



ADVERTISEMENT

Nina Foch



Actress

Born Nina Consuelo Maud Fock on April 20, 1924 in Leyden, Netherlands

Died Dec. 5, 2008 of myelodysplasia in UCLA Ronald Reagan Medical Center, CA

Nina Foch was a veteran actress from Hollywood's film noir era of the 1940s who became a widely respected acting coach and teacher of directors.

Foch taught "Directing the Actor," a popular course at USC's School of Cinematic Arts, where she had taught for 40 years. She also offered the class for years at the American Film Institute. Her students have included accomplished directors, including Randal Kleiser, Amy Heckerling, Ed Zwick and Marshall Herskovitz.

She began her career as an actress whose most memorable work was in the B-movie classic "My Name Is Julia Ross" (1945), directed by Joseph H. Lewis. Foch played a young woman who takes a job as secretary for a wealthy family and becomes ensnared in a plot to cover up a murder.

Her film credits include "A Song to Remember" (1945), "An American in Paris" (1951), "Scaramouche" (1952) and "The Ten Commandments" (1956). She earned an Oscar nomination for supporting actress in "Executive Suite" (1954).

Her lengthy television credits include "Prescription: Murder" (1968), which launched the popular "Columbo" detective series starring Peter Falk, the miniseries "War and Remembrance" (1988) and episodes of "Gunsmoke," "Bonanza," "The Mod Squad," "Dharma & Greg" and "NCIS." She earned an Emmy nomination for supporting actress in a drama series in 1980 for her work on an episode of "Lou Grant."

Thrice married and divorced, her first husband, from 1954-1959, was James Lipton, host of "Inside the Actors Studio."

— Elaine Woo in the Los Angeles Times Dec. 7, 2008

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