



FILM NOIR CLASSICS -- MOVIE POSTERS 1948-1950

The distinctive style of movies of the golden age of Film Noir, the genre of Hollywood crime dramas distinguished by liberal doses of sex and cynicism, is captured in the striking graphics of these classic movie posters. The portrait that emerges of a darker side of mid-twentieth century America makes them a compelling resource for the study of that period as well as for film history archives.

The light-hearted Gary Cooper / Barbara Stanwyck comedy "Ball of Fire" of 1941 that we include at the end of this listing drives home this contrast...but no matter what, somebody is going to get burned...

Clicking on the item picture will take you to our website for ordering via our secure online system.

We hope that you will enjoy this selection.

Elisabeth Burdon & Craig Clinton



Backfire.

Warner Bros. Hollywood. **1948 - 1950.**

One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 40 x 30 inches, for the 1950 Warner Brothers production "Backfire" directed by Vincent Sherman and starring Gordon MacRae, Edmond O'Brien, and Virginia Mayo (the film was completed in late 1948 but not released until 1950). The poster, a scarce item and in very good condition, was produced by Western Poster Company, San Francisco. "Backfire," a complicated drama involving numerous flashbacks, concerns a World War II veteran Bob Corey (MacRae), a nurse he meets while hospitalized, Julie Benson (Mayo), and Corey's good friend Steve Connolly (O'Brien). After considerable mayhem as the drama unfolds, including a near fatal attempt on Connolly's life, the film delivers a happy ending with the trio heading for Bob and Julie's new ranch. The poster is a striking graphic, bold in design and color, a worthy addition to a motion picture film noir archive.

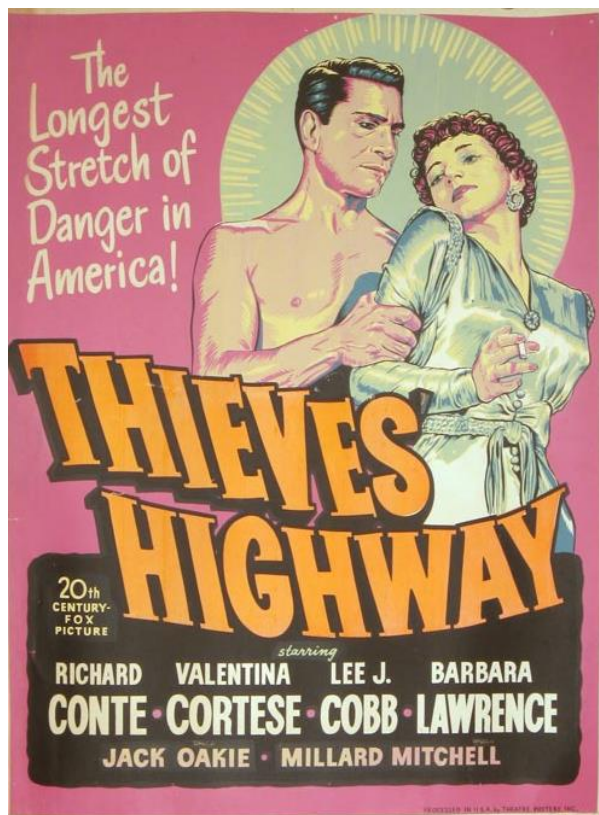
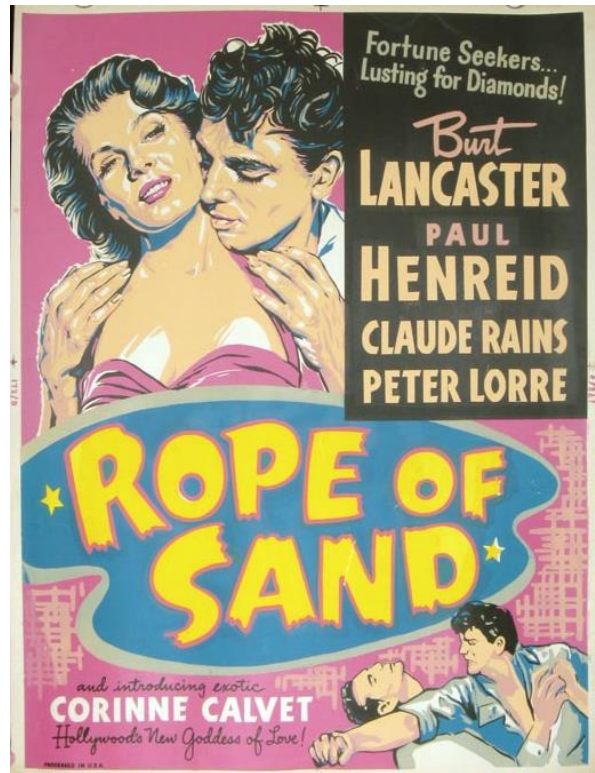
[Stock #54177] **US\$975**

Rope of Sand.

Hal Wallis Studio. Hollywood. 1949.

