

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 mdcb@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.fffb.de>

Dear friends and fans,
The Filmmuseum Berlin crew is always busy but especially and foremost within the first two months of each year The Berlinale – the Berlin film festival – starts in the middle of February and Filmmuseum Berlin is in its final stages of preparing the yearly retrospective. This year's main subject of the retrospective was "Production Design" with film shows, an exhibition, workshops and a lot of other activities. We also had our hands on props and documents of "Sophie Scholl – The last days" – all of which was on display in Filmmuseum Berlin during the festival. The film then won the Silver Bear for best actress Julia Jentsch and best directing (Mark Rothemund). Visitors during the Berlinale included Dennis Quaid, Catherine Deneuve, the Weitz Brothers, Mark Rothemund, Jan Harlan, Christiane Kubrick and many more.

Pictures of visits are to be seen at www.filmmuseum-berlin.de. For Dennis Quaid and the Weitz brothers click on the arrows following this line (above the M): "Dennis Quaid und Brüder Weitz im Filmmuseum". For Marc Rothemund go to "Neuigkeiten" (at the right bottom in capital letters) and when the site opens click on the first line.

What made these days even more hectic than normal was the fact that MDCB did a little exhibition at the luxury department store in Berlin, the KaDeWe (Kaufhaus des Westens) during February. Actually the exhibition is still showing till March 5th. Ten shop windows display Marlene memorabilia and inside the building there is an extra exhibition.

When we thought about the concept of the exhibition we asked ourselves: By what does the general public instantly identify Marlene? The answer was easy: By looking at a picture of her face.

And what was Marlene famous for during her lifetime career? It's her legs, my dear...

And what about sex? She wasn't famous for being openly sexy, it was more her love affairs that made the headlines of the yellow press.

And then there are her shows and her songs. We mixed face, legs, love and songs and rising



The exhibition poster at KaDeWe front

from the dust came the title "Von Kopf bis Fuß..."

There are some items from the collection which never were displayed before. You can take a look at

<http://www.soundlikemarlene.de/Gallery/gallery.html> - and yes, we know some buttons at the navigation are broken. We are working on that.

Why do we not use www.marlenedietrich.org for the gallery? Simple reasons: At the present moment we can't handle the site and that is why it cannot be updated.

For even more fotos go to www.kadewe.com

And for general information go to

www.filmmuseum-berlin.de; click on

"Neuigkeiten" (at the right bottom in capital letters) and when the site opens scroll down till you see a painting of Marlene.

If you are in Berlin there are posters spreaded all over the city. As we got some requests for the poster we have some for you which you can buy for \$ 20 including shipping by

e-mailing to us. This is how the poster looks:



And this photo we like very much because it shows Marlene's activity during WW II



Marlene Dietrich and Rita Hayworth at Hollywood Canteen

Speaking of WW II we are preparing a special issue of the Newsletter devoted entirely to Marlene at war. So if you have any material of which you think it should absolutely be incorporated just send it to us.

Request

Alan Lareau from University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is writing an English-language biography of author-composer Friedrich Hollaender/Frederic Hollander. He would welcome any information and documents on Hollaender's collaborations with Marlene Dietrich in Berlin and Hollywood. Please contact lareau@uwosh.edu

Another new photo shows the famous writer Erich Maria Remarque with Marlene in Paris 1938.



New acquisitions

Here is a small poster which happened to come to our collection



Comedians vs. Leading Men
California, August 8 1940

From the collection of Henry Marx we received the following photo



Marlene Dietrich and Richard Tauber at Carnegie Hall, New York 1946.
Photo: I.M.Hersh

More acquisitions:

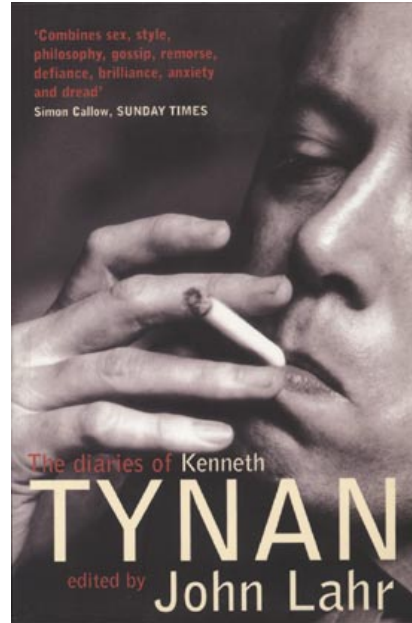
Alexandre Andre sent us the Moscow recordings of Marlene - Marnuse Els donated the interviews the lady gave during her different stays in South Africa. Our thanks to both of you.

We received the video "Hollywood's Great Comedians" (USA 1943; Director: Ralph Staub) which includes a sketch featuring Jimmy Durante in conversation with Marlene.

Fred Ostrowski gave his astonishing and vast collection of documents and artwork on Marlene to MDCB. Fred for a long time now is doing a campaign to name a street in Berlin-Schöneberg after Marlene. The success seems to be near as the mayor of Schöneberg at the opening of the KaDeWe exhibition announced the plan to do just that. It is the second time around that Schöneberg tries to get a Marlene- Dietrich-Straße. Better luck this time!

New books

This is mainly a list of books which have been published for some time now but without any special reason received no mention in the newsletter.



The diaries of Kenneth Tynan
Edited by John Lahr; Paperback edition by Bloomsbury, London 2002, 439 pp.

The selling angle for Kenneth Tynans diaries was the story of Marlene having slept with JFK. All of this had been said before in Maria Rivas book and there surely is more to read in Tynans diaries on other, more relevant topics.



Frauen im Rampenlicht. Lebensberichte berühmter Schauspielerinnen
Edited by Monica von Steegmann and Ingrid Kaech; Insel Taschenbuch, Frankfurt/Main und Leipzig 2004, 348 pp.

This mainly is a compilation of pieces from autobiographies famous actresses wrote. Marlene is on the cover and the part of autobiography that was chosen for her is presented here in the german version which was translated from the french which was translated from the english which was translated from the german which was translated from the original english version. Does that sound as if you got to have it?



Hermann Kappelhoff: Matrix der Gefühle. Das Kino, das Melodrama und das Theater der Empfindsamkeit
Verlag Vorwerk 8, Berlin 2004, 340 pp.

Hermann Kappelhoff is professor for film at the Freie Universität Berlin. „Matrix der Gefühle“ (Matrix of emotions) is his habilitation and a small and very interesting part is dealing with the different aims and effects of Greta Garbo's and Marlene Dietrich's acting. Kappelhoff chooses "Blonde Venus" as an example. According to Kappelhoff Greta Garbo is a representation of the Ideal of Love and Marlene is a representation of Illusion. This – we admit - is a very short formula for a book which is academic reading at its best.



Kunst-Stimmen.

Edited by Doris von Kolesch and Jenny Schrödl
Series Theater der Zeit, Recherchen 21;
Theater der Zeit, Berlin 2004, 185 pp.

In "Kunst-Stimmen" you can read a short version of Kappelhoffs thesis on Garbo and Marlene. Although we ourselves sometimes are forced to write about the same subject all over again it doesn't seem wise to publish the same passages in the same year within the same country. However if you change a word here and there you might cause confusion. Is Marlene sentimental only towards an aesthetic effect (Kunst-Stimmen)? Or is she historicizing only towards an aesthetic effect (Matrix der Gefühle)? Or even both?
We probably have to wait for the answer until the next edition of that article.

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