



The Phantom of the Opera (1925) 8.28.20

- ❖ We watched the [Kino Lorber Release of *The Phantom of the Opera*](#) for our episode. We're linking to the [Bluray.com](#) page for this release, as it goes into the various cuts and their differences at great length.
- ❖ ["The Most Whitewashed Character in Literary History" from Lindsay Ellis](#) --- Here's a link to the Youtube video Maxx mentioned at the start of the episode.
- ❖ [The Undergrounds of *The Phantom of the Opera: Sublimation and the Gothic in Leroux's Novel and its Progeny* by Jerrold E. Hogle](#) --- As reliable an introduction to the material as you're going find, devoting entire sections to both the original novel and most subsequent adaptations. In his chapter discussing the 1925 film, Hogle covers everything from the film's storied production history, its context in the formation of horror filmmaking as a viable commercial venture, and various critical discussions surrounding the film. Absolutely recommend this book for anyone interested in the Phantom story or this film specifically.
- ❖ ["The Silent Threat: A \(Re\)Viewing of the 'Sexual Other' in *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Nosferatu*" by Andrew P. Williams from *The Midwest Quarterly*](#) --- Here's a robust analysis of the film's anxieties surrounding sexual and bodily difference. Recommended for anyone curious to understand the film's utilization of sexuality and gender.
- ❖ ["When the Woman Looks" by Linda Williams](#) --- This links to a PDF of the essay Austin discusses during the commentary. It's a foundational essay in film studies, and everyone should check it out.
- ❖ ["The Cinema of Attraction\[s\]: Early Film, Its Spectator and the Avant-Garde" by Tom Gunning](#) — Here's a link to the wonderful essay we seem to discuss every other week. It's one of the most insightful and engaging film theory essays you'll find, and it's very insightful when considering both the content of *Phantom* and the cultural context of its production.
- ❖ ["Before Sound: Universal, Silent Cinema, and the Last of the Horror-Spectaculars" by Ian Conrich from *The Horror Film* \(edited by Stephen Prince\)](#) --- In this chapter you'll find all sorts of information concerning the film's production, marketing, and reception. We're linking to the entire book, which offers a number of interesting pieces from talented scholars, but you can also find this individual essay online.
- ❖ [Masks in Horror Cinema: *Eyes Without Faces* by Alexandra Heller-Nicholas](#) --- A brand new book (at time of recording), we haven't even had an opportunity to read it but we're recommending it anyway. Alexandra Heller-Nicholas' other work is quite intriguing and well-written, and this book will undoubtedly meet the same standard; we'll likely feature it in a discussion on the show at some point.