CLASSIC DRIVER

The Temptress Uncovered: Garbo's personal collection for sale

Lead

Fans of the 1930s Hollywood legend Greta Garbo will finally get an insight into the life of the fiercely private actress. Hundreds of items belonging to the 'Divine Garbo' will go under the hammer in a dazzling Beverly Hills sale later this year.

Many remember Greta Garbo as the smoky-voiced screen star who shimmered on film, but in real life she was a recluse; almost obsessive about her privacy. The Swedish-born star wouldn't sign autographs and consistently refused to give interviews or attend her own public events. However, somewhat paradoxically, her aversion to glamour and fame only made her more alluring. Admired by generations of movie-goers, Garbo's timeless appeal spans the eras of both silent and talking films – and the public's fascination with the eccentric actress hasn't waned through the decades; in the eyes of film enthusiasts, she is forever captivating and mysterious.





Among the more than 850 items in the auction are high-fashion dresses, shoes and even Garbo's luxurious cashmere turtlenecks from top designers such as Gucci, Salvatore Ferragamo and Givenchy. Relics from Garbo's world travels, including her Louis Vuitton steamer trunk and a luggage tag bearing her travel alias are also up for sale. Other standout lots are the three leather driving caps the actress wore to protect her hair, alongside astonishing photographs taken at Hollywood studios.

The furniture, art and décor from Garbo's New York apartment and her mansion in Sweden provide a unique behind-the-scenes glimpse into the elusive life of one of the greatest American actresses of all time. Without doubt, an item set to generate a lot of interest is Garbo's bed, which she designed using antique Swedish carvings to reflect her Scandinavian heritage.



With the Greta Garbo memorabilia auction set to take place around Christmas time, quite a few film buffs can expect to find a truly exceptional present under the tree this year...

The Greta Garbo estate auction is set for 14 and 15 December at Julien's Auctions, Beverly Hills, California.

Photos: Julien's Auctions

Gallery

