



NEWSLETTER No. 83

November 3rd, 2006

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 mccb@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

Dear friends and fans,
Newspapers in Denmark spread the news that a thirteen years old girl had to await a fine of 300.000 Dutch Kronen (roughly \$50.000) for using the domain marlene.eu. Some people got angry and felt that they had to do something about it. So out of the blue we received hate mail from Denmark. We were shocked and found out that the news had no substance at all. So we invited all the people who wrote those nasty letters to Berlin to find out what MDCB is doing.
Naturally we did not get an answer. Come to think of it, a donation of \$50.000 would be nice. Anybody out there who likes to cool his anger by spending money on Marlene?

A letter by Peter Riva on Toshiba

When Toshiba first used Marlene's image, our attorney contacted them and asked them to stop. That's all, simply stop. They took the position that as a large company they had the right to do what they wanted, Marlene was dead, so go away.
We contacted them again and pointed out that under the law they were misappropriating her likeness and trading on her fame to sell their product. We suggested that they stop and pay us three laptop computers as a way of saying sorry. They refused. We took them to court, won and they appealed... and so on... up the courts' ladder until they were finally made to pay (note: legal and other costs approached \$200,000 for us).
Apology? No way, their lawyers still take the position that we are wrong, that the Supreme Court is wrong and that, in essence, Germany is wrong, and unfair to Toshiba. Nice people? Hardly. I was taught by Marlene that if someone steals, they are a thief. If someone abuses, they are a molester. If someone lies, they are a liar. Pretty simply really. As a family, we're happy that, in future, other famous and ordinary people can stop these multi-nationals from pirating people's lives as if they owned

the world. At least in Germany common sense has prevailed. Now if only America and Britain could be made to see sense...

Oh, and I've heard that the other big boys are not too thrilled at Toshiba's legal battle now that the Federal Supreme Court in Constitutional Matters has made a black-and-white decision. I understand quite a few other celebrities are taking courage and fighting back. After all, if you can't market your pirated goods in Germany, the rest of the EU is hard to manage. Bravo Marlene! She's still fighting injustice.
Best,
Peter



"Platz an der Schule"
Sketch by Otto Hunte for "Der blaue Engel"
See: New Books

A letter on "You Tube"

I'm Dianne, a Dietrich fan from Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.
Thank you for the fantastic newsletter I receive from you at regular intervals. I always look forward to reading the latest information. I thought I would mention "You Tube" which seems to be the latest "big thing" on the internet at the moment (recently purchased by Google). Tonight I typed in "Marlene Dietrich" in the "Search for" area, and discovered lots of

interesting mini videos. Some are of better quality than others, but I was able to get a sense of the "aura and spirit" of the Dear One. I think the friends and fans of MD might appreciate getting a "glimpse" of Dietrich in action.

Might it be worth mentioning "You Tube" in one of the upcoming newsletters, or might there be commercial copyright issues which might prevent this?

I see "You Tube" as just another source of information, and I know you take pride in alerting people to the latest information about our Dietrich, so it might be worth mentioning!

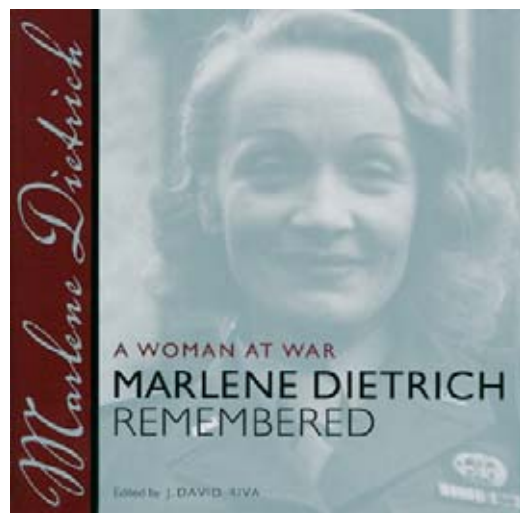
Thank you for your attention and consideration. I'll keep an eye out for "You Tube" in an upcoming newsletter!

