



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,

we received a lot of questions this month and we like to thank you for the interest you are showing in Marlenes work and the support you are giving us.

Questions and answers:

Eva Antonini from Switzerland wants to know where she can buy a videocassette of "Blonde Venus".

Answer: Try www.amazon.com (or \$ 1 as answered in our last Newsletter)

"Amme 68" wants to know where she can find the lyrics in german of "Lili Marlene".

Answer: Newsletter 23 and 24

Janice Di Camillo:

Through the years, I have seen Marlene in a movie wearing a white tuxedo, singing and in it she makes an overture to a woman . . . unheard of in that time. However, I do not remember the name of the film; can you tell me which film it is? (English Speaking one)

A: The white tuxedo film is "Blonde Venus" ; but the overture to a woman must be "Morocco" and this she does in a black tuxedo.

Jennifer Gray sends this letter:

While going through some boxes of my family's keepsakes I found a frame with "November 1934" written on the back. In it was a photo of my younger brother. A friend mentioned "you should take out that picture and see what is behind it" because it was so old. I did and discovered an original photo by Chidnoff New York 1934. I am curious to find out more about Chidnoff's work and maybe research if this could be Marlene. I had a friend with me while comparing the photo to others of her and we both agree there is a phenomenal resemblance. Only difference really being that in the photo I have she is not all made up nor is she in costume.

Answer: If it is a Chidnoff portrait of Marlene it is most likely from 1930. He did a series of 34 photos when Marlene arrived in New York for the first time from Germany. Here is one of these photos.



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Portrait of the Chidnoff series from 1930

Connie Rethmann asks:

In the last new letter I get the information about a documentary by David Riva. Do you know where this documentary will be shown ?

Answer: To our knowledge there are plans to release it in film theatres, probably New York and Los Angeles. It will also be shown in TV but no dates or channels have been published yet. And that should answer Eva Sippels question too.

It's Connie again:

Dear friends !

There is a written portrait of MD by Franz Hessel and I don't know the title. Can you help me ? And do you know when they met. I mean the time they know each other. Thank you in advance for your help.

A: Very specific question. Franz Hessel met Marlene in 1931 when she was back home in Berlin. He wrote a wonderful little book on her which is simply called "Marlene Dietrich" and was published by Kindt und Bucher in

1931. Very expensive nowadays and hard to find. But there is a reprint by arte Éditions and it was also translated into French and published with a preface by his son. Did you know that Franz Hessel was portrayed as the German guy in "Jules and Jim", the French film by François Truffaut? Hessel's Marlene portrait is one of the rare books on Marlene which we strongly recommend. Opening of the new exhibition in October 10th 2001. Is it only an opening or a special party with guests?

A: We are still working on getting a print from David's film to be shown for the first time the day before the opening. The opening itself will just be an opening – but isn't any opening of a Marlene Dietrich exhibition something special?
By the way, the date has changed to the 17th

Do you have information about the exhibition of Collection Fred Ostrowski ?

A: Not yet, we will let you know when we know more.

Eva Sippel asks:

What can you tell me about the new German-American documentary MGM is releasing?

Answer: Not much more than what we said before.

"Gprbenson" (who did not tell his name) asks : Will any of the Dietrich museum collection/pieces ever come to the United States for a showing? New York City or Chicago, Illinois would be 2 great cities to show.

Answer: We are open to any invitation but on the other hand there are always a lot of costs involved for which museums have to find sponsors. To answer your question more precisely: No exhibitions are planned yet for USA.

Melanie Landau asks:

Please let me know about Ms. Dietrich's painting or drawing of sunflowers. I once read it in a book of hers. She painted it on wood, I think it was.

Answer: Maybe we are ignorant, but we do not know about Marlene Dietrich's own paintings.

Cindy:

Could you please tell me if there is an autobiography written about Miss Dietrich? If so, would you please inform me if it is in print now. I would love to read her story.

Answer: Autobiography by Marlene Dietrich and Biographies on Marlene you find at \$1 or \$2.

Cassandra :

Where can I find vintage Marlene Dietrich albums?

