



INTRODUCTION

This dossier offers two sets of materials for a richer understanding of this iconic film:

- archival documents that help place the film in its historical moment, and
- contemporary appropriations that attest to its vibrant afterlife.

The archival documents include film reviews of *Caligari*, debates about the film, and historical materials that point to questions to which the film originally responded. Reconstructing *Caligari's* discursive context restores some of its signifying potential and opens new lines of inquiry.

However, we are not only concerned with the film in its own time, but also in ours. *Caligari* has resonated with each generation in new ways. In addition to remakes and adaptations, the film has inspired a wide range of visual and musical reimaginings. With the advent of digital technology, Weimar classics like *Caligari* circulate freely online; they can be viewed, reworked, and used as material for new creations at any time. Today, it may no longer be enough to ask what a film means, but what people do with it.

CREDITS

For *Caligari's* full credits in English with hyperlinks to director, actors, etc., click [here](#) and select ALL CREDITS and VERSIONS.

For its film-historical context, consult Hans Helmut Prinzler's *The Chronicle of German Film (1918-1933)* [here](#).





Caligari opened at the illustrious Marmorhaus Theater (on the right)



Dr. Caligari's Cabinet as a fairground booth and quasi-movie theater