

Max Alvarez

Night and the Cities: The Suspense-driven World of Film Noir

Session 1 — Masters of Noir

DVD/blu-ray information for films under discussion:

Michael Curtiz

The Breaking Point (Warner Bros. 1950; The Criterion Collection)

The Unsuspected (Warner Bros. 1947)

Flamingo Road (Warner Bros. 1949)

The Scarlet Hour (Paramount 1956; VistaVision)

The Man in the Net (United Artists 1959)

Henry Hathaway

The House on 92nd Street (20th Century-Fox 1945)

13 Rue Madeleine (20th Century-Fox 1946)

The Dark Corner (20th Century-Fox 1946)

Kiss of Death (20th Century-Fox 1947)

Call Northside 777 (20th Century-Fox 1948)

Fourteen Hours (20th Century-Fox 1951)

Niagara (20th Century-Fox 1953)

23 Paces to Baker Street (20th Century-Fox 1956; Kino Lorber; CinemaScope)

Seven Thieves (20th Century-Fox 1960; CinemaScope)

John Huston

The Maltese Falcon (Warner Bros. 1941)

Key Largo (Warner Bros. 1948)

The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (Warner Bros. 1948)

The Asphalt Jungle (M-G-M 1950; The Criterion Collection)

Fritz Lang

M (Germany 1931 Kino Video)

Man Hunt (20th Century-Fox 1941)

You Only Live Once (United Artists 1937)

Ministry of Fear (Paramount 1944; The Criterion Collection)

The Woman in the Window (Universal 1944; 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment)

Scarlet Street (Universal 1945; Kino Video edition)

Cloak and Dagger (Warner Bros. 1946)

Secret Beyond the Door (Universal-International 1947)

House by the River (Republic Pictures 1950; Kino Video)

Clash by Night (R-K-O 1952)

The Big Heat (Columbia Pictures 1953)

Otto Preminger

Laura (20th Century-Fox 1944)

Fallen Angel (20th Century-Fox 1945)

Whirlpool (20th Century-Fox 1949)
Where the Sidewalk Ends (20th Century-Fox 1950)
Angel Face (R-K-O 1953)

Robert Siodmak

Phantom Lady (Universal 1944)
The Suspect (Universal 1944)
The Strange Affair of Uncle Harry (Universal-International 1945; The Criterion Collection)
The Killers (Universal-International 1946; The Criterion Collection)
The Spiral Staircase (R-K-O 1946)
Cry of the City (20th Century-Fox 1948)
Criss-Cross (Universal-International 1949)
The File on Thelma Jordon (Paramount 1950)

Recommended Reading

The Crime Films of Anthony Mann (2013) by Max Alvarez
Dark City: The Lost World of Film Noir (1998) by Eddie Muller
The Dark Side of the Screen: Film Noir (1981) by Foster Hirsch
Death on the Cheap: The Lost B Movies of Film Noir (2000) by Arthur Lyons
Film Noir: The Encyclopedia (2010) by Alain Silver
Film Noir: An Encyclopedic Reference to the American Style (1979) by Alain Silver
Film Noir Reader (1996) by Alain Silver (Editor)
More Than Night: Film Noir in its Contexts (1998) by James Naremore
Somewhere in the Night: Film Noir and the American City (1997) by Nicholas Christopher

Encyclopedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/art/film-noir>

Also visit :
The Film Noir Foundation at www.filmnoirfoundation.org and consider subscribing to their magazine <i>Noir City</i> .
Alan K. Rode: https://alankrode.com/

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Session 2 — The Noir Renegades

List of films from directors under discussion:

Robert Aldrich

Kiss Me Deadly (United Artists 1955; The Criterion Collection)

The Big Knife (United Artists 1955; MGM Home Entertainment & The Criterion Channel)

World for Ransom (Allied Artists 1954; Olive Films)

Edward Dmytryk

Murder, My Sweet (R-K-O 1944)

Cornered (R-K-O 1946)

Crossfire (R-K-O 1947)

Obsession/The Hidden Room (UK 1949)

The Sniper (Columbia Pictures 1952)

Cy Endfield

The Argyle Secrets (Film Classics 1948)

The Underworld Story (United Artists 1949)

The Sound of Fury (a.k.a. Try and Get Me!) (United Artists 1950; Olive Films)

Hell Drivers (UK-Rank 1957; VistaVision)

Samuel Fuller

Pickup on South Street (20th Century-Fox 1953; The Criterion Collection)

House of Bamboo (20th Century-Fox 1955; CinemaScope)

The Crimson Kimono (Columbia Pictures 1959)

Underworld U.S.A. (Columbia Pictures 1961)

Phil Karlson

Scandal Sheet (Columbia Pictures 1952)

Kansas City Confidential (United Artists 1952)

99 River Street (United Artists 1952)

Five Against the House (Columbia Pictures 1955)

The Phenix City Story (Allied Artists 1955)

