“An interesting take on Hollywood studio-era history that challenges the narrow focus of existing scholarship and revises familiar perceptions of Warner Bros. The focus on acting and performance usefully opens up the relationship between theatre and cinema, and the impact of Broadway on film acting and studio working practices in the crucial period of the transition to synchronised sound. Highly recommended as a valuable contribution to the area of acting and performance studies.”

—Pam Cook, Professor Emerita in Film, University of Southampton, UK. Editor of The Cinema Book (Third Edition, 2007) and author of Nicole Kidman (2012)

“This book is a fascinating account of the creative symbiosis between stage and screen at a crucial juncture in Hollywood’s history. Shingler’s fully historicized and contextualized account revises what Warner Bros stood for and achieved with its prestige pictures and stars. By interweaving the histories of early sound technologies, Broadway’s acting traditions and the economic imperatives of studio filmmaking, this book highlights key performers and studio personnel long neglected in standard histories of Hollywood. With its refreshing focus on acting craft and method before ‘the Method’, this book produces a vital, new perspective on how films were made, played and received in 1923–39.”

—Sarah Street, Professor of Film and Foundation Chair of Drama, University of Bristol, UK
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—Mark Glancy, Reader in Film History at Queen Mary, University of London, UK. Author of When Hollywood Loved Britain (1999)
Martin Shingler

When Warners Brought Broadway to Hollywood, 1923–1939
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