THE CINEMATIC TIME MACHINE A FEMINIST FILM CLUB

CAROLE

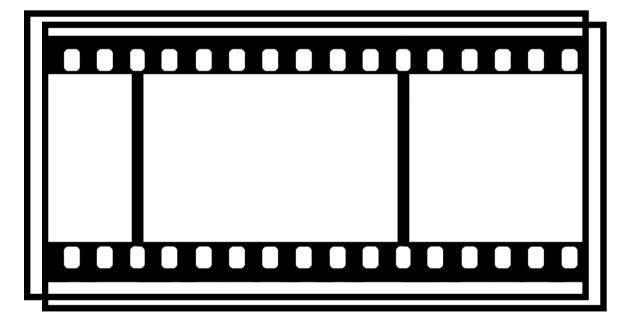


CAROLE LOMBARD



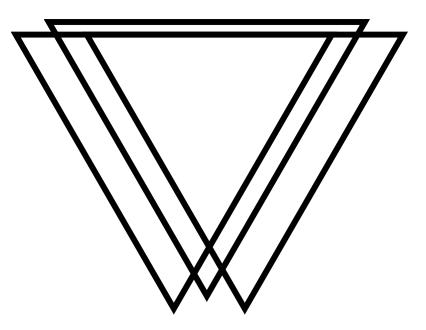


"When I want to do something, I don't pause to contemplate whether I'm exquisitely gowned. I want to live, not pose!" BORN: 6th Oct 1908, Indiana, USA DIED: 16th Jan 1942, Nevada, USA Born Jane Alice Peters to a wealthy family in Indiana, after her parents divorce she and her mother moved to LA and at the age of 12, in 1921, Carole was spotted while playing baseball and signed to a one picture contract for 'A Perfect Crime'. At 15, Lombard left school to join a touring theatre troupe, signing to Fox Films in 1925 and landing her first leading role in her first film with them, 'Hearts and Spurs'. She spent the rest of the year making a number feature and two-reel films.



However, in 1926 Lombard was involved in a serious car accident that injured her face so badly she required facial reconstructive surgery - which was carried out without anaesthetic!! It took her months to fully recover the movement in the left side of her face and she was left permanently scarred. She was dropped by Fox.

Lombard was out of work until 1927 when she returned to the screens in several shorts, mostly in Mack Sennet comedies ... and even a feature for Fox. She made her first 'talkie', 'Wanted', the following year. At one point, Lombard was paid more than 5 times the US President!



In 1931 she married her first husband William Powell, having met on the set of 'Man of the World' and divorcing two years later. She married Clark Gable in 1939.

By the time Lombard was nominated for an Academy Award for 'My Man Godfrey', she was such a big star that not only was she earning up to \$35,000 a week, she was able to choose the best parts. The next year her contract brought her \$450,000, more than 5 times the US president's salary!



By 1938 Lombard had eschewed contract playing to be independent. Her final role came in 1941 with 'To Be Or Not To Be'.

Sadly, early the following year, after returning to Indiana to help sell war bonds, the plane she was in crashed into the side of a mountain and she died, age 33, along with 21 others on board. The decision to fly home, instead of take the train, was made by flipping a coin! Footage from the recovery of her body can be seen on YouTube.

