

THE INTERNATIONAL
CINERAMA
SOCIETY



Mrs. Doris Waller
with Fred's Memorabilia
at her Huntington home.
1988.
Photo: Willem Bouwmeester.

NEWSLETTER No: 16.

It is with great sadness that I must report the passing, on August 10th, of Mrs. Doris Waller, widow of Fred Waller. Those of us who came to know Doris in recent years will remember her as a frail lady with an active mind and a bubbling personality which belied her 89 years.

During the late 20's, Doris had been a Script Girl at Paramount's Astoria Studios, New York, when she first met Fred Waller. Fred was then a special effects cameraman and needed a technical secretary for a project he was working on. Doris had the necessary qualifications and stepped in to type up Fred's notes. However fate decreed that their paths would separate and it was not until 1942 that they married.

Together with Doris's son from an earlier marriage, John P. Caron, they made their home in Huntington, Long Island, Fred setting up a workshop in the adjacent barn where he developed many of his inventions including the embryonic Cinerama. Joined by his stepson, the development and promotion of Cinerama later moved to an Indoor Tennis Court on a private estate in nearby Oyster Bay.

After Fred's death in 1954, Doris remained in their Huntington house which is where Brenda and I were privileged to first meet her during the Fall of 1992. Although by then in her mid 80's and a little frail, Doris made us feel part of the family and entranced us with her memories of Fred and the Cinerama days. By the end of the day, we had all become life-long friends.

In June 1993, Doris was able to travel to Bradford as Guest of Honour at the 10th Birthday celebrations of the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television, opening the PICTUREVILLE CINERAMA installation and attending the re-opening of THIS IS CINERAMA. I remember her sheer delight that Fred's Cinerama had been restored for new generations to enjoy.

With the passing of Doris Waller, we have all lost a major link with the magical great days of Cinerama which affected so many of our lives for ever.

It is particularly poignant that this sad news comes at a time when Cinerama is about to re-open in the U.S.A, with the first showings for over 30 years.

In an initiative between the NEW NEON THEATRE, Dayton, Ohio, Larry Smith and John Harvey, THIS IS CINERAMA and HOW THE WEST WAS WON will play on Saturday and Sunday afternoons respectively until late October. Cinerama has been installed on a temporary basis for these special showings which will not be repeated as the Theatre is due to close immediately following this season for twinning. Advance booking is recommended as seats are on a first-come-first-served basis and ALL enquires must be made to the theatre direct at:

America's Cinerama Theater.
c/o The New Neon Movies.
130 East Fifth Street.
Dayton. Ohio. 45402.

E-Mail: ArtFilmFan@aol.Com,
FAX: (513) 222-4119.

Despite the best endeavours of Thomas Haverslev, Willem Bouwmeester and Harald Tusberg, it is now extremely unlikely that WINDJAMMER will be shown this year in Norway. The *Friends of the S/S Christian Radich* were anxious to show the movie again in Oslo to celebrate their 25th Anniversary. The *Christian Radich*, the Windjammer that featured in the film, is still active as part of the Norwegian Cadets School, being normally moored in Oslo. The film is highly regarded in Norway and Associate Producer/Co-Director Louis deRochemont III lives nearby.

Unfortunately there have been problems obtaining a venue in Oslo and Harald Tusberg was taken ill during the Summer resulting in the project being put on hold for the time being.

A print has been obtained together with a Dutch soundtrack and an enthusiast in Sweden has a set of CineMiracle projectors. Sadly, subsequent detailed examination of the print has confirmed fears that, as with all the 3-strip Eastmancolor prints, the colour has faded to such a point that it is not considered acceptable for a paying audience. We have asked the Bradford Museum to consider running it as a special, one-off event at next years WideScreen Festival for what would be a specialist, enthusiast audience.

Several further ex-Cinerama Theatres have closed recently in the U.S.A. Sadly the COOPER, Denver. the first of the SUPER CINERAMA theatres, planned and specially built for Cinerama, has closed and been demolished. The fate of the 3-strip equipment stored at the Theatre is unknown.

The project to create a Cinerama Theatre in Detroit may possibly be revitalised as the result of a change of management at the Henry Ford Museum which has created the opportunity to re-submit the idea.

Finally, I was delighted to receive a letter from Mrs. Ruth Bosch, widow of Cinerama Sound Recordist Fred Bosch. Additionally the I.C.S. has been co-operating with Mrs. Susanne Tarjan, daughter of Jerome Moross, composer of part of the score of SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD. She is involved in a project to re-record some of the score on a tribute CD.

A new CD released in the U.S.A., The Music of Morton Gould (DELOS 3166), is reported to contain new recordings of themes from CINERAMA HOLIDAY though, so far, I have been unable to obtain a copy to verify this.

Copyright I.C.S. 1996. No part to be published or electronically transmitted without permission.

Ref:NL/16/Sept96.Courier.
[2]

15 Dysteleg Road.
Disley.
Cheshire. SK12 2BQ.

Feel free to use any of this in 70mm mag.

PS. LOCATION ARTICLE WRITTEN BUT MISSING PHOTOS.
PPS. SUGGESTION: THE 70mm ASSC LIST KNOWS 70mm PRINTS IN EXISTENCE