MDCB:

Thank you Dianne for your encouraging words. If a TV station wants a clip of rare Marlene footage we make a video with a time code. With the time code they can order a sequence of ten seconds or ten minutes by giving us the exact numbers (beginning and end). Time codes have a specific lettering which you can easily recognize. If months later we see the video with these specific attributes at "You Tube" we're not as happy as you are.

Now let us praise

New books



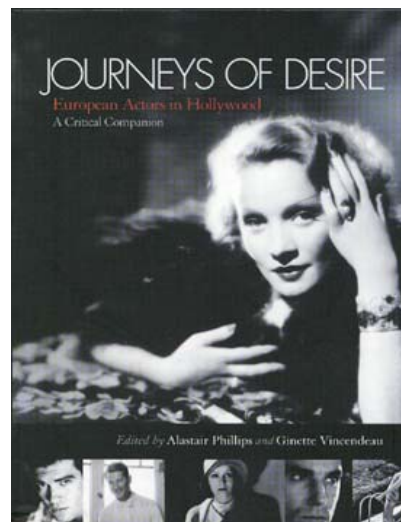
A Woman at War: Marlene Dietrich Remembered

Edited by J. David Riva, Advisory Editor Guy Stern, Wayne State University Press, Detroit, Michigan 2006, 175 pp.

<http://wsupress.wayne.edu/turtle/rivaww/rivab.html>

This one was in production for a long time. The result of long research and hard work proved it was worth waiting for. David Riva published one of the best books on Marlene ever published. The list of contributors is remarkable - among

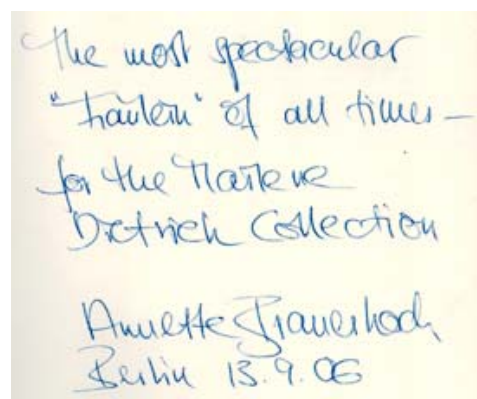
them Nicholas von Sternberg, Burt Bacharach, Maria Riva, Rosemary Clooney, Hildegard Knef and, for the first time ever, Marlene's nephew Hans Georg Will; the design is elegant, the photos wonderfully printed. It is not only a "must have" for fans, it is also a source for serious researchers. Bravo, David. You have done a great job.



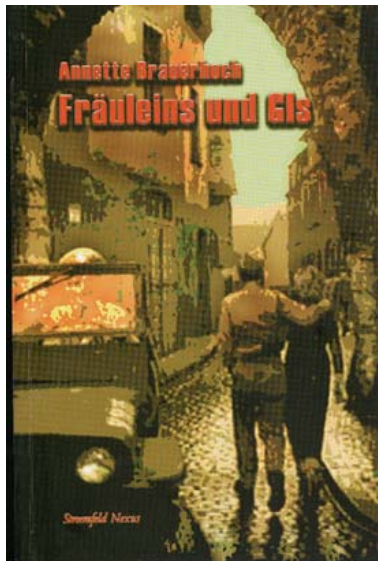
Journeys of Desire. European Actors in Hollywood

Edited by Alastair Phillips and Ginette Vincendeau; British Film Institute, London 2006, 512 pp.

This sounds like another book on exiles but there's more to it. It is a dictionary of European actors in Hollywood from the very beginning till today with a lot of short essays on the different types of actors, the various clichés, the different nations. Marlene is part of Christian Vivianis essay on the "Foreign woman" in classical Hollywood cinema". With so many different contributors and aspects on film exile this is a reference book not to be missed out by any library.



