

## NEWSLETTER No. 41

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2002

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

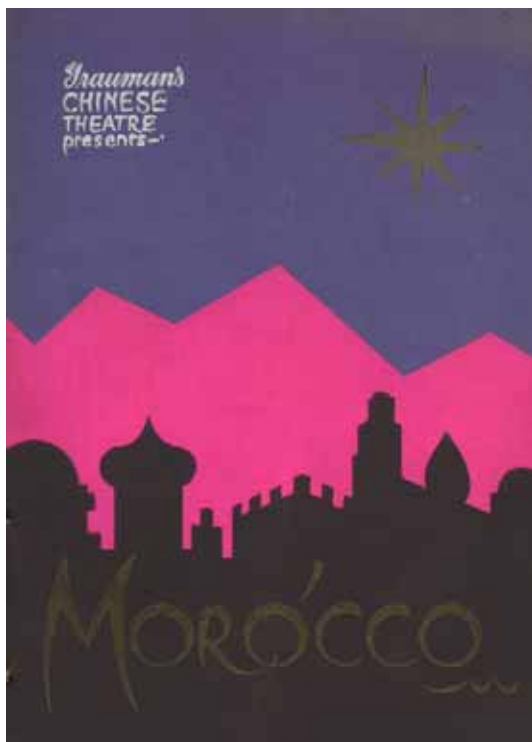
If you want your fellow fans to receive this newsletter or if you just want to add informations write to [mdcb@filmmuseum-berlin.de](mailto:mdcb@filmmuseum-berlin.de) . If you want to support the work of the Filmmuseum Berlin-Deutsche Kinemathek of which Marlene Dietrich Collection Berlin is a division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

Dear fans and friends,

In these times when all cultural institutions have to cut down their budgets we are proud to announce that Silke and Barbara will be working at MDCB on a permanent basis. We may tell you now that we really were afraid of having to close down the Marlene Dietrich Collection Berlin because the contracts of the two ladies were running out. Without them nobody would have been able to handle the collection. Well, we are happy to have them on board now as permanent crew members of the Filmmuseum Berlin.

### New Acquisition:

Andrew Leblanc came to Berlin from New Orleans and brought the official Grauman Chinese Theatre program for "Morocco". We reprint the line-up of the show of that famous evening and the Paramount introduction of their new star Marlene Dietrich



### Program:

- a. "Curtain of stars" a la Cugat
- b. Paramount Sound News, Fox Movietone News, Hearst Metrotone News
- c. Fanchon & Marco's "Moorish Melodic Panorama" featuring Marietta + Armada Chirot with Ali Ben Hassan Troupe, Ferdinand and Company, Eva Nightingale, Damaskus Artists, Gayl, Bert & Daro, Ada Mae Emgard, 24 Hollywood Sunkist Beauties; Dance Ensembles: Larry Ceballos; Choral Ensembles: Ernest G. Grooney; Musical Setting: Karl Hajos; Chinese Theatre Symphony Orchestra conducted by Georgie Stoll
- d. "Morocco" , A Paramount Picture

### Introduction Marlene Dietrich:

"Tonight ... Hollywood will take to its heart a great new artist ... a woman of exquisite mystery ... and yet ... a name already on every tongue ... a voice that will lend new fascination to the talking screen ... a face vividly expressive of a thousand complex emotions ... a figure divine ... a profound artistry revealed through a technique fascinatingly different ... truly a glorious, wonderful new delight for Hollywood ... and for the world! We await with thrilling anticipation her first appearance before us. Marlene Dietrich! We welcome you ... salute you!"

### Advertising with Marlene:

In recent weeks you may have seen some publicity campaigns using Marlenes image. Laura Baldi was so kind to send this from Italy. It is somehow strange that those smart publicity agents always want to add a new "secret revealed" to the myth of Marlene. Was the real Marlene Dietrich hiding behind the person named Marie Magdalene von Losch? And who was that mysterious woman von Losch? Well, nobody will ever know because she never was.



Marlene was born as Marie Magdalene Dietrich – that’s what the official birth certificate says.

And here’s another ad from Poland which was sent by Erik Anderson:



### Document:

Did anyone ever read a report how Marlene worked in a recording studio? Here is one by the french journalist Henri Philippon from the french journal „L’Intransigeant“, published 1933, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sorry, it is in french but this should pose no problem for our smart readers.

Ingénuement, j’avais demandé, à la direction de cette firme de disques, l’autorisation d’assister à une séance d’enregistrement de Marlène Dietrich.

- „Elle“ ne souffre personne dans le studio, en dehors des musiciens, me repondit-on. Et on eut même la bonté d’ajouter: il est inutile d’essayer d’aller à l’encontre de „sa“ volonté, car, son mari, qui assiste a toutes les séances, se charge de déceler les indiscrets et de les chasser rondement!

