

Coral Gables news

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Florida author to discuss his book, *The First Hollywood*

BY TINA MENDITTO

Florida author and former Miami resident Shawn Bean will be at Books and Books in Coral Gables on Saturday, Jan. 10, 7 p.m., to discuss *The First Hollywood*, a historical non-fiction account that showcases one of show business' best-kept secrets: it was Jacksonville, FL, not Hollywood, CA, that served as America's original film capital.

Immediately following the intimate discussion and book signing, there will be a free, al fresco screening of Cecil B. DeMille's *The Greatest Show on Earth* in the Books & Books courtyard located at 265 Aragon Ave. The Café at Books & Books will be open for dinner and drinks following the author's discussion and book signing.

For additional information, call 305-442-4408 or visit online at <www.book-sandbooks.com>.

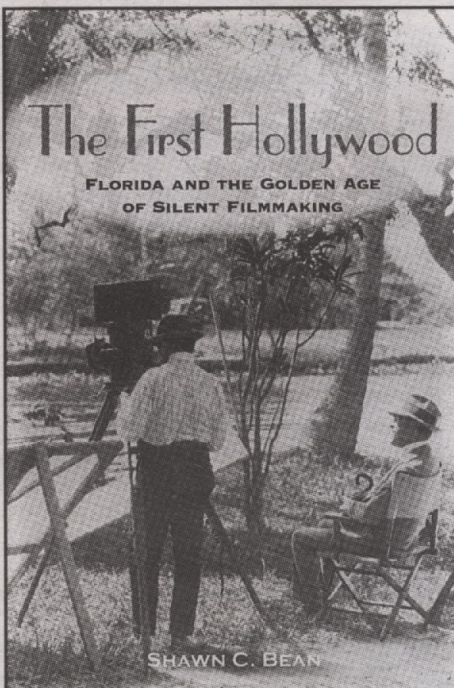
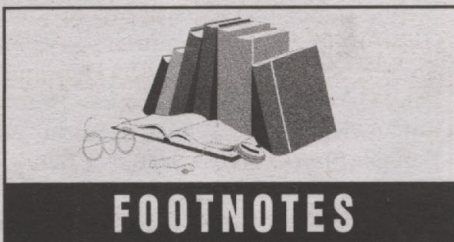
The First Hollywood remains a top seller on Amazon.com and has been featured on CNN, *USA Today*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Florida Travel + Life*, *MIAMI Magazine*, *Orlando Magazine*, and *Florida International Magazine* among others.

Published by the University Press of Florida, the book's release marks the 100th anniversary of the first film ever made in Florida — *Love in the Everglades*, 1908.

The First Hollywood explores the story of Jacksonville as a turn-of-the-century film town that once drew industry elite and wide-eyed hucksters like a cinematic Gold Rush. In fact, from 1909 to 1926 approximately 300 films were produced in Jacksonville. However, when the famed Hollywood sign was built into the hills of Los Angeles in 1923, it marked the rise of one film capital and the fall of another.



Shawn Bean



The First Hollywood retails for \$27.50 and is available at Amazon (amazon.com), Barnes & Noble (BN.com), University Press of Florida website (upf.com) and at all major bookstore chains in Florida.

Bean, an award-winning journalist, has been touring the state with stops in Jacksonville, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Melbourne, and Miami.

Bean, 33, was named "Writer of the Year" twice (2004, 2006) by the Florida Magazine Association. He is an award-winning journalist who has covered many subjects including Club Fed, the famous minimum-security penitentiary in the Florida Panhandle, and the KL Group, responsible for the largest financial fraud in Palm Beach County history.

Bean holds a degree in film from Southern Methodist University, and is a regular contributor to *Florida Travel + Life*, *Miami*, *Palm Drive*, *Florida International Magazine*, and *Baltimore Magazine*. Bean resides in Melbourne, FL, with his wife and two young sons.

For more information on Bean and *The First Hollywood*, visit online at <www.shawnbean.com>.