One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 40 x 30 ½ inches, for the 1949 Hal Wallis film "Rope of Sand" starring Burt Lancaster, Paul Henreid, Claude Rains, Peter Lorre, and "Hollywood's New Goddess of Love" Corinne Calvet. The film, written by Walter Doniger and directed by the prolific William Dieterle, tells the story of Mike Davis, played by Burt Lancaster, who discovers a cache of diamonds on the property of a mining operation in South West Africa and, despite torture, refuses to reveal its location, determined instead to steal the cache. The poster, extremely scarce and in very good condition, was the product of Western Poster Company, San Francisco. It is a striking graphic, bold in design and color, a worthy addition to a motion picture film noir archive.

[Stock #54163] US\$850.00



Thieves' Highway.

20th Century Fox. Hollywood. 1949.

One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 40 x 30 ½ inches, for the 1949 20th Century-Fox film "Thieves Highway" starring Richard Conte, Lee J. Cobb and Valentine Cortese. The film was directed by Jules Dassin and written by A. I. Bezzerides. A drama of revenge, the film follows the machinations of a war veteran, Nick Garos, employed as a truck driver hauling California produce. Complications involve the crooked produce dealer who is out to cheat him as well as the two women in his life, his fiancé Polly, and the amoral Rica. The poster, extremely scarce and in very good condition, was the product of Western Poster Company, San Francisco. It is a striking graphic, bold in design and color, a worthy addition to a motion picture film noir archive.

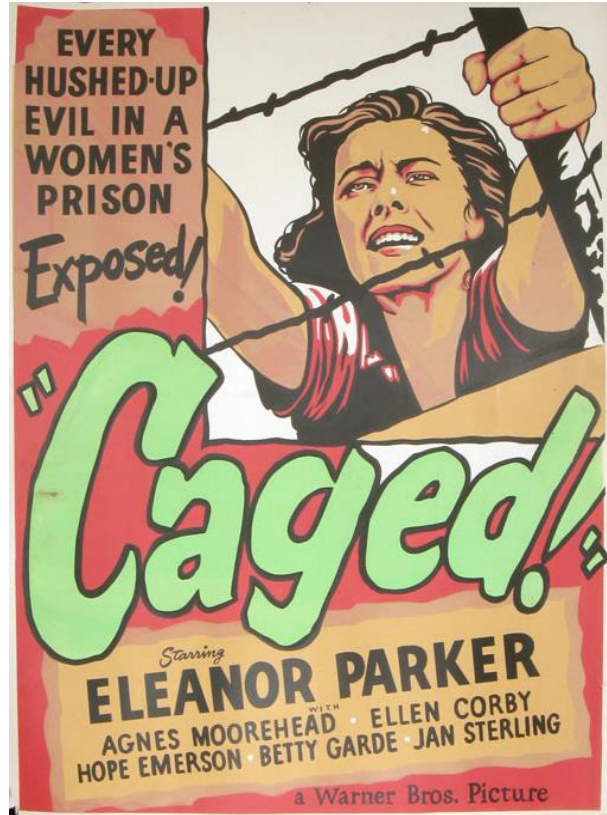
[Stock #54162] US\$850.00

"Caged!"

Warner Bros. Hollywood. 1950.

One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 40 x 30 ½ inches, for the 1950 Warner Brothers film "Caged" starring Eleanor Parker. Set in a women's prison and directed by John Cromwell, the film received three Academy Award nominations: Eleanor Parker for Best Actress, Hope Emerson as Best Supporting Actress, and Virginia Kellogg and Bernard C. Schoenfeld for Best Writing (Story and Screenplay). The poster, extremely scarce and in very good condition, was the product of Western Poster Company, San Francisco. It is a striking graphic, bold in design and color, a worthy addition to a motion picture film noir archive.

[Stock #54161] US\$1200.



Based on a short story by **J.D. Salinger**



My Foolish Heart.

RKO Radio Pictures.

England. 1950.

One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 40 x 30 inches, for the 1950 Samuel Goldwin production based on a short story by J. D. Salinger, directed by Mark Robson, and starring Dana Andrews and Susan Hayward. The plot involves the trials and tribulations of its heroine, played by Hayward. The U.S. poster for the film has Hayward's character admonishing: "Please wait until you know the Truth about 'My Foolish Heart.'" For her work on the film,

