

The Museum of Modern Art

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MAJOR RETROSPECTIVE OF THE FILMS OF INGRID BERGMAN INAUGURATES NEW ANNUAL FILM SERIES AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

**Series Presents Twenty Films
Tracing the Arc of Ms. Bergman's Distinguished Career**

***The Billy Rose Tribute to Ingrid Bergman*
December 22, 1997- January 11, 1998
The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters 1 and 2**

The Billy Rose Tributes, a new annual series exploring the work of celebrated and unsung actors, honors Ingrid Bergman, the Swedish born actress (b. Stockholm, August 29, 1915; d. August 29, 1982) who gave remarkably versatile and varied performances for some of cinema's greatest directors.

Presented by the Department of Film and Video, the inaugural tribute to Ms. Bergman runs from December 22, 1997, through January 11, 1998. Ingrid and Isabella Rossellini, two of Ingrid Bergman's daughters, will introduce the opening night screening of *Stromboli* (1950) on December 22.

This retrospective marks a significant collaboration between the Museum and The Billy Rose Foundation. Established in memory of the theater impresario responsible for bringing popular shows such as *Jumbo* (1935), *Carmen Jones* (1943), and *Seven Lively Arts* (1944) to Broadway, the foundation is a major supporter of the arts in New York City. It is headed by Arthur Cantor, whose Broadway productions of George Bernard Shaw's *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* in 1971 and Somerset Maugham's *The Constant Wife* in 1973 starred Ms. Bergman.

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Possessed of a rare blend of intelligence and emotion, Ms. Bergman was often admired for the naturalness and erotic vulnerability she communicated on screen. Author and critic James Agee was only one of the many who were captivated by her. "Miss Bergman not only bears a startling resemblance to an imaginable human being," he wrote, "she really knows how to act, in a blend of poetic grace with quiet realism which almost never appears in American pictures."

The Billy Rose Tribute to Ingrid Bergman traces the arc of Ms. Bergman's career, beginning with her early work in Sweden, including Gustav Molander's *En Kvinns ansikte* (*A Woman's Face*, 1938) and Per Lindberg's *Juninatten* (*A Night in June*, 1940). The series also presents some of her most celebrated Hollywood films, including Michael Curtiz's *Casablanca* (1942), Alfred Hitchcock's *Spellbound* (1945) and *Notorious* (1946), and Leo McCarey's *The Bells of St. Mary's* (1945)

Also included are Ms. Bergman's collaborations with husband Roberto Rossellini: *Stromboli, Viaggio in Italia* (*Journey to Italy*, 1954), "The Chicken" episode from *Siamo donne* (1953), and *Giovanna d'Arco al Rogo* (*Joan of Arc at the Stake*, 1954), based on the oratorio by Paul Claudel and Arthur Honegger, as well as footage from the unedited documentary *Santa Brigida* (1951), in which the actress visits a convent in Southern Italy.

Her collaborations with Jean Renoir (*Elena et les hommes* [*Elena and Her Men/Paris Does Strange Things*, 1957]), and Ingmar Bergman (*Autumn Sonata* [1978]) are presented, as are some of Ms. Bergman's less conventional roles, such as those in Victor Fleming's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1941) and Hitchcock's *Under Capricorn* (1949), which has been restored by the National Film and Television Archive, London.

Twice awarded the Oscar for Best Actress, for *Gaslight* (1944) and *Anastasia* (1956) (she also won Best Supporting Actress in 1974 for *Murder on the Orient Express*), Ms. Bergman was the recipient of numerous New York Film Critics' Awards. She received an Emmy for her performance in John Frankenheimer's 1959 adaptation for NBC of *The Turn of the Screw*. These three films are included in the program, along with *Swedes in America* (1943), a documentary made for the Office of War Information's Overseas Motion Picture Bureau, about Ms. Bergman's visit with Swedish farmers in Minnesota.

It is unusual for actors to receive extensive retrospectives at The Museum of Modern Art. Only Anna Magnani, Lillian Gish, Jeanne Moreau, and Asta Nielsen have been so honored.

The Billy Rose Tribute to Ingrid Bergman is organized by Joshua Siegel, Assistant Curator, Department of Film and Video. The Department of Film and Video thanks Arthur Cantor of The Billy Rose Foundation; Elizabeth Stapen, the Swedish Information Services, New York; Gil, Ingrid, and Isabella Rossellini and Pia Lindstrom; and the participating archives and distributors.

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For press screening information, please see overleaf.

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