



FEBRUARY 10
The Oyster Princess
 (Die Austernprinzessin)

Intro: Professor Eva Szalay

Lubitsch's first feature-length satire, the genre that made him famous, examines an American "dollar princess" and her millionaire "oyster king" father, who invade an old aristocratic Prussian family in an attempt to buy a title for the daughter via fortuitous marriage.

1919

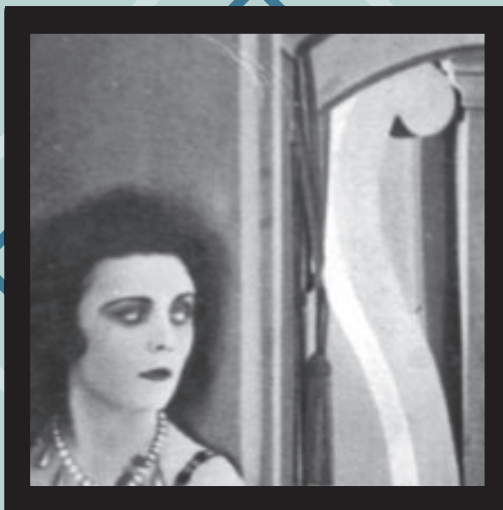
FEBRUARY 24

The Mountain Cat
 (Die Bergkatze)

Intro: Professor Angelika Pagel

Lubitsch's only "Expressionistic" venture features a favorite actress, Pola Negri, as the temperamental daughter of a brigand chief having it out with the local endarmie. Highly stylized acting, bizarre set designs, and an anti-militaristic tone doomed The Mountain Cat to commercial failure and so it was never released in the U.S.

1921



MARCH 3
Trouble in Paradise

Intro: Professor Eva Szalay

Herbert Marshall, Miriam Hopkins, and Kay Francis star as a pair of swindler-lovers and their wealthy victim in what became Lubitsch's favorite film. A classic pre-Code Depression-era meditation on the vagaries of wealth and morality that was withdrawn in 1935 and not shown again in the U.S. again until 1968.

1932

THE LUBITSCH TOUCH

ERNST LUBITSCH FILM SERIES

Ernst Lubitsch (1892-1947) is perhaps the best-known of German directors who started in the Weimar Republic before achieving even greater prominence in Hollywood. A Russian-born tailor's son who began as a bit-part actor, Lubitsch graduated to directing historical epics and anti-militarist satires after World War I, but is remembered chiefly for stylish Hollywood comedies like *Trouble in Paradise*, *Design for Living*, *Ninotchka*, and *The Shop Around the Corner*. After his death, Billy Wilder and William Wyler were among the directors who continued to pay homage to the "Lubitsch Touch" in their Oscar-winning films. Our series features two Lubitsch films from his Weimar period plus four features after he had made his mark in Hollywood.

MARCH 17

Design for Living

Intro: Professor Angelika Pagel

Another Lubitsch ménage à trois, this one with Fredric March and Gary Cooper as impoverished Americans in Paris who fall in love with another would-be artist, played by Miriam Hopkins. An interesting experiment by the director in using writer Ben Hecht to turn Noel Coward's play of bourgeoisie mannerisms into one of exuberant non-conformity.

1933



APRIL 21

The Shop Around the Corner

Intro: Professor Greg Lewis

Charming, graceful period comedy about co-workers in a Budapest notions shop who don't realize they are lonelyhearts penpals. Stars Jimmy Stewart, Margaret Sullivan, and Frank Morgan as the shopowner Hugo Matuschek, with a marvelous screenplay by frequent Lubitsch collaborator Samson Raphaelson.

1940

MARCH 31

Ninotchka

Intro: Professor Eva Szalay

Scripted by Lubitsch, Walter Reisch, Billy Wilder and Charles Brackett, this good-humored satire on Communists versus Capitalists was promoted by MGM as the film in which "Garbo laughs." She plays a Russian comrade sent to fetch three fellow commissars who are in Paris to sell jewels to raise money for the state.

1939



ALL SHOWINGS WILL BE HELD TUESDAYS AT 7PM IN THE SHEPARD UNION WILDCAT THEATER