



Marlene Dietrich Collection Berlin is a division of Deutsche Kinemathek - Museum für Film und Fernsehen

If you want your fellow fans to receive this newsletter or if you just want to add information write to mdcb@deutsche-kinemathek.de. If you want to support the work of the 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>
You'll find us on the web at www.marlenedietrich.org and www.marlene.com

Marlene's Fashion collection at the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising

During the sixties Marlene for reasons of tax deduction donated a large part of her fashion collection to the state of California. This collection eventually went to the FIDM where it is cherished and well preserved by the experienced staff of the archive. Silke and Werner spent several hours looking at the pieces, guided by Kevin and Christina. Thanks to both of you.

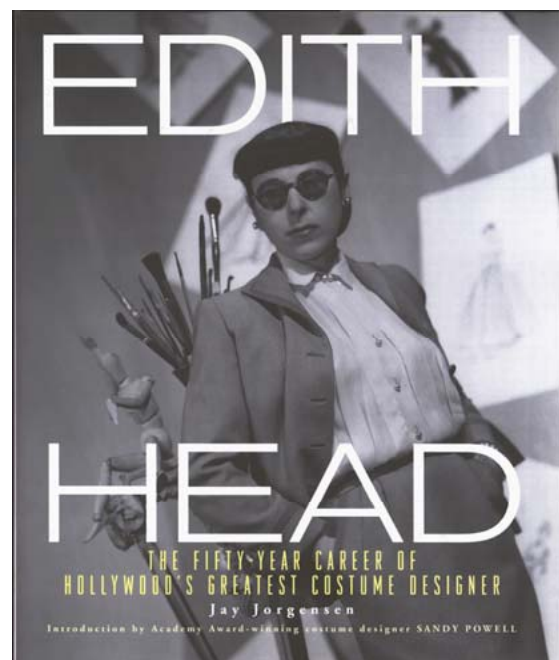


Kevin Jones and Christina Johnson, curators of the FIDM museum, presenting their Marlene Dietrich Collection

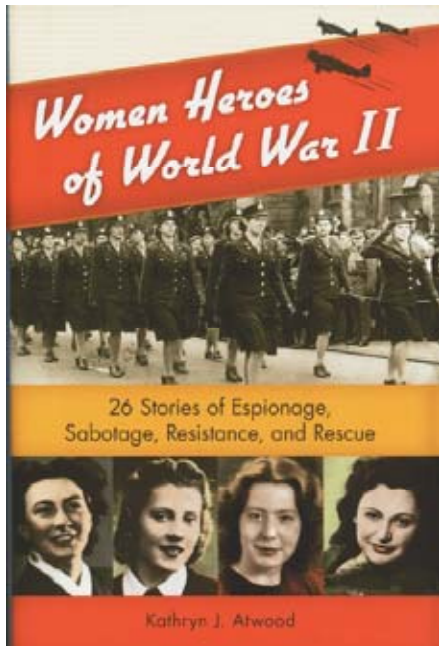
New Books

Jay Jorgensen: Edith Head. The Fifty Year Career of Hollywood's Greatest Costume Designer

