

NEWSLETTER No. 58

November 28th, 2003

Marlene Dietrich Collection Berlin is a division of Filmmuseum Berlin - Deutsche Kinemathek

If you want your fellow fans to receive this newsletter or if you just want to add informations write to mccb@filmmuseum-berlin.de . If you want to support the work of the Filmmuseum Berlin-Deutsche Kinemathek of which Marlene Dietrich Collection Berlin is a division you can do so by joining the "Friends and Supporters of Filmmuseum Berlin". Just go to <http://www.fff.de>

Dear friends and fans,

Marlene Dietrich Collection has had its tenth anniversary in October 2003. It's not that important, but for you and for us it has been an exciting time. In October 1993 Maria Riva handed over the archive to the city of Berlin. We worked five years in a storage house way outside of the center of Berlin to do the inventory. There were times when we worked as a group of more than ten people but basically we were just six. Since five years now Marlene Dietrich Collection consists of just one person working full time: that person is Silke. Barbara, our textile archivist, is working half time. And Werner, head of the Filmmuseums non-film collections is working overtime anyway.

Starting 1995 we have done 9 individual exhibitions on Marlene Dietrich and supported about forty exhibitions worldwide with objects from the collection. It would take at least a week to count the books, journals, newspapers and film productions we provided with documents from the collection. Oh yes, we have done books ourself and we wrote 58 Newsletters which roughly comes to another 200 or more pages.

Fishing for compliments? We don't have to.

We promised in our last number to give you information on the mystery of the many versions of Marlenes London concert. Sorry, we have to postpone as we really had no time to do the full research needed.

But Alexandre André from Finland provided us with a really astonishing list of DVDs for Marlene films available worldwide. This one – a real treasure – should reach you soon.

A friend of the collection is offering these three postes for sale. If you are interested in having these - or just one of these - please send a mail to mccb@filmmuseum-berlin.de. We will forward the mails.



Q and A

hallo liebe Berliner,
mich würde folgendes interessieren. In dem Doku - Film: " Marlene her own song " sah ich zum allererstenmal Bilder von Besuchen M.D. in Israel. (Beschäftige mich mit M.D. jetzt fast 20 Jahre !!!). Mich wundert dass man von dort genauso wie von ihrem Berlin Besuch 1960 so selten dokumentarisches Material zu sehen bekommt, es ist doch mit Sicherheit bei diesen Besuchen viel gefilmt worden. Also die kurze Sequenz wo sie z.B. aus dem Flugzeug steigt und H. Knef begrüßt oder sich in das goldene Buch der Stadt einträgt, sind fast alles was ich davon kenne. Woran liegt es , dass man davon so wenig (leider) sehen kann. Auch in Hinsicht auf Ihre besondere Beziehung zu Israel. Das kommt erst jetzt so richtig raus. (Adressbuch von Marlene, z.B.)Vielleicht haben Sie eine Antwort für mich. Vielen, vielen Dank i. voraus.
Robert aus München

Summary: I would like to know why there is always the same documentary material on Marlene. Isn't there anything more from her Berlin or Israel visit?

A: One reason for using the same documentary material from the forties is that it is public domain. And if it's not public domain it is expensive. For the 60s are the sequences of which we know:

- > May 1960 MD visits Berlin; arrival, meets H. Knef, visits Ufa- Studios, eats Bockwurst - meets Willy Brandt, entry in the Golden Book of Berlin; Source: Archiv Deutsche Wochenschau, Hamburg;
- > June 1960 MD visits Israel for the first time, source: probably Israeli newsreel, 1,5 Min;
- > May 1961 at the funeral of Gary Cooper, Beverly Hills.
- > January 1964 MD visits Warsaw, show at Kulturpalast, source: Archiv Deutsche Wochenschau, Hamburg
- > May 1964 MD visits Moscow, show at Estradentheater, source: Archiv Deutsche Wochenschau, Hamburg;
- > February 1966 MD visits Israel for the 2nd time, Jerusalem, Yad Vashem, source: probably Israeli newsreel, 1,5 Min

A lot of these sequences (and some more) are available at Deutsche Wochenschau. You can do an online research at <http://www.deutsche-wochenschau.de>

Another good online source is <http://www.britishpathe.com/index.cfm>

Gerhard Pschor from Vienna is looking for a video of „I wish you love“. The video is not on sale anymore but the new DVD is. But if you really like to have a video then the easiest way may be to go to www.ebay.com and follow the Marlene auctions.

