

THE SILENT TREATMENT

ALL THE NEWS FIT TO HEAR • VOLUME 03 • NUMBER 05 • SEP/OCT 2009

WALT DISNEY FAMILY MUSEUM TO CELEBRATE GRAND OPENING

SAN FRANCISCO, CA. The fascinating and inspiring story of Walt Disney, whose artistry, creations, and vision helped define the 20th-century American culture, will be brought to life at **The Walt Disney Family Museum**, marking



its grand opening on **October 1st, 2009**. The Museum will illuminate Walt Disney's tremendous successes, disappointments, and unyielding optimism as he pursued innovation and excellence while entertaining and enchanting generations worldwide through his pioneering ventures.

The WDFMuseum will chronicle Disney's early, fitful starts at developing live and animated films, including the hardship with his first cartoon company in Kansas City. After **Laugh-O-Gram Films** went bankrupt in 1923, Disney took the train to California, with \$40 in his pocket. By the end of the 1920s, despite his humble Hollywood beginnings, Disney rose to international fame and recognition with the invention of the world's most famous mouse.

The Museum tells the story of the man behind the myth in Dis-

ney's own voice and in exhibits that reveal his expansive vision; from early drawings of some of his most popular characters to plans for Disneyland and Epcot. Visitors will find rare film clips, concept art, scripts, musical scores, and cameras that

Disney and his staff used in creating his characters and films. The visually stunning design incorporates movie posters that come to life to show scenes from Disney films, interactive light tables, and discovery drawers that add nuance and layer to the story of his life.

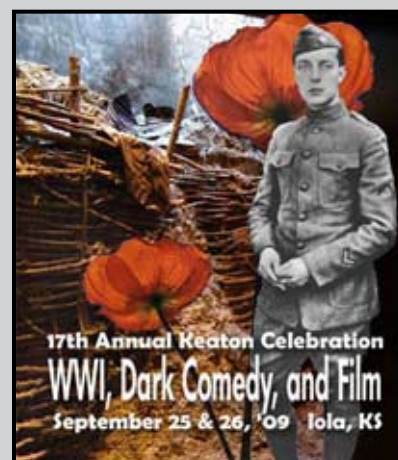
The facilities of the WDFMuseum are located in three historic buildings within the Presidio of San Francisco. The centerpiece is a former army barracks at 104 Montgomery Street. The Museum uses the building's original domestic-scale rooms to frame the story of Disney's life which incorporates a wide range of materials and technologies. In addition to the galleries, the Museum contains a 114-seat screening facility, a learning center, a store, and a café. (Tickets at www.waltdisney.org)
Info courtesy Andrea Wang, WDFM)

17th Annual Keaton Celebration

September 25th & 26th, 2009

KANSAS. The 17th annual **Buster Keaton Celebration** in Iola will focus on Keaton and World War I (1914-1918) with films connected to the war made by newsreel cameramen or famous comedians like Keaton, Chaplin, Harry Langdon and Roscoe 'Fatty' Arbuckle. Presentations will also be made by officials from the National World War I Museum in Kansas City and several film scholars and authors.

The entire event will be held at the Bowlus Fine Arts Center in Iola and covers two full days. Admission is **free** and open to the public. Highlights will include a showing of the Mack Sennett slapstick feature, **Yankee Doodle In Berlin** (1919), **The Better 'Ole** (1926) starring Sydney Chaplin and a collection of classic silent shorts including Charlie Chaplin's **Shoulder Arms** and two Keaton/Arbuckle classics. Live music will be provided by Marvin Faulwell.



Film Historian and Preservationist David Shepard will introduce several films including his own documentary production, *The Moving Picture Boys In The Great War* (1975). Two documentaries produced by Martha Jett regarding Buster Keaton's military experiences, *My Career at the Rear* and an interview with *The Last Surviving American WWI Veteran* recorded in 2008 will also be featured. (Visit: www.busterkeatoncelebration.org for more info)

MAGIC LANTERNS AND PAINTED FILM: Four Centuries of Cinema



Molteni Marionette

FRANCE/ITALY. Starting **October 14th, 2009** thru March 28th, 2010, a new exhibition co-produced by the Cinémathèque Française and the Museo Nazionale Del Cinema will be on display first in Paris in October 2009, and then onto Torino in October 2010. *Magic Lanterns and Painted Film: Four Centuries of Cinema* will present the rich artistic inventiveness, evolution, and variety of images by the magic lantern since its origins in 1659 to its progressive disappearance around 1920.

