

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
January 1991

HARD, FAST, AND BEAUTIFUL--IDA LUPINO, FILMMAKER AND ACTRESS

February 1 - March 9, 1991

A retrospective of films tracing the achievements of Ida Lupino, one of the more distinctive actresses of the American screen during the 1940s and 1950s, opens at The Museum of Modern Art on February 1, 1991. Although primarily known as an actress, Ida Lupino has also had a singular career behind the cameras. At a time when filmmaking in Hollywood was not open to women, Lupino wrote, directed, and produced a series of low-budget films and later became a prolific television director. HARD, FAST, AND BEAUTIFUL--IDA LUPINO, FILMMAKER AND ACTRESS, continuing through March 9, presents twelve features in which Lupino starred, six films she directed, and a selection of her television work.

This exhibition highlights some of Lupino's finest performances, with such memorable films as Raoul Walsh's psychological portrait of a gangster *High Sierra* (1941), and Jean Negulesco's melodrama *Road House* (1948). Also included are Vincent Sherman's *The Hard Way* (1942), about a bitterly ambitious woman who pushes her sister to stardom, and Walsh's *The Man I Love* (1946), the story of a nightclub singer who is pursued by a mobster.

Born in London in 1918 to a British theatrical family, Lupino began to play young sophisticates at age fourteen. After moving to Hollywood in the early 1930s, she matured into an actress of rare feeling and intensity during the 1940s. In 1948 Lupino and her then husband, Collier Young, founded Emerald Films, which was later known as The Filmmakers. The tough-minded

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B-melodramas Lupino directed addressed such subjects as rape, bigamy, polio, and unwed motherhood, themes she typically treated in an unsensational and realistic fashion. Not only were her films unusual for their subject matter, but also for their visual style. Due to exceedingly small, non-studio budgets, Lupino was forced to shoot on location and use unknown actors. Between 1949 and 1954, she wrote and directed six features while continuing her career as a much-acclaimed actress.

The Filmmakers's first production was *Not Wanted* (1949), the story of an unwed mother who chooses to give up her child. *Outrage* (1950) looks at the trauma of rape; *Hard Fast and Beautiful* (1951) portrays a domineering mother who lives through her daughter's accomplishments in the competitive world of professional tennis; and *The Bigamist* (1953) tells the story of a traveling salesman married to two women, one of whom is played by Lupino herself.

In 1955 Lupino directed her first television drama, a segment for *Screen Director's Playhouse*; she was later asked to direct episodes of *Have Gun, Will Travel*. In 1956-57, Lupino and her new husband, Howard Duff, starred in a hit television series, *Mr. Adams and Eve*. Over the next fifteen years, she directed more than 100 episodes of programs, including *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, *Twilight Zone*, and *The Untouchables*. She continued to work as an actress into the 1970s, having directed her last feature in 1966, and currently lives in retirement in California.

HARD, FAST, AND BEAUTIFUL--IDA LUPINO, FILMMAKER AND ACTRESS has been organized by Stephen Harvey, associate curator, Department of Film.

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No. 9

For further information or film stills, contact Sarah Eaton, Film Press Representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.

HARD, FAST AND BEAUTIFUL--IDA LUPINO, FILMMAKER AND ACTRESS

Exhibition Schedule

Friday, February 1

- 2:30 p.m. *The Hard Way*. 1943. Vincent Sherman. With Ida Lupino, Joan Leslie, Jack Carson, Dennis Morgan, Gladys George. 108 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *Hard, Fast and Beautiful*. 1951. Ida Lupino. With Claire Trevor, Sally Forrest. 76 min.

Saturday, February 2

- 2:00 p.m. *The Light That Failed*. 1939. William A. Wellman. With Ronald Colman, Ida Lupino, Walter Huston, Muriel Angelus. 98 min.
- 5:00 p.m. *Never Fear*. 1950. Ida Lupino. With Sally Forrest, Keefe Brasselle, Hugh O'Brian. 82 min.