Tight Spot (Columbia Picture 1955)

The Brothers Rico (Columbia Pictures 1957)

Joseph H. Lewis

My Name is Julia Ross (Columbia Pictures 1945)

Gun Crazy (aka Deadly Is the Female) (United Artists 1949)

The Undercover Man (Columbia Pictures 1949)

The Big Combo (Allied Artists 1955)

Joseph Losey

The Lawless (Paramount 1950; Olive Films)
M (Columbia Pictures 1951)
The Prowler (United Artists 1951)
The Big Night (United Artists 1951)
Stranger on the Prowl (Italy 1952; Olive Films)
Finger of Guilt (UK 1956; Amazon Prime Video)
Time Without Pity (UK 1957)
The Criminal/The Concrete Jungle (UK 1960; Anchor Bay/Studio Canal)

Ida Lupino

Outrage (R-K-O 1950; Olive Films) Director
Beware, My Lovely (R-K-O 1952; Olive Films) Star/producer
The Hitch-Hiker (R-K-O 1953; Kino Lorber) Director
Private Hell 36 (Filmmakers 1954; Kino Video) Star/producer

Nicholas Ray

They Live by Night (R-K-O 1949; The Criterion Collection)
In a Lonely Place (Columbia Pictures 1950; The Criterion Collection)
On Dangerous Ground (R-K-O 1951; Warner Home Video)
Party Girl (M-G-M 1958; CinemaScope; Amazon Prime)

Robert Rossen

Johnny O'Clock (Columbia Pictures 1946)
Body and Soul (United Artists 1947)
All the King's Men (Columbia Pictures 1949)

Edgar G. Ulmer

Detour (PRC 1945; The Criterion Collection)
Ruthless (Eagle-Lion 1948; Olive Films; beware edited versions)

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Session 3 — The Big Guns Tangle With Noir

List of films from directors under discussion:

Howard Hawks

To Have and Have Not (Warner Bros. 1944; Warner Home Video)

The Big Sleep (Warner Bros. 1945-46; Warner Home Video) (Note: while Hawks's initial 1945 version of *The Big Sleep* is fascinating, the re-edited and revised 1946 edition is far superior. Both versions are available on DVD.)

Alfred Hitchcock

Strangers on a Train (Warner Bros. 1951)

I Confess (Warner Bros. 1953)

The Wrong Man (Warner Bros. 1957)

Elia Kazan

Boomerang! (20th Century-Fox 1947)

Panic in the Streets (20th Century-Fox 1950)

Stanley Kubrick

Killer's Kiss (United Artists 1955)

The Killing (United Artists 1956; The Criterion Collection).

Akira Kurosawa

Drunken Angel (1948; The Criterion Collection)

Stray Dog (1949; The Criterion Collection)

The Bad Sleep Well (1960; Tohoscope; The Criterion Collection)

Joseph L. Mankiewicz

Somewhere in the Night (20th Century-Fox 1946)

No Way Out (20th Century-Fox 1950)

Anthony Mann

The Great Flamarion (Republic Pictures 1945)

Strange Impersonation (Republic Pictures 1946)

Desperate (R-K-O 1947)

Railroaded! (Eagle-Lion 1947)

T-Men (Eagle-Lion 1947; Classic Flix)

He Walked by Night (Eagle-Lion 1948; Classic Flix). Co-director

Raw Deal (Eagle-Lion 1948; Classic Flix)

Border Incident (M-G-M 1949)

Side Street (M-G-M 1950)

The Tall Target (M-G-M 1951)

Carol Reed

Odd Man Out (British 1947; The Criterion Collection)
The Fallen Idol (British 1947; The Criterion Collection)
The Third Man (British 1949; The Criterion Collection)

Orson Welles

Journey into Fear (R-K-O 1942). Actor/producer
The Stranger (R-K-O 1946; The Criterion Collection; Olive Films) Actor/director
The Lady from Shanghai (Columbia Pictures 1948) Actor/writer/director
The Third Man (UK 1949) Actor
Mr. Arkadin/Confidential Report (French 1955) Actor/writer/director
Man in the Shadow (Universal-International 1957; CinemaScope) Actor
Touch of Evil (Universal-International 1958) Actor/director
Compulsion (20th Century-Fox 1959; CinemaScope) Actor

Billy Wilder

Double Indemnity (Paramount 1944)
Sunset Blvd. (Paramount 1950)
Ace in the Hole (aka *The Big Carnival*) (Paramount 1951; The Criterion Collection)

Robert Wise

Criminal Court (R-K-O 1946)
Born to Kill (R-K-O 1947)
Mystery in Mexico (R-K-O 1948)
Blood on the Moon (R-K-O 1948)
The Set-Up (R-K-O 1949)
The House on Telegraph Hill (20th Century-Fox 1951)
The Captive City (United Artists 1952)
I Want to Live! (United Artists 1958)
Odds Against Tomorrow (United Artists 1959)