The exhibition is curated by Laurent Mannoni of the Cinémathèque Française and Donata Pesenti of the Museo Nazionale. Several loans for this unique assembly come from the Early Visual Media Collection, one of which is the Fantoscope that currently resides at the Cinémathèque Française's permanent exhibition known as Passion Cinema. In addition, a lavishly produced catalogue of all the artifacts on display from both exhibitions is set to be published and made available for the traveling exhibition. (www.cinema-theque.fr/fr/expositions-cinema.html)

SHASTA COUNTY SILENT FILM FESTIVAL October 23rd & 24th, 2009

REDDING, CA. The Shasta County Arts Council will mark their 4th Annual Silent Film Festival at Old City Hall in downtown Redding. Built in 1907, Old City Hall once housed the city's offices, council chambers, and a police department, then later renovated and redesigned in 1987 to house a gallery and performing arts theater. This 102 year old facility is the perfect venue for the two day festival offering an eclectic mix of silent features and shorts, including Clara Bow in *It* (1927) the film that made her the signature flap



Valley of the Giants

per girl of the 1920s, the Milton Sills starring drama *In The Valley of The Giants* (1927) set against the towering redwoods of the Sierra Nevada, and the German gothic fantasy *Destiny* (1921) directed by Fritz Lang. All pictures will include piano accompaniment by Frederick Hodges of the Bay Area Royal Jazz Society. (For full festival schedule and ticket info visit www.shastaartscouncil.org)

EARLY FILMS DISCOVERED IN POLISH CELLAR



Richard Oswald

WARSAW. Aug 21st, 2009 (AFP) Several rare early 20th century Swedish, German, Italian, and American movies have been discovered in a cellar in southern Poland, the country's national film library said recently. "They are going to undergo cleaning and conservation, before being watched, identified and archived," said library spokeswoman Justyna Jablonska.

The Polska newspaper reported that experts have identified several cinematic gems in the metal boxes discovered in a parish building in the city of Sosnowiec.

The newspaper said they included the 1913 *Gränsfolken* (*People of the Border*), adapted by Swedish director Mauritz Stiller from a novel by French icon Emile Zola, as well as *Zwei Himmelblaue Augen* (*Two Skyblue Eyes*), released in 1932 by Germany's Johannes Meyer.

In addition, Polska said, the films include a 1929 German version of the Sherlock Holmes adventure *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Richard Oswald, one from the long-running Italian series *Maciste*, which began in 1914 and starred Bartolomeo Pagano. Experts reportedly also discovered parts of a 1913 movie by Germany's Otton Rippert, who often worked with Fritz Lang.

The collection belonged to the parish priest Father Jerzy Barszcz, a local film buff who began collecting movies after World War II, and who died in 2004, Polska reported. (www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gnJZmg0tHH1-paU9NSctcy_vXOFA)

The Sydney Silent Film Festival October 2009



The Mark of Zorro

AUSTRALIA. Taking place at the State Library of NSW in Sydney is the 2009 Silent Film Festival which will present a premium selection of titles from the Golden Era

of silent films, featuring legendary names such as Greta Garbo, Douglas Fairbanks and Buster Keaton.

The festival will present the classic action adventure epic *The Mark of Zorro* on **October 15th**, the beautiful and inspirational romance of *Seventh Heaven* on **October 24th**, and the mesmerizing *Man with the Movie Camera*, an art house film from the Soviet Avant Garde era on **October 25th**.



The Sentimental Bloke

Australia also produced some great classics along with the rest of the world, and the Festival is thrilled to present our first great production *The Story of the Kelly Gang*, made in 1906, along with the great classic, *The Sentimental Bloke* from 1919, considered one of Australia's most important films; both are scheduled to run on **October 18th**.

Alas, perhaps you are just after some classic comedy from the good old days which is hard to find. Well, Buster Keaton's *The General* also on **October 18th** should satisfy you, as well as the ever-popular slapstick comedy found in the **More Comedies for Kids** session.

Most of the films will be presented with live music with the return of Sharolyn Kimmorley, Mauro Colombis and Professor Robert Constable. (*For complete schedule & ticket info, visit www.ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au*)

MYRNA LOY: RESURRECTING THE "INSPIRATION" STATUE

VENICE, CA. For more than 50 years the Myrna Loy Statue, with its outstretched arms and graceful figure, was the symbol of **Venice High School** and a local landmark. Created by sculptor Harry Winebrenner in 1920, it was originally dubbed "Inspiration." A Venice High School student Myrna Williams, who posed for the statue, later became the Hollywood star **Myrna Loy**.