Running Press, Philadelphia 2010, 400 pp.
Introduction by Sandy Powell

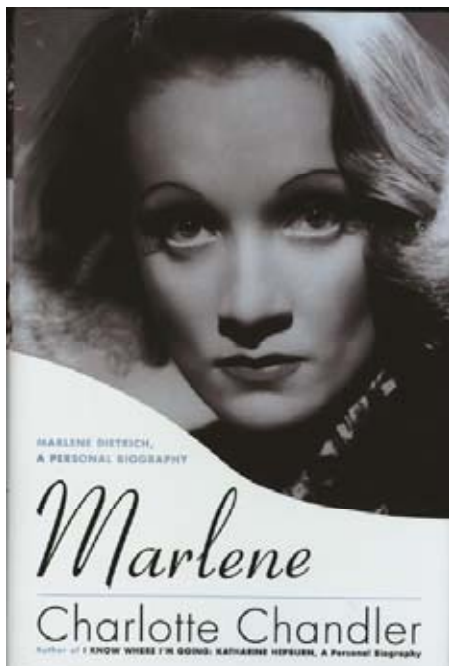


This seems to be the „All about Edith“ book, the ultimately illustrated story about the costume designer Edith Head. Head started her career in 1924 when Paramount was still Famous Players-Lasky. Eventually she became the main assistant to Travis Banton, then head of the Paramount fashion department and costume designer for Dietrich. There are many stories about Edith Head sketching her as a very ego-centred woman; no wonder that Marlene and Edith did not get along very well although Edith wrote some very nice remarks on Marlene in "The Dress doctor". Or were the nice words just there to hide the poison? Great coffee table book and once you started to study it even more than just coffee table.



Kathryn J. Atwood: Women Heroes of World War II. 26 Stories of Espionage, Sabotage, Resistance and Rescue

Chicago Revue Press 2011, 266 pp.
 The 26 stories include such personalities as Sophie Scholl (for Germany) and Josephine Baker (for France) and a lot of unknown women heroes of the fight against the Nazis. Marlene has seven pages which is okay for book like this. And to be featured in a book together with Sophie Scholl is more than just okay.



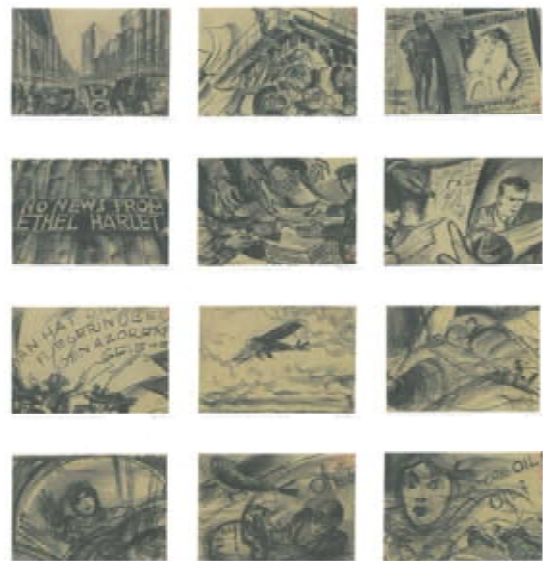
Charlotte Chandler: Marlene
 Simon & Schuster, New York 2011, 304 pp.
 Charlotte Chandler's books on film people such as Mae West or Katherine Hepburn are

said to be based on extensive interviews. It is widely known that Marlene never gave long interviews except the one to Maximilian Schell for which she got paid. Also she strongly rejected anyone she suspected to write a Marlene biography. Charlotte Chandler claims that the late Mary Meerson, life-long companion of Henri Langlois, opened the door for her. And so Marlene talks to Mrs. Chandler about all the things she never talked about: Her sister (Remember the Schell-Interview? "I never had a sister."), her time in Weimar during the first world war (she was in Dessau, not in Weimar), about her habit to not wear panties (oh la la, that's a daring revelation), about her husband Rudi being sort of responsible for Eva Mays suicide (Rudi married Marlene in May 1923; Eva May died September 1924) and about her father –the first one – who died from a horse accident (actually he died from a veneral disease).

If Marlene talked to Mrs. Chandler at all, the author fell victim to her credulity. Marlene is quoted intensively, but she doesn't say very much. Again there is Pabst "Joyless Street" in the filmography. So nice to see that Mrs. Chandler lets everyone know that she doesn't care about research. What about the truth?

