

Too much of a good thing - Mae West as cultural icon

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We Buy A Staggering Amount Of Clothing, And Most Of It Ends Up In Landfills

Her bigger-than-life persona over which she maintained strict control , sexually provocative dialogue which she wrote herself, and ultimately her refusal to go quietly into retirement with dignity made her a favorite among gay men and other camp aficionados. Excess often leads to problems because a normally functioning system--whether the human body, an organization, or an ecosystem--becomes unstable.

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Its script by film critic Roger Ebert is full of outlandish situations and clunky dialogue, and its overall style courtesy of exploitation film director Russ Meyer is a riot of color, cliché, and condescension. Turning 30, though, was another matter. The word camp is associated with excessive displays of gesture and emotion; it was used in J.

Camp

There was no doubt she was way ahead of her time with her sexual innuendos and how she made fun of a puritanical society. It is often said that she acted as if she were a man impersonating a woman—that she was in fact a female drag queen. Although she made only twelve films throughout her long career, West's importance to the shifting terrain of gender and sexuality in twentieth-century America was immeasurable.

Good Thing Productions

New York: Vintage Books, 1983.

Too much of a good thing?

Wilde's camp sensibility infiltrated film directly via several silent film versions of his novel The Picture of Dorian Gray 1913, 1916.

The history of camp

Mae herself worked on the stage and in vaudeville from the time she was five years old. If a friend has thrown you a surprise birthday party, offer

your sincere thanks.

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