Sunday, February 3

- 2:00 p.m. *Outrage*. 1950. Ida Lupino. With Mala Powers, Tod Andrews. 75 min.
- 5:00 p.m. *The Hard Way*
see Friday, February 1 at 2:30

Monday, February 4

- 2:30 p.m. *Hard, Fast and Beautiful*
see Friday, February 1 at 6:00
- 6:00 p.m. *The Light That Failed*
see Saturday, February 2 at 2:00

Tuesday, February 5

- 2:30 p.m. *The Hitch-hiker*. 1953. Ida Lupino. With Edmond O'Brien, Frank Lovejoy, William Talman. 71 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *Never Fear*
see Saturday, February 2 at 5:00

Thursday, February 7

- 2:30 p.m. *Not Wanted*. 1949. Elmer Clifton; co-produced and co-written by Ida Lupino. With Sally Forrest, Keefe Brasselle, Leo Penn. 91 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *Outrage*
see Sunday, February 3 at 2:00

Friday, February 8

- 2:30 p.m. *They Drive by Night*. 1940. Raoul Walsh. With George Raft, Ida Lupino, Ann Sheridan, Humphrey Bogart. 93 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *The Hitch-hiker*
see Tuesday, February 5 at 2:30

Saturday, February 9

- 2:00 p.m. *The Bigamist*. 1953. Ida Lupino. With Lupino, Edmond O'Brien, Joan Fontaine, Edmund Gwenn, Jane Darwell. 79 min.
- 5:00 p.m. *High Sierra*. 1941. Raoul Walsh. With Ida Lupino, Humphrey Bogart, Joan Leslie, Arthur Kennedy. 100 min.

Sunday, February 10

- 2:00 p.m. *Not Wanted*
see Thursday, February 7 at 2:30
- 5:00 p.m. *They Drive by Night*
see Friday, February 8 at 2:30

Monday, February 11

- 2:30 p.m. *Private Hell 36*. 1954. Don Siegel. Written by Ida Lupino. With Lupino, Steve Cochran, Howard Duff, Dorothy Malone, Dean Jagger. 81 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *The Bigamist*
see Saturday, February 9 at 2:00

Tuesday, February 12

- 2:30 p.m. *High Sierra*
see Saturday, February 9 at 5:00

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6:00 p.m. *Road House*. 1948. Jean Negulesco. With Ida Lupino, Cornel Wilde, Richard Widmark, Celeste Holm. 95 min.

Thursday, February 14

2:30 p.m. *Road House*
see Tuesday, February 12 at 6:00

6:00 p.m. *Private Hell 36*
see Monday, February 11 at 2:30

Friday, February 15

2:30 p.m. *Ladies in Retirement*. 1941. Charles Vidor. With Ida Lupino, Louis Hayward, Evelyn Keyes, Elsa Lanchester. 91 min.

6:00 p.m. *The Man I Love*. 1946. Raoul Walsh. With Ida Lupino, Robert Alda, Bruce Bennett, Andrea King. 96 min.

Saturday, February 16

2:00 p.m. *Deep Valley*. 1947. Jean Negulesco. With Ida Lupino, Dane Clark, Wayne Morris, Fay Bainter. 103 min.

5:00 p.m. *On Dangerous Ground*. 1952. Nicholas Ray. With Ida Lupino, Robert Ryan, Ward Bond. 82 min.

Sunday, February 17

2:00 p.m. *While the City Sleeps*. 1956. Fritz Lang. With Dana Andrews, Ida Lupino, Rhonda Fleming, Vincent Price, George Sanders, Howard Duff, Thomas Mitchell, Sally Forrest. 99 min.

5:00 p.m. *Ladies in Retirement*
see Friday, February 15 at 2:30

Monday, February 18

2:30 p.m. *Deep Valley*
see Saturday, February 16 at 2:00

6:00 p.m. *The Man I Love*
see Friday, February 15 at 6:00

Tuesday, February 19

2:30 p.m. *On Dangerous Ground*
see Saturday, February 16 at 5:00

6:00 p.m. *The Big Knife*. 1955. Robert Aldrich. With Jack Palance, Ida Lupino, Rod Steiger, Shelley Winters, Wendell Corey, Jean Hagen. 111 min.

Thursday, February 21

2:30 p.m. *The Big Knife*
see Tuesday, February 19 at 6:00

6:00 p.m. *While the City Sleeps*
see Sunday, February 17 at 2:00

Friday, February 22

6:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 1

Saturday, February 23

2:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 2

Sunday, February 24

5:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 3

Tuesday, February 26

3:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 4

6:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 5

Tuesday, March 5

6:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 1

Thursday, March 7

6:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 2

Friday, March 8

6:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 3

Saturday, March 9

2:30 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 4

5:00 p.m. Lupino TV Shows, program 5

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