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Ziegfeld and His Follies: A Biography of Broadway's Greatest Producer

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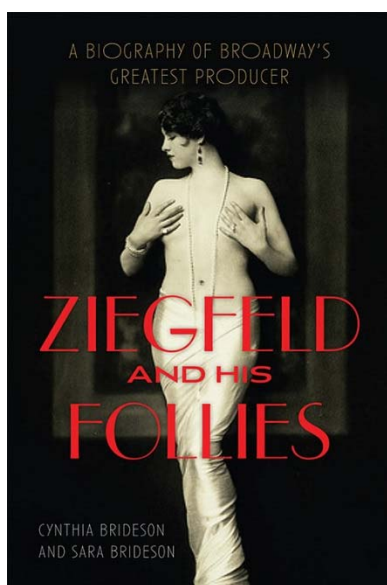
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University Librarian for Organizational Development. She was previously the Human Resources Librarian at University of North Carolina - Greensboro. In her new role, she is responsible for strategic leadership and planning for the development, implementation and assessment of the Libraries' overall design; its faculty and staff. She analyzes organizational data and advise senior leadership on strategies for strengthening organizational culture and effectiveness. Finally, she develops and implements professional and faculty development programs and policies for library faculty and serves as chief advisory and administrative contract for matters related to faculty promotion and promotion policy.

BOOK REVIEWS

Ziegfeld and His Follies: A Biography of Broadway's Greatest Producer. Cynthia Brideson and Sara Brideson. Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, 2015. ISBN 978-0-8131-6088-7. \$38.00.



The stunning success about producer Florenz Ziegfeld Jr., his intriguing life, his renowned Follies and his other fascinating productions are covered in this text. The book is also one of the Screen Classics, a series about silent films and Hollywood past and present. Another marvelous book by the authors Cynthia and Sara Brideson is *Also Starring...Forty Biographical Essays on the Greatest Character Actors of Hollywood's Golden Era 1930-1965* discussing several actors and actresses born in the south and films set in the south. A theatrical performance produced by Ziegfeld *Kid Boots* featured Eddie Cantor as a caddie for golf in Palm Beach, Florida. Mary Eaton born in Norfolk, Virginia starred in *Kid Boots*. Ziegfeld's best production in 1927 was *Show Boat* involving a show boat of Mississippi. A famous tune sung by Jules Bledsoe in *Show Boat* is "Ol' Man River" regarding the Mississippi

River. At times, Ziegfeld, his wife Billie Burke, and their daughter Patricia lived in Palm Beach, Florida.

The writing style is enchanting and flows beautifully. It is a book hard to stop reading. The content is magnificent revealing the gloriously brilliant Ziegfeld, his loved ones, and his dazzling beautiful entertainment. Seventy-nine black and white photographs with data below describing the photographs fantastically enhance the discussion of Ziegfeld and his family, friends, workers, and places associated with Ziegfeld. The lovely black and white book cover of a female Ziegfeld Follies performer dressed elegantly catches the reader's attention. The perceived interest to the readership of the journal *Southeastern Librarian* is impeccable because of the extensive investigation of the legendary Ziegfeld and his miraculous shows presented so splendidly. Ziegfeld's life was wonderful living in elegance like the lovely Hotel Ansonia and his wife Billie Burke's mansion Burkley Crest. Celebrated people associated with Ziegfeld explained are Eugen Sandow, Will Rogers, Fanny Brice, W.C. Fields, Paulette Goddard, Jimmy Durante, Edna May Oliver, Billie Burke, Marilyn Miller, Eddie Cantor, Mary Eaton, Irving Berlin, William Randolph Hearst and his mistress Marion Davies, Lillian Lorraine, Anna Held, Olive Thomas, Barbara Stanwyck, Frank Morgan, Jerome Kern, Fred Astaire, Helen Morgan, and George Gershwin. Superstars in movies highlighting Ziegfeld and in movies of his theatrical shows mentioned are Barbara Streisand, Walter Pidgeon, Ava Gardner, Irene Dunne, William Powell, Howard Keel, Kathryn Grayson, and Myrna Loy.

Appendix: Shows Produced and Coproduced by Florenz Ziegfeld Jr. "states Ziegfeld produced the Ziegfeld Follies from 1907-1925, 1927, and 1931. Ziegfeld made eighty seven Broadway shows. The appendix also notes four Ziegfeld Follies were produced after his death in 1934, 1936, 1943, and 1957. According to the appendix, Ziegfeld made two films "Glorifying the American Girl" and "Whoopee!" The appendix discloses in 1932 and 1936 radio programs "Ziegfeld Follies of the Air" occurred. The appendix supplies descriptions of the shows. The great Florenz Ziegfeld Jr. passed away on July 22, 1932. Conclusively, this masterpiece on the gorgeous accomplishments of Florenz Ziegfeld Jr. is perfect for academic and public libraries. The recommended audience is researchers of theatre, Broadway, theatrical producers, and Florenz Ziegfeld Jr. and his amazing achievements.

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