New exhibition and book

„Zwischen Film und Kunst. Storyboards von Hitchcock bis Spielberg“
 Kunsthalle Emden: April 16 – July 17, 2011
 Deutsche Kinemathek Museum für Film und Fernsehen, Berlin: August 11 – November 27, 2011



Featured in the book is one of the first german storyboards by Fritz Maurischat showing Marlene in a sequence of „Das Schiff der verlorenen Menschen“ (Ship of lost souls)

DVDs



Marlene Dietrich Diva Highlights 1 + 2
German edition by
Black Hill Pictures GmbH, two boxes, three
movies each:

1:
Engel (Angel)
Der Teufel ist eine Frau (The devil is a woman)
Entehrt (Dishonored)

2:
Die Abenteurerin (The flame of New Orleans)
Goldene Ohrringe (Golden Earrings)
Pittsburgh

Andrew Leblanc made us aware of the review
for the dvd-release in the US of „Song Of
Songs“:



http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/05/movies/homevideo/marlene-dietrich-in-song-of-songs-on-dvd.html?_r=1&hpw

Things that's gone, things to come

On Stage

“The Blue Angel“ was playing at the Komödie
am Kurfürstendamm until May 15th. The
website is still there: <http://www.komoedie-berlin.de/repertoire/der+blaue+engel.htm>.
Eva-Maria Grein von Friedl played Lola, Walter
Plathe Prof. Unrat. Script by Peter Turrini;
Director: Klaus Gendries.



„The Kraut. Ein Marlene Dietrich Abend“ by
Dirk Heidicke is playing at Stadttheater
Giessen. The theatre even gave a performance
for prisoners; the local newspaper noted that
emprisoned people from Russia had tears in
their eyes when Petra Soltau as Marlene sang
songs in Russian.
Still showing in Giessen, last time June 16th.
[http://www.stadttheater-
giessen.de/index.php?id=1768&tx_ddcategories_pi2\[uid\]=132&MP=1768-1774](http://www.stadttheater-giessen.de/index.php?id=1768&tx_ddcategories_pi2[uid]=132&MP=1768-1774)

On the TV Screen

French/german cultural channel “arte” is
planning to screen Marlene’s 1929 movie “Die
Frau, nach der man sich sehnt” in spring 2012.

On radio

Florence Colombani is producing a 15 hour
program on France Culture. The program will
start August 1st and run until August 5th. It is
called "La Grande Traversée Marlene Dietrich",

and will air on France Culture every morning from 9 to noon. First there will be an hour of radio archives (from the French radio), second a one-hour documentary and third a one-hour debate.

A weblink will be available at the end of June.

Here's what you can expect to hear:

Archives:

1. From Schöneberg to The Blue Angel
2. The Hollywood years
3. A woman at war
4. After Gabin
5. From Paris to Berlin

Documentaries:

1. Marlene, a German woman
2. Marlene Dietrich and love
3. Marlene Dietrich as director
4. Dietrich-Sternberg, a common legacy
5. Dietrich the muse (with excerpts from *Marlene and Dietrich*, Louis Malle's final script, for the very first time)

Debates:

1. Actresses in the history of feminism
2. Visions of Germany through a century of film
3. The many aspects of the femme fatale
4. Women and Artists during WW2
5. The star machine : how Hollywood made and makes stars

On the big screen

Retrospective I

From March 31st to the end of April Eye Film Instituut in Amsterdam was showing a Josef von Sternberg retrospective including the Sternberg/Dietrich classics. Werner gave a lecture on the Dietrich/Sternberg liaison on April 16.

Retrospective II

From September till the end of December Munich Filmmuseum is showing a big retrospective on Marlene featuring five silent and all sound films plus some specials like lectures, the Stockholm concert and more. Program will be online at the end of July at <http://www.stadtmuseum-online.de/aktuell/filmre.htm>

Correction Newsletter # 97

Will the real Baxter please stand up?

Sorry, we confused John with Peter Baxter. This shouldn't have happened. John Baxter wrote the new book on Josef von Sternberg. His biographical background is at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Baxter_%28author%29.

Peter Baxter is professor at the Department of Film and Media at Queen's University in Canada. More info on Peter Baxter at <http://www.film.queensu.ca/Peter.html>

We apologize.

End of Newsletter 98 Part Two