Answer: \$2

Danny Sharples:

Could you please advise me if the film "Ich Kusse Ihre Hand Madame" is available on video. I am compiling a new discography of the German tenor Richard Tauber and I have been informed that the film named above has sound portions recorded by Richard Tauber which were used in the film. Any information would be greatly received.

Answer: No original soundtrack has survived. Go to our Newsletter Index (Newsletter 25) and you will find all information you need on "Ich küsse Ihre Hand, Madame". DVD is available in Germany and German speaking countries only.

Marina Cescon from Italy:

Could you be so kind to suggest to me where I could be able to find the German lyrics of the most well known songs interpreted by Marlene Dietrich? (f.i. Ich bin von Kopf bis Fuß auf Liebe eingestellt, Jonny, Nimm dich in acht vor blonden Frauen, ...)

Answer: Go to our Newsletter Index (Newsletter 25) and you will find information on lyrics to her songs. Not all of the lyrics you are looking for were published.

Marnuse Els:

I live in South Africa and am a great admirer of Miss Dietrich. I have enjoyed reading the newsletters issued by MDCB - they are great! I wonder if you can answer two questions regarding recordings of Miss Dietrich's live stage act?

1. So few live recordings have been issued of Dietrich in concert. Does there exist, in Marlene's private archive of sound recordings any unreleased, privately recorded concert recordings?

2. Regarding the album "Dietrich in Rio", was it really recorded in front of a live audience, or was it recorded in a studio and then mixed with prerecorded applause? The reason why I ask is: (a) the dialogue sounds somewhat stilted and there is no real interaction between Miss Dietrich and the audience; and (b) on "The Marlene Dietrich Album" (Sony 1991), some of those 1959 recordings are published sans applause and spoken introductions.

Answer: Thanks Else for applauding us. There are some unpublished recordings in the archive, studio and live acts. Some of them will probably be published in the future. Which leads us to your second question: We too have the impression that some of the songs were recorded in a studio and the live atmosphere was later mixed in. This may well be the case with the record of her German tour: "Wiedersehen mit Marlene" and it may be the same with "Dietrich in Rio". Still, there is no proof to this but we are working on lifting the secret. As you know, with Marlene you lift a

secret and a new one is showing up. Which means: it will take some time.

Danny Gougeon:

Hi! I've read that some of MarleneDietrich's silent German movies are now available for us, fans, to buy. Where can I find or order Ich küsse Ihre Hand, Madame (I Kiss Your Hand, Madame) and Die Frau nach der man sich sehnt (The Woman Men Yearn For) either in their English, German or French version?

A: There are only german versions on the market. Video or DVD of "Ich küsse Ihre Hand, Madame" – just give it a try at (\$1) . "Die Frau, nach der man sich sehnt" was available for some time in an subtitled english version. You have to try (\$2)



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Director Kurt Bernhardt (Curtis Bernhardt) and Marlene having fun on the Set of "Die Frau, nach der man sich sehnt" (1929)

Johnnie Dalgård from Denmark:

In the beginning of August I plan a visit to Berlin - and most certainly to the Stiftung deutsche Kinemathek Berlin. I have tried to find out in which cemetery Marlene Dietrich was buried, but in vain. Could you please answer that question?

A: Marlene is buried at the cemetery Stubenrauchstraße. More informations on Marlenes grave are in Newsletter 1 and 8. You can also try www.find-a-grave.com

Kelli Schnadelbach

What is Maria Riva, Marlene Dietrich's daughter, currently doing? Is she still alive? My husband and I love her book and would be very interested in hearing from you.

A: Peter Riva, Marlenes grandson, will forward your e-mail to Maria. She is alive and well and is writing a new book. But this time not on Marlene.

Fabián Maglio:

I'd like to know if MarleneDietrich made a show in Argentina. Which Theater and year ?

Answer:

Clemento Lococo S.A. - Buenos Aires, Gran Teatro Opera, Argentina. August 12th through 15th, 1959

Thomas

Can i have more information on the movie based on her life that has recently been released. I have heard nothing of this until I visited your web site.

A: Sure, if you mean "Marlene" by Joseph Vilsmaier. Go to our Newsletter Index. (Newsletter 25)

End of Newsletter 30 part II