

Five Formidable Femmes Fatales on Film

Study Leader: Steve Solomon
Tuesdays, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.
5 weeks beginning Sept. 30
AIL Classroom, Lethbridge Lodge, Colby-Sawyer College
Maximum number of participants: 35

The stereotype of the femme fatale has origins as old as Lilith in the Bible. She has appeared in art, mythology, drama and literature ever since. There was also Circe, a goddess and enchantress who could bend men to her will using trickery, sorcery, seduction and wit. The advent of film allows us to fully experience her working her wiles. In this course, we will consider the accuracy of this stereotype.

During class, we will watch a movie and have time for discussion. Prior to class, you will receive information about the film, the lead cast members and other material to enhance your appreciation and experience.

The films are:

- *The Blue Angel* (Marlene Dietrich), 1930
- *Double Indemnity* (Barbara Stanwyck), 1944
- *Out of the Past* (Jane Greer and Rhonda Fleming), 1947
- *Body Heat* (Kathleen Turner), 1981
- Our final film is a surprise in which the femme fatale never appears.

Please note that class will not be held on October 21. It will run weekly from 9/30-10/14 and then resume on 10/28. The final session will be held on 11/4.



Steve Solomon

Steve Solomon is a retired lawyer who, as a docent, gives tours of the galleries and Frank Lloyd Wright houses at the Currier Museum in Manchester. In 2022, he gave a course at AIL titled *Appreciating and Understanding the Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright*.

His interest in film started in elementary school, watching old movies on TV, and continued through law school as a member of the board of the student-run film society at the University of Michigan.