

NOIR CITY MOVIE SCHEDULE • JANUARY 23 – FEBRUARY 1 • CASTRO THEATRE

Friday Night, January 23

Deadline-U.S.A. 7:30 NOT ON DVD!

1952, 20th Century-Fox, 87 min., scr.-dir. Richard Brooks. One of the most exciting, elegiac movies ever made about the fourth estate. The *New York Day* is about to be sold to its chief competitor and with only hours before the presses stop, veteran editor Ed Hutcheson (Humphrey Bogart) decides to go out in a blaze of journalistic glory.

Scandal Sheet 9:30 NOT ON DVD!

1952, Columbia, 82 min. dir. Phil Karlson. Novel by Samuel Fuller. A terrific tabloid thriller by director Karlson. Broderick Crawford stars as managing editor of a scandal-mongering tabloid who murders his ex-wife, covers it up, and then—unable to resist the allure of a juicy circulation-booster—assigns his star reporter (John Derek) to track down the culprit.

Saturday Matinée, January 24

Blind Spot 1:30 NOT ON DVD!

1947, Columbia, 73 min. scr. Martin Goldsmith, dir. Robert Gordon. An entertaining “cheapie” about an in-his-cups writer (Chester Morris) who pitches his skeptical publisher an ingenious “locked room” mystery — only to have the crime come true. Martin (*Detour*) Goldsmith’s script is amusing for its backhanded take on the mystery-writing genre.

Chicago Deadline 3:00 NOT ON DVD!

1949, Paramount/UCLA, 86 min. scr. Warren Duff, dir. Lewis Allen. Alan Ladd is a reporter obsessed with a dead woman he finds in a cheap brothel. He cobbles together the sad history of a good girl (Donna Reed) gone wrong. This 35mm print (the only one in existence) was unearthed by the Film Noir Foundation and UCLA Film & Television Archive.

Saturday Night, January 24

Wicked as They Come 7:00

NOT ON DVD! 1956, Columbia, 94 min. Dir. Ken Hughes.

“What she wanted out of life... she got out of men!” Arlene Dahl is a sizzling sensation as Kathleen Allen, a woman who learns early that sex is how she’ll get ahead in the world. *Arlene Dahl onstage interview with Eddie Muller between films!*

Featuring Guest of Honor Arlene Dahl!

Reception with Arlene Dahl 6:00 – 7:00
Exclusively for Series Passport Holders

Slightly Scarlet 9:30

1956, RKO, 99 min. Novel-James M. Cain, dir. Allan Dwan. Arlene Dahl steals the show as sexy kleptomaniac Dorothy Lyons (opposite titian-tressed “sister” Rhonda Fleming) in this eye-popping adaptation of *Love’s Lovely Counterfeit*. Camera virtuoso John Alton translates noir into lurid, saturated color. It’s 50’s paperback covers come to life!

Sunday, January 25

Cry of the Hunted 1:00, 5:00, 9:20 NOT ON DVD!

1953, MGM, 80 min. Scr. Jack Leonard, dir. Joseph H. Lewis. Barry Sullivan is a cop hunting a Cajun fugitive (Vittorio Gassman) into the bayou, “assisted” by hateful partner (William Conrad). Sounds straight-forward ... but nothing is “straight” in the deliriously screwy potboiler.

Ace in the Hole 2:45, 7:00

1951, Paramount, 111 min. scr.-dir. Billy Wilder. Often called the most bitter, cynical, mean-spirited movie ever made, Wilder’s tale of media manipulation turned out to be eerily prescient. Kirk Douglas is stupendously rotten as a disgraced reporter reclaiming the spotlight by *prolonging* the plight of a trapped miner.

Monday, January 26

Alias Nick Beal 7:30 NOT ON DVD!

1949, Paramount, 93 min. scr. Jonathan Latimer, dir. John Farrow. This Faustian tale of soul corruption has campaigning politician Thomas Mitchell making a pact with Lucifer (Ray Milland), while succumbing to delectable devil-doll Audrey Totter. A true rarity, brought back in a brand new 35mm print exclusively for Noir City!

Night Editor 9:30 NOT ON DVD!

1946, Columbia, 66 min. scr. Hal Smith, dir. Henry Levin. An encore presentation of one of Noir City’s most popular rediscoveries! A cop (William Gargan) and his lover (leggy Janis Carter) witness a brutal murder while necking in Lover’s Lane. Of course, he’s assigned to investigate the murder. One of the raciest “B” noirs of the forties.

Tuesday, January 27

The Harder They Fall 7:30

1956, Columbia. 108 min. scr. Phil Yordan, dir. Mark Robson. In his final film, Humphrey Bogart gives one of his most affecting performances as a sportswriter turned PR flak who regrets helping a gangster (Rod Steiger) create the next heavyweight champ. An angry attack on boxing in the 1950s that is, paradoxically, one of the best boxing movies ever made.

Johnny Stool Pigeon 9:30 NOT ON DVD!

