

Humphrey Bogart, 57, Dies of Cancer

Special to The New York Times.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Jan. 14—Humphrey Bogart died in his sleep early this morning in the bedroom of his Holmby Hills home. The 57-year-old movie actor, an Academy Award winner, had been suffering for more than two years from cancer of the esophagus.

In the latter part of February, 1956, he underwent surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital for removal of a malignant growth. He recovered from the operation and gained back some of the weight he had lost. But, in November, 1956, he was admitted to St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica for treatment of nerve pressure caused by the growth of scar tissue on his throat.

Mr. Bogart leaves his wife, Lauren Bacall, actress, whom he married in 1945. The couple had two children, a son, Stephen Humphrey, born in 1949, and a

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Humphrey Bogart Is Dead at 57; Movie Star Had Throat Cancer



Humphrey Bogart in film version of "The Petrified Forest"



Associated Press

Mr. Bogart as he appeared in 1954 during the filming of "The Barefoot Contessa."



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daughter, Leslie, born in 1952. The actor is survived also by a sister, Frances Rose Bogart of New York.

Miss Bacall was Mr. Bogart's fourth wife. His previous marriages were also to actresses. He married Helen Menken in 1926 and divorced her a year later. His marriage to Mary Philips the next year lasted until 1937. In 1938 he took Mayo Methot as his third wife. The couple was divorced shortly before Mr. Bogart wed Miss Bacall.

Deflated Publicity Balloons

Mr. Bogart was one of the most paradoxical screen personalities in the recent annals of Hollywood. He often deflated the publicity balloons that keep many a screen star aloft, but he remained one of Hollywood's top box-office attractions for more than two decades.

On the screen he was most often the snarling, laconic gangster who let his gun do his talking. In private life, however, he could speak glibly and wittily on a wide range of subjects and make better copy off the cuff than the publicists could devise for him.

He had a large, seemingly permanent following among the mass audience. Yet he said he deplored "mass activities." Furthermore, he did everything he could to confound the popular image of a movie star.

Mr. Bogart received an Academy Award in 1952 for his performance in "The African Queen." Still, he made it clear he set little store by such fanfare. Earlier he had established a mock award for the best performance in a film by an animal, making sure that the bit of satire received full notice in the press.

Proud of Profession

But despite this show of frivolity, he was fiercely proud of his profession. "I am a professional," he said. "I have a respect for my profession. I worked hard at it."

Attesting to this are a number of highly interesting characterizations in such films as "The Petrified Forest" (1936), "High Sierra" (1941), "Casablanca" (1942), "To Have and Have Not" (1944), "Key Largo" (1948), "The Treasure of Sierra Madre" (1948), "The African Queen" (1951), "Sabrina," "The Caine Mutiny" (1954) and "The Desperate Hours" (1955). The actor's last film, "The Harder They Fall," was released last year.

Mr. Bogart's high sense of responsibility toward his profession may have stemmed from the fact that both his parents were highly successful professional persons. His mother was Maud Humphrey, a noted illustrator and artist. His father was Belmont DeForest Bogart, a prosperous surgeon. Their son, born on Christmas Day in 1899, was reared in fashionable New York society.

He attended Trinity School and Phillips Academy at Andover, Mass., but an early note of discord crept into this genteel strain when he was expelled from Andover for irreverence to a faculty member.

Mr. Bogart enlisted in the Navy in 1917 and crossed the Atlantic several times as a helmsman aboard a transport ship. As a civilian he was a tugboat inspector and saw brief service in an investment house.

Next, he had a job with World Films for a short while and then appeared as a stage manager for an acting group. It was an easy step to his first roles in the early Nineteen Twenties. His

He won an Academy Award for his performance in the film, "The African Queen."

rise to fame over the next fifteen years, however, was a hard road, often lined with critical brickbats.

He appeared in "Swifty" and plugged on in drawing-room comedies, appearing in "Hell's Bells," "The Cradle Snatchers," "It's a Wise Child" and many others in which he usually played a callow juvenile or a romantic second lead.

He accepted a movie contract with Fox in 1931, but roles in a few Westerns failed to improve matters and soon he was back on Broadway, convinced that his hard-bitten face disqualified him in the close-ups as a matinee idol.

In 'Petrified Forest'

But toward the end of 1934 he used this granite-like face to rebuild, with enormous success, a new dramatic career. Having heard that Robert E. Sherwood's "The Petrified Forest" had a gangster role, he approached Mr. Sherwood for the important part. The playwright referred him to the director, who told Mr. Bogart to return in three days for a reading.

When Mr. Bogart reappeared before the director he had a three-day growth of beard and was wearing shabby clothes. His reading and appearance brought him the supporting role of Duke Mantee, his most memorable Broadway part. Leslie Howard was the star of the play. Mr. Bogart later did the same part for the movie to considerable critical acclaim.

This was the first of more than fifty pictures that Mr. Bogart made, most of them for Warner Brothers. A spate of crime dramas followed, including "Angels With Dirty Faces," "The Roaring Twenties," "Bullets or Ballots," "Dead End," "San Quentin" and, finally, "High Sierra" in 1941.

Mr. Bogart then insisted on roles with more scope. They were forthcoming in such films as "Casablanca," "To Have and Have Not" and "Key Largo," wherein Mr. Bogart's notorious screen hardness was offset by a latent idealism that showed itself in the end.

Won New Followers

In "The Treasure of Sierra Madre," as a prospector driven to evil by a lust for gold, the range of his characterization won him new followers.

A further range of his talents was displayed also in "The African Queen," wherein his portrayal of a tropical tramp with a yen for gin and Katharine Hepburn won him an "Oscar." Another distinguished portrait was that of the neurotic Captain Queeg in the movie version of "The Caine Mutiny." His aptitude for romantic comedy became clear when he played the bitter business man who softens under the charms of Audrey Hepburn in "Sabrina." Mr. Bogart also appeared in "The Barefoot Contessa," made in 1954.

The movie actor made no secret of his nightclubbing. He was also a yachting enthusiast. At one point in his career he reportedly made \$200,000 a film and he was for years among the top ten box-office attractions.

Mr. Bogart joined other actors in 1947 in a flight to Washington to protest the methods of the House Un-American Activities Committee, which was investigating communism in the movie colony. He was often a supporter of Democratic political causes.