Americanization and the Vaudeville Comedian: Palgrave Studies in Theatre and Performance History

The vaudeville comedian played a key role in the Americanization of immigrants during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These comedians provided a shared language and set of values for a diverse population, helping to shape the cultural identity of the United States.



The New Humor in the Progressive Era: Americanization and the Vaudeville Comedian (Palgrave Studies in Theatre and Performance History)

by Dominique Souder

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The vaudeville stage was a melting pot of cultures, where immigrants from all over the world could share their stories and experiences. Comedians were able to tap into this rich vein of material, creating routines that appealed to a wide range of audiences.

One of the most important ways that vaudeville comedians helped to Americanize immigrants was by teaching them about American culture. Comedians would often poke fun at American customs and traditions, but they also provided valuable insights into the way of life in the United States.

For example, the comedian Weber and Fields created a popular routine called "The German Lesson," in which they satirized the difficulties that German immigrants had in learning English. The routine was both funny and informative, and it helped to teach immigrants about the importance of learning the new language.

Vaudeville comedians also played a role in shaping the American identity. By creating characters and routines that reflected the values and beliefs of the American people, comedians helped to define what it meant to be an American.

For example, the comedian Will Rogers created a character called "the Oklahoman," who represented the common man. Rogers' character was honest, hardworking, and patriotic, and he embodied the values that many Americans held dear.

The vaudeville comedian was a powerful force in the Americanization of immigrants. By providing a shared language and set of values, comedians helped to shape the cultural identity of the United States.

The vaudeville comedian played a vital role in the Americanization of immigrants. These comedians provided a shared language and set of values for a diverse population, helping to shape the cultural identity of the United States.

The vaudeville stage was a place where immigrants could learn about American culture, laugh at themselves and their new country, and feel a sense of belonging. Comedians helped to make America a more welcoming and inclusive place for all.



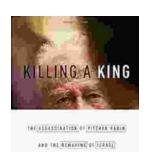
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