1949, Universal, 76 min. dir. William Castle. Originally entitled “Cocaine,” this is one of the first Hollywood films to focus on the drug smuggling trade. Agent Howard Duff uses paroled gangster Dan Duryea to infiltrate the dope racket—but can he trust him? Rambunctious fun that zips all over the West Coast, including a scenic stop-off in “Frisco.”



1.23/7:30



1.24/3:00



1.24/9:30



1.25/7:00



1.26/9:30



1.27/9:30



1.28/9:30



1.30/7:30



1.31/9:20



2.1/7:00

Wednesday, January 28

While the City Sleeps 7:30 NOT ON DVD!

1956, 100 min. scr. Casey Robinson, dir. Fritz Lang. Ethics go out the window when a newspaper publisher offers a promotion to the staffer who catches the comic-book-crazed rapist-killer terrorizing the city. An all-star cast brings to (boozy) life former S.F. newspaperman Charles Einstein’s novel *The Bloody Spur*.

Shakedown 9:30 NOT ON DVD!

1950, Universal, 80 min. scr. Martin Goldsmith, dir. Joe Pevney. Howard Duff is terrific as an unscrupulous “Weegee”-style newspaper photographer in this slam-bang tabloid-style programmer, set entirely in 1950 San Francisco, shown in all its glory from skid row to Nob Hill. A crowd favorite at the first Noir City festival, back for a return engagement!

Thursday, January 29

The Big Clock 7:30

1948, Paramount, 95 min. scr. Jonathan Latimer, dir. John Farrow. The editor of America’s most popular true crime magazine (Ray Milland) finds himself framed for murder after tangling with his tyrannical publisher, played with sinister relish by Charles Laughton. One of the greatest suspense films of all time, from the classic novel by Kenneth Fearing.

Strange Triangle 9:30 NOT ON DVD!

1946, 20th Century-Fox, 65 min. dir. Ray McCarey. From deep within the Fox vaults we have extracted this wonderfully taut but nicely complex murder mystery featuring Scandinavian screen siren Signe Hasso as one of the coldest and most calculating femme fatales of the forties!

Friday, January 30

The Unsuspected 7:30 NOT ON DVD!

1947, WB, 103 min. scr. Randal McDougall, dir. Michael Curtiz. This clever murder mystery gets the deluxe noir treatment from director Curtiz and cameraman Woody (*The Killers*) Bredell. When the secretary of a popular radio personality (Claude Rains) commits suicide, the commentator uses his storytelling gifts to suggest *Murder!*

Desperate 9:30 NOT ON DVD!

1947, RKO/WB, 73 min. scr. Harry Essex, dir. Anthony Mann. A newlywed truck driver (Steve Brodie) is tricked into aiding a gang of robbers led by (who else?) vicious Raymond Burr. A suspenseful and darkly atmospheric programmer that capped—with a bang—the “B” phase of Anthony Mann’s great directing career.

Saturday, January 31

Beyond a Reasonable Doubt 2:00, 7:30 NOT ON DVD!

1956, 80 min. scr. Douglas Morrow, dir. Fritz Lang. Dana Andrews stars as a novelist “framed” for murder as part of a secret book deal he’s arranged with his publisher, a staunch opponent of capital punishment. The remake will be released in May, so this may your last chance to see the original, Lang’s last American film, on the big screen.

Two O’Clock Courage 3:45, 9:20 NOT ON DVD!

1945, RKO/WB, 68 min. dir. Anthony Mann. The Film Noir Foundation plucks from the Warner Bros. vault another terrific early Anthony Mann-directed “B,” in which a female cabbie (Ann Rutherford) comes to the aid of a foggy fare (Tom Conway) only to learn he’s the prime suspect in a murder manhunt!

Sunday, February 1

The Killers 1:00, 7:00

1946, Universal, 103 min. dir. Robert Siodmak. Noir City is proud to present the exclusive premiere of Universal’s brand new 35mm restoration (including a totally remastered soundtrack) of the film that’s been called the “Citizen Kane of Film Noir.” It’s all here: murder, betrayal, lust, flashbacks, sumptuous visuals, double- and triple-crosses, whip-crack dialogue—and sexy Burt Lancaster and Ava Gardner erupting into stardom.

Sweet Smell of Success 3:15, 9:30

1957, United Artists, 96 min. scr. Clifford Odets, dir. Alexander Mackendrick. Our ode to the newspaper business climaxes with the nastiest indictment of the press ever produced. Burt Lancaster gives a legendary performance as “J. J. Hunsecker,” the most feared columnist in New York, who delights in making desperate press agent Sidney Falco (Tony Curtis) do his dirty deeds.

NOIR CITY 7

JANUARY 23 – FEBRUARY 1, 2009

Castro Theatre • 429 Castro Street, S.F. (415) 621-6120

Advance Tickets Available @ www.noircity.com &

www.brownpapertickets.com (800) 838-3006