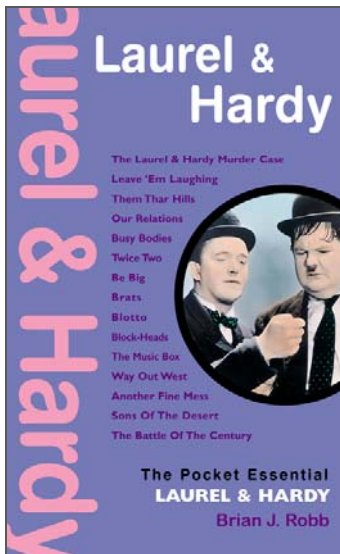




## POCKET ESSENTIALS ADVANCE INFORMATION



# LAUREL & HARDY

BRIAN J. ROBB

new edition

previous edition 1903047609

### SALES POINTS:

- Reissue and update of a popular Pocket Essential
- Laurel and Hardy's everlasting appeal to both older and new generations of fans shows no sign of ending
- In recent years the entire rarely-seen back catalogue of silent Laurel and Hardy films has become available on DVD to film buffs, comedy fans and collectors

### MARKET:

Laurel & Hardy film fans, cinema history buffs and film students

### DESCRIPTION:

British-born Stan Laurel and American Oliver Hardy were teamed up at the struggling Hal Roach studios in the 1920s and embarked on a series of hilarious short silent films. They soon established a classic screen partnership and became instantly recognisable comic icons in their crumpled suits and bowler hats.

Laurel and Hardy were the most successful of all the film comics who made the difficult transition from silent shorts to sound and then to feature films, enjoying unparalleled success from the 1920s through to the 1950s, when they undertook a series of triumphant tours of Britain. Regular and repeated screenings of their work through the 1970s and 1980s on television brought shorts like the Oscar-winning classic *The Music Box* to new generations, while in recent years the entire rarely-seen back catalogue of silent Laurel and Hardy films has become available to film buffs, comedy fans and collectors on a series of DVD releases.

As well as an introductory essay and biographies of both Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, the book covers each Laurel and Hardy short film, the move from silent movies to the sound classics of the 1930s and the feature films of the 1930s and 1940s, complete with information on the inspiration for each film and the reaction of critics and audiences. Not only that, but there's a handy reference section listing other books about Laurel and Hardy, interesting web sites and availability of their 106 films. In fact, the Laurel and Hardy Pocket Essential is the one-stop celebration of the films and lives of Stan and Ollie.

### AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES:

**Brian J. Robb** is a writer and biographer whose previous books have included a New York Times Best-Selling biography of *Leonardo DiCaprio*; *Screams & Nightmares*, the definitive book on horror director Wes Craven; biographies of *Johnny Depp* and *Ewan McGregor*; and *Counterfeit Worlds*, a study of the films of Philip K. Dick. He is Managing Editor at Titan Magazines and Editor of the Official Star Wars Magazine.

Publication Date:	24 <sup>th</sup> April 2008
Price:	£4.99
ISBN13:	978-1-84243-285-3
Binding:	paperback
Format:	A (178 x 111mm)
Extent:	160pp
Rights:	World
Market Restrictions:	none
BIC Code:	APB / APFA
Report Code:	NP

ISBN 978-1-84243-285-3



For a review copy, or for further information, please contact: **Chris Burrows PR**  
+44 (0)161 445 6635  
email: [chrisburrows\\_authorpr@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisburrows_authorpr@btinternet.com)

**Publisher: Pocket Essentials**  
PO Box 394  
Harpenden  
Herts AL5 1XJ  
Tel/Fax: +44 (0)1582 761264

**UK Distribution: Turnaround**  
3 Olympia Trading Estate  
Coburg Rd  
London N22 6TZ  
Tel: +44 (0)208 829 3000  
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