**How fast Hollywood learns to do musicals, 1929-1934**

Musicals are the rage in the 5-6 years after the beginning of sound films; take advantage of the innovation of sound films; a lot of fantasy escape for Depression audiences.

Early style: ‘Broadway Melody of **1929**’ MGM – Thalberg supports after some hesitation; see Vieira, pp. 91-93.

Title song, “Broadway Melody”: sung by Charles King. How were two scenes shot and recorded?

 Small group version.

 Chorus version.

“Isn’t It Romantic” number from Rouben Mamoulian, ‘Love Me Tonight’ **1932** Paramount – stars Maurice Chevalier and Jeanette MacDonald.

 What is unique about the style; the narrative significance.

 ‘Gold Diggers of 1933’, **1934** Warner Bros – stars Dick Powell and Ruby Keeler

 Brilliant, show-stopping choreography by Busby Berkeley

 “We’re in the Money” by Ginger Rogers:

 Sex; beautiful girls.

 Will get money; Depression on its way out!

 Imaginative choreography: close-ups.

 “Pettin’ in the Park” – Powell-Keeler duet; then big chorus number.

Busby Berkeley brilliance – editing, camera movement, manipulation of large groups.

Massive violation of Hays Code – lyrics, girls undressing in silhouette, the “perverted baby”, the final can-opening routine.