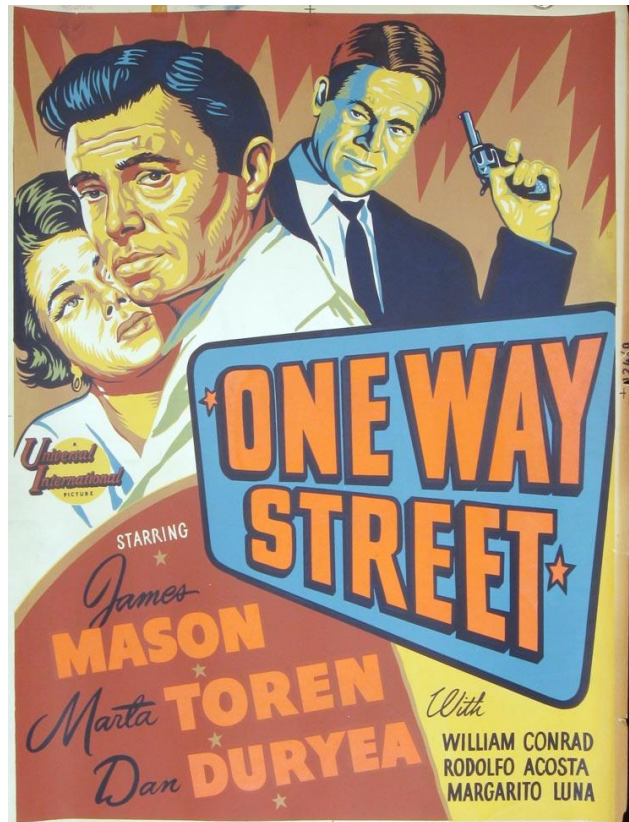
Hayward was nominated for an Academy Award. The silk screen poster, with no folds, was manufactured in England and is in very good clean condition.

[Stock #54179] US\$850.

One Way Street.

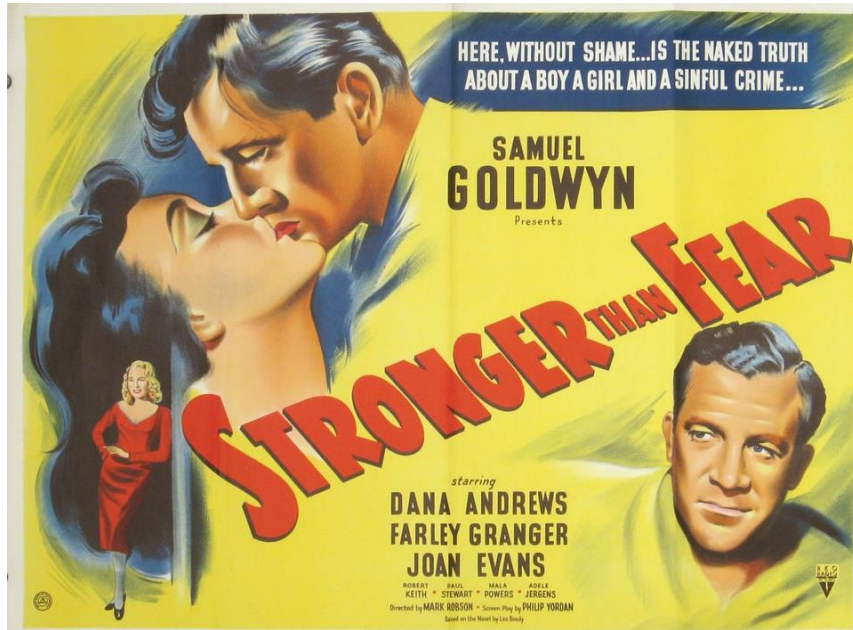
Universal International. Hollywood. 1950.
One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 40 x 30 inches, for the 1950 Universal production "One Way Street" directed by Hugo Fregonese and starring James Mason, Märta Torén, and Dan Duryea. In the film, Frank Matson (Mason) robs mob boss John Wheeler (Duryea) then heads to Mexico with Wheeler's girlfriend Laura Thorsen (Torén). The pair return to L.A. to settle with Wheeler only to find he has been murdered. A freak accident, and Matson's death, resolve the film. The poster, extremely scarce and in very good condition, was the product of Western Poster Company, San Francisco.

[Stock #54176] **US\$875**



Stronger Than Fear. (Titled in the United States: Edge of Doom)

RKO Radio Pictures. England. 1950.



Evans. The silk screen poster, with no folds, was manufactured in England and is in very good clean condition.

[Stock #54178] **US\$850**

One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 40 x 30 inches, for the 1950 Samuel Golden production, "Stronger than Fear," released in the U.S. under the title "Edge of Doom." The film starred Dana Andrews, Farley Granger, and Joan Evans and was directed by Mark Robson. The plot involved a priest, played by Dana Andrews, who is determined to find the murderer of a colleague, bludgeoned with a heavy crucifix. The murderer he pursues is played with unnerving realism by Farley Granger. Also starring is Joan



...and a comedy...

Ball of Fire.

RKO Radio Pictures. England. 1941.

One-sheet color silk-screen poster, 19 1/2 x 60 inches (5 feet!) for the 1941 Samuel Goldwyn screwball comedy "Ball of Fire" with Gary Cooper and Barbara Stanwyck, directed by Howard Hawks with screenplay by Charles Brackett and Billy Wilder. An RKO Radio Pictures Ltd. production. The film chronicles the efforts of a group of professors intent on crafting an encyclopedia and their encounter with a nightclub performer with an agenda of her own. Supporting players included Oskar Homolka, Dana Andrews, and Dan Duryea. The poster is in very good condition featuring a striking graphic, bold in design and color. The film was selected for preservation in the National Film Registry by the Library of Congress in 2016.

[Stock #54187] US\$ 1250.00

Thank you for your interest in this selection. Please browse our selection online at <http://www.oldimprints.com>. All items are offered subject to prior sale.

Elisabeth Burdon & Craig Clinton