

Ingrid Bergman Returning To U.S. Saturday For First Time in Eight Years To Get Award

Editor's note: Following is the first in a series of three articles about motion picture actress Ingrid Bergman.

By ROBERT MUSIEL
United Press Correspondent

Paris—UPI—Ingrid Bergman is going back to the United States Saturday for the first time in almost eight years.

She will be there less than 36 hours, long enough to accept the New York film critics awards for her performance in "Anastasia." But she may be in for a public ordeal and she knows it.

If she is worried, she doesn't show it. She is in gay spirits, excited about the trip and quite frankly ready for questions about a famous Hollywood actress who left her husband and daughter to live with another man and bear his child.

"Let them ask," she said. "I will answer them."

"Sometimes people start to ask me something and stop because they think they will embarrass me. You had better warn people who ask me questions on television or radio or in press conferences. I give answers."

Children Playing

I talked with Miss Bergman in a quiet and very expensive suite of a hotel in the shadow of the Arc de Triomphe. She was stretched at elegant length on a chaise longue, watching an armful of handsome kids tumbling about on the floor.

Her four-year-old twin daughters Isabella and Ingrid, brought me two toy animals to examine. I remarked that the grave little girls were beauties, though they look nothing like their blonde Swedish mother.

"And my son?" she asked proudly.

Seven-year-old Roberto was completing a modernistic drawing to have ready for his father's return. He signed it, painstakingly, "Roberto No. 2." Like his sisters, he speaks only Italian and French. Like them, he is dark-eyed.

"Very good looking," I said. "He'll be a heart breaker," smiled his mother.

The ripple of laughter followed Miss Bergman's words as we talked. Life, she said, was good. She had just spoken to her husband, Roberto Rossellini, who is filming in India. She said the telephone connection was so good she could hear the kisses crackling on the wire.

'Are You Happy?'

"Are you and Rossellini happy?" I asked.

Ingrid stood up, a full five feet, 10 inches, and acted out her reply in Oscar-winning style.

"Whenever people ask me that," she said, "I usually say: 'We are separated.'"

"Then their faces light up (she demonstrated) and they exclaim 'Tell me all about it.'"

"And I say: 'Yes, separated (sadly). He is in India and I am in Paris.'"

She laughed gayly. It is apparently a Rossellini family joke.

"Do you ever hear from your ex-husband?" I asked.

"No, never."

"And your daughter, Pia? I understand she has taken the name Jenny."

"We write to each other all the time."

"Are you going to see her again?"

"Of course," she said emphatically. "But not on such a short trip as this. I must be back in Paris for the play on Sunday. I haven't seen my daughter in years and when we meet again I want it to be when we are alone, at peace."

"To see her for only a few snatched minutes after all these years, that would really be torture."

Miss Bergman's back was to me. She turned around and said softly:

"She's 18, now, you know. I asked her why she had not been back to the United States since 1949."

Likes Europe

"I did not leave Hollywood because of anything that happened there," she said. "I had gone as far as I could go professionally. I like Europe. People tend to forget I am not an American. I am a European."

"Will I ever work in the United States again? I do not know. It is quite possible for the future. I have another film to do for 20th Century-Fox, but I think this one will be made in Europe as was 'Anastasia.' My husband and I can be together more often in Europe. His work is here. We both love Rome and Paris."

Miss Bergman is a sellout hit now in the Paris stage version of "Tea and Sympathy," playing the role of a wife who gives her love to a young boy to help him prove his manliness. It is the part that Deborah Kerr played on Broadway and in the movies.

I glanced again at little Roberto and thought of what Miss



INGRID BERGMAN
May Face Public Ordeal

Bergman told a magazine interviewer last August.

"All right, I had a baby before I was married," she said then. "It's not the first time that ever happened to a woman and it's not the last. You hear about it every week. It's too bad, but there it is."

Happiness Counts

"And if the two people love one another and marry, and if they have a happy family, isn't that what counts? Anyone can make a mistake. It's how they

act after the mistake that should be judged if you ask me."

I asked her what she thought the attitude of American women would be toward her.

"Well, there was that television program man (Ed Sullivan) who asked people to write in if they wanted to see me making pictures in America again," she

said, "I don't know what he expected. I suppose he thought it would be 90 per cent for me. There were some good letters, but there were more bad ones."

Miss Bergman said she wondered if the letter writers were really representative. I think she also wonders whether other women realize that, in her own

eyes, what she did took considerable courage and honesty.

"I tried to frame a sentence as to whether she had any regrets."

"For what?" came the curt answer.

It was not a question. Tomorrow: What awaits Ingrid Bergman in New York.

Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY

Hollywood—UPI—At least one mature actress is not afraid to lie about her age. Sylvia Sydney

says she's 46 and any woman who cheats about her age "isn't fooling anybody."

Most actresses over 23 in this town dimple coyly when you ask them when they first saw the light of the world.

According to the Motion Picture Almanac and studio biographies, all actresses were born on a month and a day—but no years. The year is seldom listed, and when it is, it often varies with the truth.

But Miss Sydney arrived in town this week from her New York home with a fresh idea.

Career Started Early

"I am 46," she announced. "I celebrate 30 years as an actress next month—that is, I celebrate if I have a job. I first appeared on Broadway when I was 16 in the play, 'Crime.'"

"I'm always honest about my age. Why not? To do otherwise is such a hangover from the Victorian Age—the day when the public felt age was something to be repelled by."

The tiny brunette actress is making a rare appearance in Hollywood for her first television show in a year, playing in a period whodunit on "Climax" Thursday night. Rehearsing for the show at CBS-TV, she believes her years with her black hair and sleek figure.

Term Deplored

"The term 'middle-age' should be taken from the language," she said firmly. "Middle-aged should apply to people who are 30—that's the midpoint in life. Yet we usually apply it to people between 45 and 55. Women 30 years ago were finished when they were 30. Now life is just beginning at that age."

"By 40 you're just getting your foot in the doorway of life," she added. "I've enjoyed every year in my life and I don't want to go back."

I bet you don't remember my first husband was Bennett Cerf! Recently I played in New York opposite my second husband, Luther Adler. It's a great feeling to work on the stage when your ex-husband plays your father!"

WELCOME LAWMAKERS

Columbus, Ohio—UPI—Mayor Maynard (Jack) Sensenbrenner formally welcomed to the city Tuesday night 169 members of the Ohio Legislature.

"Have a good time," he said. "But don't get into trouble. My work house is full."

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