Vous avez tous visité un studio d’enregistrement et je n’aurai pas l’impertinence de vous décrire ces vastes salles dont les murs disparaissent derrière de lourdes draperies destinées à étouffer les sons. Pourtant, en l’honneur de Marlène Dietrich, on avait dressé au milieu du studio une sorte de stalle en drap au milieu de laquelle on avait placé le micro. Mais voilà que des pas résonnent dans les couloirs et on perçoit la voix grave de Marlène. Je n’ai que le temps de me dissimuler derrière les draperies. De là, je pourrai voir, sans être vu, Marlène au travail.

En un tournemain, la célèbre star a enlevé son feutre et sa jaquette bleue, et la voilà prête à travailler.

Tandis que les musiciens accordent leurs instruments, elle bavarde gaiement avec son mari, M. Sieber, et avec le directeur de la firme. La sonnette de l’ingénieur du son retentit et Marlène prend place près du micro. Hélas! Je ne devais l’entendre que beaucoup plus tard, car elle semble chuchoter des confidences au micro, et on pourrait croire que, seul, l’orchestre enregistre. J’aperçois seulement le visage expressif de la vedette et le mouvement d’épaules quasi légendaire de Lola.

Elle chante pourtant, pour la Nme fois, quatre chansons: deux en francais: *Assez* et *Moi, je m’ennuie* du jeune compositeur Wal-Berg; et deux en allemand: *Allein in einer großen Stadt*, de Wachsmann, et *Wo ist der Mann*, de Peter Kreuder. Voilà quinze jours que Marlène Dietrich travaille pour ces enregistrements et elle recommence jusqu’à douze fois le même face du disque. Cette conscience professionnelle, peu d’artistes l’ont encore aujourd’hui.

Court entr’acte. M. Max Kolpe, qui a écrit les paroles allemandes des chansons, arrive et parle confidentiellement à la vedette, qui l’embrasse fraternellement sur les joues, au grand scandale des musiciens.

La séance reprend bientôt. Trois heures après, j’étais encore derrière le rideau! J’en ai assez, et je profite d’un nouvel entr’acte pour sortir de ma cachette et me mêler aux musiciens.

Froidement, je vais m’asseoir avec eux. Marlène Dietrich me remarque aussitôt,

mais, par miracle, je peux rester: "C'est un musicien!" lui a jeté en réponse le chef d'orchestre, sans même prendre la peine de me regarder.



Marlene Dietrich leaving Les Studios

#### **Websites:**

Speaking of Music the website with Lyrics to marlene songs has a new URL: [www.soundlikemarlene.de](http://www.soundlikemarlene.de). It also contains listings of her songs, her radio and tv performances and pictures of 78rpm labels including Master Records.

Another useful address for collectors is <http://www.setzefandt.net/Marlene%20Dietrich%20Lieder.htm>. This link was brought to our attention by Alexandre Andre.

Erik Anderson complains that he could not find <http://diva-dietrich.cbj.net>. We got the information about this website eight weeks ago, and it was online at that time. But Erik, you are right – it's gone. The site used the signature of Marlene as well as a lot of quotes from her autobiography. So there may have been some legal quarrel – who knows. Thank you Erik for sending us the photos from Marlene in Denmark.

#### **QaA:**

"Christine R" <[CRahnamai@attbi.com](mailto:CRahnamai@attbi.com)> wants to correspond with someone who has read Hasso Felsing's "Der ewige Ausländer" as she has difficulties reading german.

My name is Diana and I'm from Croatia. I'm looking to buy CD of Marlene Dietrich (music) from movie JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG. Actually I'm looking anything from that subject. So, I would like ask you to send me address on www where I could find it. Thank you. My e-mail is [enigma\\_04112000@yahoo.com](mailto:enigma_04112000@yahoo.com)  
Answer: It is always the same answer Diana. Go to [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com) and type in the keyword Marlene Dietrich.

I'm a french artist - marlene is a constant inspiration for my work - I wanted to know if the exhibition described on the site is the collection who has been sold in auction after her death? is it open yet and is it possible to visit it - thank you, ali mahdavi

Thanks Ali for sending us a sample of your work. Actually there were two auctions after her death. The first one was at Sothebys New York and that's the collection which makes the Marlene Dietrich Collection Berlin. The second one was held at Los Angeles and sold the furniture of her New York apartment and other items. The exhibition is open and you'll find it at Filmhaus, Berlin, Potsdamer Straße 2.

#### **Forthcoming events:**

The show "Marlene" by Pam Gems will be performed in Japan. These are the dates:

13 - 16 November at Sambyakunin Gekijo in Tokyo, Japan

20 (2pm & 7pm) at Shinkobe Oriental Gekijo, Kobe, Japan

Another performance could be held at Nagoya, yet to be confirmed.

The ticket price is not yet confirmed.

The ticket will be sold from late September.

For more enquiry, please contact:

Ms Shinohara, at Media Rosa (Japan 047-355-7837)

Hollywood Entertainment Museum in Los Angeles in cooperation with Goethe House Los Angeles will present the Berlin exhibit "Forever Young" starting September 4<sup>th</sup> 2002. More about that event in our next number which will be published end of August. Yes, we are taking a break but Marlene is always online.

End of Newsletter