



Eleanor Parker: Woman of a Thousand Faces

By Doug McClelland

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This is the first book on enduring Hollywood star Eleanor Parker, long underrated despite three best actress Academy Award nominations (*Caged*, 1950; *Detective Story*, 1951; *Interrupted Melody*, 1955).

Parker was a beauty as well as a versatile actress, and her achievements approach those of more publicized colleagues Bette Davis and Katharine Hepburn. With Parker's blessing and her son Paul Clemens' cooperation, Doug McClelland has written one of the most thorough examinations of a film star's career.

The book is valuable to librarians, academics, and film enthusiasts for its extensive documentation and analyses of all of Parker's work, for the bibliographies of her coverage in books and periodicals, for the portrait of a glamorous, creative era in filmmaking, and for the insights into the careers of Eleanor Parker's associates, many among the most heavily researched motion picture artists of cinema's "Golden Age."

The book contains a forward by noted screenwriter William Ludwig, who won an Academy Award for Parker's *Interrupted Melody*, and afterword by Marjorie Lawrence, the opera singer whom Parker portrayed in *Interrupted Melody*, and photos of Eleanor Parker that show her in many of her "thousand faces."

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Editorial Review

Review

This is a book of astute knowledgeability and no little passion...illuminates the fascinating and often obscure facts. (*Films In Review*)

McClelland's book gives some possible explanations as to why the freeze on Parker; if she hasn't an Oscar to her name, this book-tribute may be the next best thing. (*Hollywood Reporter*)

...a remarkable amount of documentation...an extraordinary labor of scholarship and love...Recommended. (*Classic Images*)

One of my all-time favorite books is Doug McClelland's 1989 one on Eleanor Parker. Scarecrow has finally reissued *Eleanor Parker: Woman of a Thousand Faces: A Bio-Bibliography and Filmography* in softcover, and it's high time, I'd say. This remains an important work. Not only because it's superbly written and researched, but because Eleanor Parker is an actress of great skill who has been somewhat neglected in terms of film history...No one can describe a movie better than Doug McClelland. (*Classic Images*)

...wonderful...the first chapter had me hooked. (Leonard Maltin)

About the Author

Doug McClelland, a former newspaper and magazine editor, is a writer-lecturer on film. He is the author of eleven books, including *Susan Hayward: The Divine Bitch*, *Down the Yellow Brick Road: The Making of the Wizard of Oz*, and *Hollywood on Ronald Reagan*. He has written for such periodicals as *After Dark*, *Films in Review*, and *Hollywood Studio Magazine*.

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