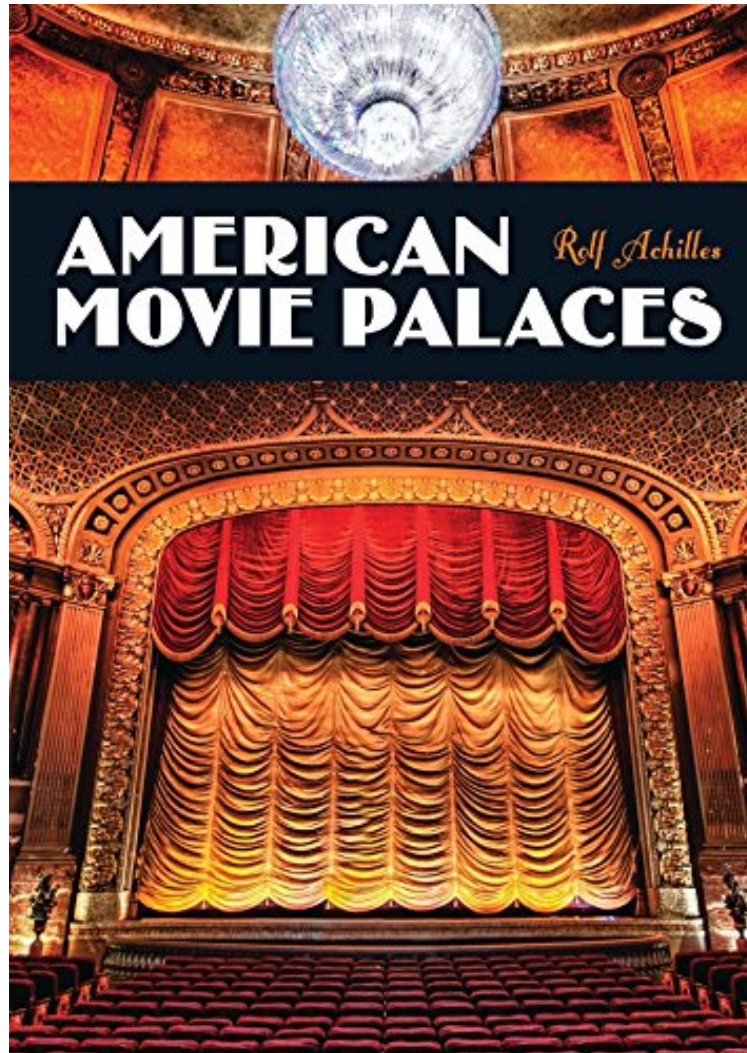


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## American Movie Palaces (Shire Library USA)

*Rolf Achilles*

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**Rolf Achilles : American Movie Palaces (Shire Library USA)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Movie Palaces (Shire Library USA):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No proofreading. Wrong information. Alternative factsBy C. CarloDidn't anyone proofread this book? It is so full of errata to be laughable. What's not funny is that some readers will take the printed world as factual. Speaking only regarding the Chicago Theatres: page 8 - The State Lake terra cotta "only hints at what is inside". there's no theatre inside! It was ton out by NBC studios to make a TV theatre for Oprah Winfrey Page 125 -The New Regal was never called the Alhambra. It was built as the Avalon. Page 40 - "The Bohemian Crystal looks French but was made in Chicago"... WRONG! The Victor Pearlman Company did the fixtures for Rap Rapp in the 1920. There were originally two Pearlman Chandeliers in the Chicago Theatre's lobby. This

abomination of a Marie Therese crystal chandelier was put in the theatre in 1993 from a warehouse in Cleveland. It doesn't even hang in the center of the lobby. This one hangs off-center from the hole nearest the staircase overlook. Page 41 - "The marquee [sic] announces the Oriental to be in a skyscraper": The VERTICAL sign is brand new. The original vertical went missing decades ago and Balaban Katz style was a three story electric bulbed sign-board. The author uses the term "faux" over and over in the Oriental descriptions. Faux what? Faux plaster? If the information on the rest of the theatres covered in this book are as bad as the data on the Chicago theatres, don't waste \$10 on it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Introduction to the Picture Palace By James D. Held A lot briefer than expected, but a really nice overview of the movie palace world for beginners looking for basic information about some of the great picture palaces of the golden age. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. small size By chuck Enjoyed the book but was disappointed by how small it was. Movie palaces are visually stimulating which is hard to appreciate in such a tiny book.

Beginning with the Nickelodeons and penny arcades in the 1890s, the American movie theater evolved as films did, in sophistication and mass appeal, reaching new heights in architecture, decor and glamour by the 1920s and 30s. This book is the story of the American Movie Palace and how the emergence of great films and cinema stars and the experience of movie-going itself led to the wildly imaginative fantasy styles recalling Egyptian temples, Chinese pagodas and Italian villages. The book identifies the main styles of decoration and gives fascinating detail on the brilliant and daring architects and designers who built them. In an era when film exposed millions of Americans, for the first time, to a vast fantasy land of new and heightened emotions brought on by thrilling action and adventure and romance beyond their wildest dreams, movie theaters of the Golden Age of film were, indeed, awe-inspiring palaces which set the stage and were a perfect reflection for something very special that was about to happen on screen.

About the Author Rolf Achilles is an independent art historian who lives and works in Chicago, and has written and lectured extensively on Chicago's culture and architecture. Rolf is active on several Boards and teaches aspects of Historic Preservation and Art History at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He also consults extensively on sacred spaces, curates exhibitions, and is the founding Curator of the Smith Museum of Stained Glass Windows.