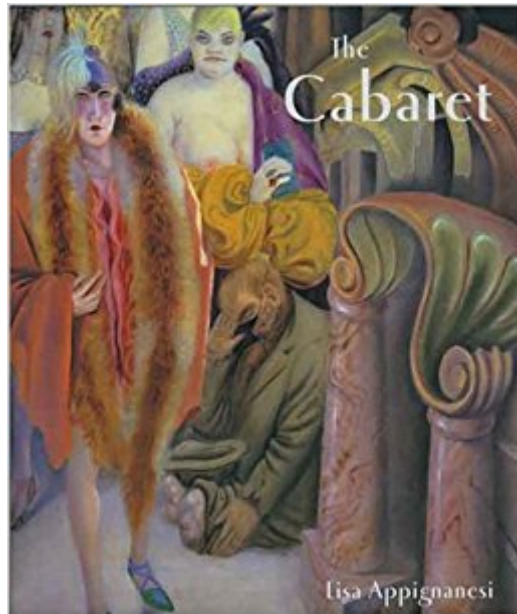




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The Cabaret



Synopsis

This captivating book presents a uniquely comprehensive cultural history of cabaret, where the most radical of artists, poets, writers, musicians, and theater directors have gathered since 1881. Lisa Appignanesi takes us to the original cabaret—the smoke-filled rooms of the Chat Noir in Paris that served as a meeting place for the avant-garde and a laboratory of subversion against the establishment. She then follows the journey of the cabaret across Europe and to the United States, tracing each development in cabaret history to the present day. This much revised and updated edition of Appignanesi's classic work is enriched with materials that have become more accessible in the post-Soviet era. It also features a variety of new illustrations from both East and West. The book provides a lively look at all aspects of cabaret, where art and entertainment join to mock and provoke, and where radical artistic, literary, and political ideas have found expression for more than 120 years.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Anyone who thinks of Cabaret as nothing but plasticated human muzak should read this fascinating and beautifully produced history of the form.”—The Financial Times
“Thanks to Yale University Press, Lisa Appignanesi's attractive and illuminating book on the history of The Cabaret has returned for a welcome encore.”—The Independent

Lisa Appignanesi is a writer and broadcaster. She is the author of many books, widely translated, including the acclaimed *Freud's Women* (with John Forrester), a portrait of Simone de Beauvoir, the highly praised memoir *Losing the Dead*, and the novel *The Memory Man*, as well as such best-selling thrillers as *Sanctuary* and *The Dead of Winter*. She has made and presented a variety of programs for radio and television in Great Britain and France. She is a Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres.

Perfect.

A general survey for researchers.

Bought secondhand, nonetheless the book was as fresh as could be.

Actually it's quite true. I am now a cabaret artist* after having been inspired by what I read about the history, philosophy and chutzpah of cabaret artists from this book. I particularly enjoyed the information about Parisian and German cabaret. Cabaret is quite an ephemeral form of performance and therefore not as well documented as other art forms, so it's fabulous to have a text that takes you on a very intense journey through cabaret's eventful history. Lisa's bibliography is extensive... There are not many early cabaret books written in English, so Lisa has done a lot of the homework for us. This book is not about your white washed "Moulin Rouge" variety. It's the gritty, political, not always nice, irreverent cabaret I have come to love and respect. Lisa includes great pictures (some colour), excerpts of songs, poems etc (in the original language and then translated into rhyming English!) I loved this book so much I actually photocopied it when it was not in print and hard to find. (Many many years ago) But don't worry, I now have the hot little book next to my bed. It's a great summary and a great reference work. Since you can't see the contents on , here's a summary: 1 Ladies and Gentlemen... 2 Paris 1881: Cabaret is Born [includes Le Chat Noir] 3 Cabaret on the Move: 1897 - 1914 [Berlin, Munich, Budapest and the rest...] 4 Cabaret as a Meeting Place for Artists 5 Cabaret as a Vehicle of the Artistic Vanguard [Futurist Performance, Dada] 6 The Roaring Twenties [Berlin] 7 Relatives and Progeny of Cabaret 8 Into the Third Reich 9 Cabaret in Exile 10 Life and After-Life *Disclaimer. (Although it changed my life. It may not change yours. I was already a theatre writer and performer. This book just steered me quite firmly in the cabaret direction).

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