Inscription of the author in our archive copy of the following book:



Annette Brauerhoch: Fräuleins und GIs
Geschichte und Filmgeschichte
Frankfurt/Main und Basel, Stroemfeld Verlag,
2006, 352 pp.

History and Film History is the appropriate subtitle for Annette Brauerhoch's extended study on post war Germany's history of "Fräuleins and GIs". She links film history with social and sexual history thus analysing the image of the "Fräulein" as presented in films and contemporary everyday life. No wonder this book has about 500 pages. Marlene and Billy Wilder are there with "A Foreign Affair"; with the background of other "Fräulein" films Brauerhoch states for example that Marlene's glamorous star-image as the lady who chooses her lovers protects the image of the "Fräulein" she plays in that film. Very interesting reading.



Le cinéma expressionniste allemand.
Splendeurs d'une Collection
Éditions de la Martinière, La Cinématèque
Française, Paris 2006, 238 pp.

The Cinémathèque Française congratulates herself to her 70th birthday by producing this wonderful book on German Expressionist Cinema. Thanks to German born Lotte H. Eisner the masterworks of German set design survived in the collections of this great French film archive. What has expressionism to do with Marlene? The great artist Otto Hunte worked for a lot of expressionist films and also for "The Blue Angel". For the first time ever his sketches preserved in Paris are to be seen in a book. If you happen to be in Paris don't miss the exhibition at the Cinémathèque Française.



Sketch by Otto Hunte titled: "Straße zum blauen Engel"



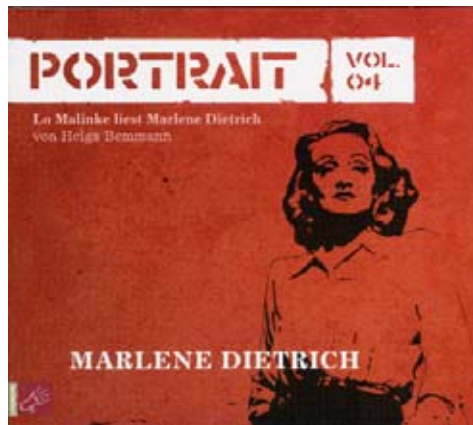
Der Künstlerfriedhof in Friedenau
Edition Friedenauer Brücke, Berlin 2006,
136 pp.

<http://www.friedenauer-bruecke.de/>

Der Künstlerfriedhof in Friedenau is the quiet cemetery where Marlene and her mother rest in peace. Many other artists are buried there and this little, beautifully illustrated book gives their names and a short biography to each and everyone of them. For Marlene you'll also find the full text of the lyrics from which the excerpt

“Hier steh ich an den Marken meiner Tage” is written on the tomb as well as the explanation why this is such a modest grave – according to Marlene’s last will it should look like a soldier’s grave. We think that in two years time this will be a hard-to-find book. In 10 years you may have to pay a lot to get it. Better get it now – you won’t regret it.

New CD



Series Portrait, Vol 4: Lo Malinke liest Marlene Dietrich von Helga Bemann

2 CDs, 2 hours 38 min; RD 2633277
tacheles Hörbuch & Kabarett bei ROOF Music
Bochum 2006

In 1986 Helga Bemann published her book „Marlene Dietrich – Ihr Weg zum Chanson“ which was revised and reprinted in 2000 as „Marlene Dietrich – Im Frack zum Ruhm“. An actor by the name of Lo Malinke reads the book and he starts with the seemingly inevitable “Marlene Dietrich was born on....”. The reading goes on for two hours and 38 minutes. We can’t exactly say at what minute we fell asleep.

Erich Maria Remarque:

Werner made a short trip to Ronco/ Switzerland and visited Erich Maria Remarques grave. This is a wonderfully situated graveyard overlooking the Lago Maggiore. While the writing on Remarque’s stone is clearly visible Paulette Goddard’s name on the left is slightly fading.



End of Newsletter 83