

Paramount

The Paramount holdings at the UCLA Film and Television Archive include the entire studio output from the coming of sound in the late 1920s to 1948. In many cases these studio prints are the best, or only, available materials for preservation. Paramount features and shorts have been at the forefront of the Archive's preservation program and the Archive staged a major retrospective of Paramount titles in 1987. Paramount Pictures, the most powerful motion picture corporation coming out of the 1920s into the studio era, braved the adverse effects of the Depression and enjoyed financial success throughout the 1930s and 1940s.

Over this three-decade span, the studio boasted an enormous diversity of talent and style including work by an impressive range of Hollywood masters. Ernst Lubitsch, Billy Wilder, Preston Sturges, Josef von Sternberg and Rouben Mamoulian among others, directed sophisticated comedies of manners and contemporary dramas, while Cecil B. DeMille crafted his famed monumental epics. The studio discovered and promoted stars as diverse as Gary Cooper, Marlene Dietrich, Claudette Colbert, Maurice Chevalier, Mae West and George Raft. Currently, Paramount's in-house production is combined with the sponsorship of an increasing number of independently packaged films. *GREASE*, *SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER*, *THE GODFATHER* films, the Indiana Jones series, and the films of Eddie Murphy.



Marlene Dietrich, shown here in *Blonde Venus* (1932), was a staple of Paramount in the 1930s.

The Paramount collection housed at UCLA comprises more than 800 feature films, most of which are from the studio's "Golden Age." Cartoons and short subjects also constitute a sizable part of the collection. The Archive holds, for example, the acclaimed cartoons of Max and Dave Fleischer. There are also a good number of Paramount's own in-house productions, including the "Screen Songs" series and shorts featuring Little Lulu. A smaller number of newsreels and live action short subjects are part of the collection--of particular interest are the publicity shorts for Paramount features including "Hedda Hopper's Hollywood" (1941-1942) and "Hollywood on

Parade" (1932-1934). Some of the films from the Paramount collection which have been preserved and restored by the Archive include: *THE WILD PARTY* (1929, Dorothy Arzner); *MOROCCO* (1930, Josef von Sternberg); *THE VIRGINIAN* (1929, Victor Fleming); *THE SCOUNDREL* (1935, Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur); *REMEMBER THE NIGHT* (1940, Mitchell Leisen); *HIGH, WIDE AND HANDSOME* (1937, Rouben Mamoulian); *THE MOON'S OUR HOME* (1936, William A. Seiter); *ROAD TO UTOPIA* (1945, Hal Walker); *GLORIFYING THE AMERICAN GIRL* (1929, Millard Webb).

Paramount

Films

(this is only a partial list – consult the Archive Research and Study Center for further listings)

Morocco (1930). Paramount. Director, Josef von Sternberg. Writer, Jules Furthman. Study Copy: VA 17504 M.

The Virginian (1929). Paramount. Director, Victor Fleming. Writer, Howard Estabrook. Study Copy: VA 11159 M.

The Palm Beach Story (1942). Paramount. Writer and Director, Preston Sturges. Study Copy: VA 2012 M.

Remember the Night (1940). Paramount. Director, Mitchell Leisen. Writer, Preston Sturges. Study Copy: VA 1176 M.

Broken Lullaby (1932). Paramount. Director, Ernst Lubitsch. Writers, Samson Raphaelson and Ernest Vajda. Study Copy: VA 971 M.

Sunset Boulevard (1950). Paramount. Director, Billy Wilder. Writers, Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder, and D. M. Marshman, Jr. Study Copy: VD 570 M (laser disc) and VA 1945 M (video).

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (1932). Paramount. Director, Rouben Mamoulian. Writers, Samuel Hoffenstein and Percy Heath. Based on the novel by Robert Louis Stevenson. Study Copy: VA 934 M.

The Ten Commandments (1956). Paramount. Director, Cecil B. DeMille. Writers, Aeneas MacKenzie, Jesse Lasky, Jr., Jack Gariss, and Frederick M. Frank. Study Copy: VA 2613-14 M.

The Smiling Lieutenant (1931). Paramount. Director, Ernst Lubitsch. Writers, Ernest Vajda and Samson Raphaelson. Study Copy: VD 724 M.

Klondike Annie (1936). Paramount. Director, Raoul Walsh. Writer, Mae West. Study Copy: VD 832 M.

Print Resources

(for more information consult the UCLA Arts Library)

Edmonds, I. G. *Paramount Pictures and the People Who Made Them*. San Diego, CA: A.S. Barnes, 1980.

Halliwell, Leslie. *Mountain of Dreams: The Golden Years of Paramount Pictures*. New York: Stonehill Pub. Co., 1976.

Eames, John Douglas. *The Paramount Story*. New York: Crown, 1985.