Unfortunately, the Myrna Loy Statue became the target of pranksters over the years, and in 1978 vandals destroyed Myrna's arms and head, as well as the heads of the two companion statues. In 1980, students joined sculptor William Van Orden on restoration work & when the statue was unveiled, her arms were no longer outstretched but folded in an attempt to stifle further vandalism.

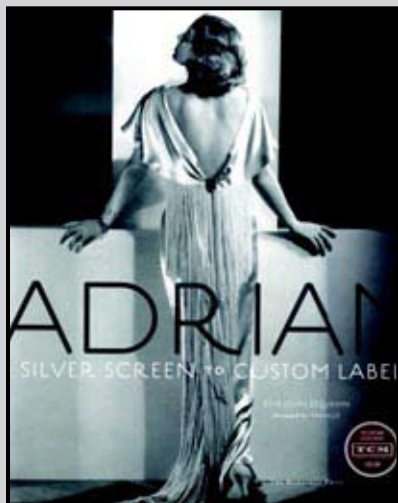


Sadly, this strategy did not work and the statue fell into disrepair which ultimately forced its complete removal in 2002.

In 2008, members of the Venice High Alumni mounted a campaign to recreate a brand new statue that best represents the original from 1920 with renowned sculptor Ernest Sheldon assigned to tackle the mighty task. To withstand the elements the new statue will be made of bronze, put on a broader base and elevated to deter vandals. A generous donation of \$46,000 by 1961 Venice Alum Peter Schwab helped kick start the effort and he further agreed to match any future financial contributions dollar for dollar to the resurrection of the "Inspiration" statue. (*Donations, please visit www.venicehighalumni.com/myrna.html to learn more*)

BOOK CORNER

ADRIAN: Silver Screen to Custom Label



This book by Christian Esquevin highlights and showcases many of Adrian's great costume and fashion

designs from the 1920s through the 1950s. Not only are his timeless glamour gowns, period outfits, and amazing show-girl costumes featured in films, but also his impeccable suits and beautiful gowns from his private label.

The ten years of Adrian Ltd. are summarized year-by-year, and his life with Janet Gaynor and his taste for decorating and art are described. (www.randomhouse.com/monacelli)

ON DVD

Gaumont Treasures (1897-1913)

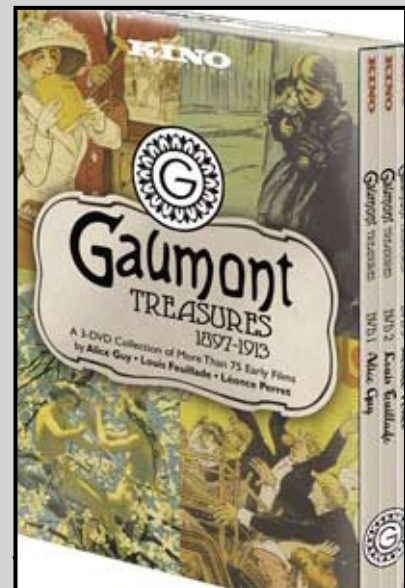


Alice Guy-Blaché

The invention of cinema—and its growth into a sophisticated art form—are vividly brought to life in this massive collection of films from the early years of the influential Gaumont Film Company.

Gaumont Treasures is a 3-DVD Collection of more than 75 Early Films. Each disc is devoted to one of Gaumont's artistic directors, Alice Guy-Blaché, Louis Feuillade, and Léonce Perret, who oversaw all film

production at the studio, and profoundly influenced not only the identity of the studio but also the evolution of the cinema itself.



The collection also includes two new documentary shorts: *Louis Feuillade: Master of Many Forms* and *Léonce Perret: The Filmmaker's Filmmaker*. (www.kino.com)

MOMENTS IN SILENCE

October 1, 1928 – Warner Brothers buys majority stake in First National Pictures

October 27, 1911 – Director Francis Boggs is murdered

November 21, 1894 – Mutoscope Patent is filed

TST EDITED & PUBLISHED BY:

Brandee Brannigan:

Content Manager

Steven K. Hill:

Layout & Graphic Design

Contact us at: tstnews@yahoo.com
www.tstnews.net