Alexandre André about the Adressbook: I feel so good when I read something new, and particularly that book which is an unusual book. I like its design very much, and the choice of the photos is very pertinent. I started to read it, but my German is not so good. Of course, I was moved to read at least something about Dietrich and Finland... It's so sad that the Helsinki project failed. Who knows what this would have had been? The hotel she mentioned ("Kämp") is nearby the Swedish Theatre, where she would have had performed (just the street to cross). She also wrote "puh", which is the Finnish shortening for "telephone". By the way, do you know if she ever came to Finland?

A: Sorry Alexandre - not that we know about.

Auction

Cooper Owen's fourth annual BEATLES auction took place on Thursday 20 November at HARD ROCK CAFÉ, Old Park Lane, London.



Lot 225
PAUL MCCARTNEY & MARLENE DIETRICH 'The Royal Variety Performance' at the London Palladium 4 November 1963
Black and white first generation silver gelatin print. Dezo Hoffmann studio stamp to verso. We auctioned that one. Why? Because this photo is widely unknown and the costume Marlene is wearing is in our archive.

Don't forget about the auction "Affiches De Cinema De Collection" December 6th at Cinema La Pagode, rue de Babylone Paris where the French posters of "Desire" (Désir) and "Destry rides again" (Femme ou Demon) are offered. For more information go to www.cine-imageges.com or write to cine-images2@noos.fr

New CD

Alexandre André made us aware of a new Japanese CD:
As an event accompanying the local release of "Her Own Song", EMI released a new CD on 29/10/2003 with the same cover as the Japanese poster of the documentary and the same track-list as the German CD "Der Blonde Engel - Marlene 100".

New books

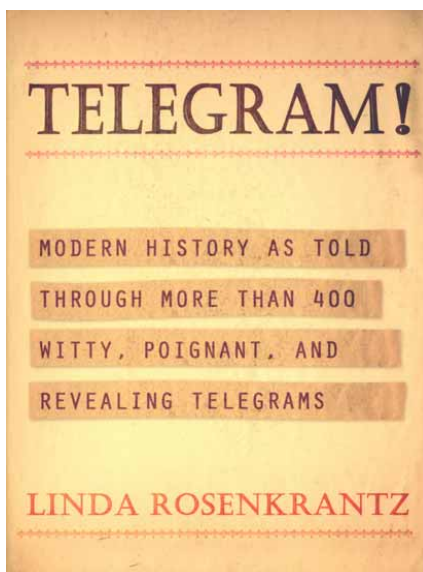


Marlene!forever

Kawade Shobo Shinsha Publishers, Tokyo 2003, 96 pp.

Book of photographs, contains an Interview with Maria and David Riva of October 2003, special scroll announcing David Riva's documentary „Her own song“ at Bunkamura Le Cinema, Tokyo.

Now this is a nice book for the Japanese fans of Marlene – and it seems that there are a lot. It has some new photographs but does it have some new and interesting articles. We don't know – we weren't even able to decipher the word Marlene Dietrich Collection Berlin. But it's nice to have it in the collection.



Linda Rosenkrantz: Telegram! Modern history as told through more than 400 witty, poignant and revealing telegrams

Henry Holt and Company, New York 2003, 208 pp.

We are writing e-mails nowadays and very rarely we take our time to write letters. In the old days when the telephone was regarded as luxury people were writing letters, postcards and telegrams. It is a good idea to make a book on telegrams and this one contains some cables from Marlene. Not that these are unknown but they document a lost culture of communication.

Exhibition

„Women and War“, a major exhibition telling the story of servicewomen, nurses, land girls, factory workers, secret agents, pilots and peacekeepers from the First World War to the present day is presented at Imperial War Museum London October 15 to April 18 next year. One of the exhibition highlights is a Uniform worn by Marlene during World War II.



Photo: courtesy of Claire Booth

End of Newsletter