## **Otto Wallburg**



Otto Wallburg (21 February 1889 - 29 October 1944) was a German actor and Kabarett performer. He was a prolific film actor during the late silent and early sound era.

Wallburg was born Otto Maximilian Wasserzug in Berlin, the son of a Jewish banker. He drifted into stage acting and served in the German Army during the First World War and was wounded on the Eastern Front after winning an Iron Cross. From 1926 onwards he worked in the large German film industry, including many productions made by UFA.

When the Nazis came to power in 1933 he left Germany and moved to Austria where he continued to work in film. He later moved to France and then on to the Netherlands. He was arrested following the 1940 German invasion of the Netherlands. He was held for a while at Westerbork transit camp, and later moved to Auschwitz where he was murdered.

Whilst in The Netherlands he took part in Willy Rosen's Cabarets performed by The Prominenten. Jews from all over Europe came to perform, some of those before moving on to the United States and freedom. Her appeared in "Cocktail" and "Hinter den Kulissen", at the Lutine Palace. He received second billing after Siegfried Arno and before Willy Rosen, in the Fourth Season in 1937 of the Gastspiel of The Prominenten. In 1942 he appeared in Vuurwerk on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

He found his circumstances difficult and spent much of his time in hospital or with his family. In 1939 he and his wife divorced, as did many Jews. She was not Jewish and marriages between Jews and Non-Jews had been made illegal. He rented a room from a musical friend, Jo Hekster. He brought himself to the attention of the authorities through conducting an affair with a non-Jew. It was reported and he was arrested. She too was also deported and it caused a breakdown. He spent nearly all of his time in

the hospital at Westerbork. Which explains why he never performed in any of the Cabaret Shows put on by Willy Rosen, Eric Ziegler and Max Ehrlich.

He remained in Westerbork until 31<sup>st</sup> July 1944 when he was transported on train, XXIV/6 to Theresienstadt as number 203. There were 213 people on that train, by the end of the war only 13 were still alive. He remained at Theresienstadt for 3 months when he was transported to Auschwitz on Train Ev, number 434 on October 28<sup>th</sup> 1944. On this train there were 1,865 people. He was murdered on arrival on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 1944. Only one person saw the end of the war from that transport.



## Film Appearances:

- Chaste Susanne (1926)
- Adventures of a Ten Mark Note (1926)
- Derby (1926)
- We'll Meet Again in the Heimat (1926)
- The Transformation of Dr. Bessel (1927)
- The Mistress of the Governor (1927)
- Light-Hearted Isabel (1927)
- Grand Hotel (1927)
- Heaven on Earth (1927)
- *My Friend Harry* (1928)
- Theatre (1928)
- A Modern Casanova (1928)
- Love in the Cowshed (1928)
- Foolishness of His Love (1929)
- The Night Belongs to Us (1929)
- The Woman Everyone Loves Is You (1929)

- The Crimson Circle (1929)
- Column X (1929)
- <u>Trust of Thieves</u> (1929)
- The Fourth from the Right (1929)
- Marriage in Trouble (1929)
- Foolish Happiness (1929)
- *His Best Friend* (1929)
- Men Without Work (1929)
- <u>The Merry Widower</u> (1929)
- Der Hampelmann (1930)
- Heute nacht eventuell (1930)
- The Song Is Ended (1930)
- Petit officier... Adieu! (1930)
- Hans in Every Street (1930)
- There Is a Woman Who Never Forgets You (1930)
- *Hocuspocus* (1930)
- The Widow's Ball (1930)
- Yorck (1931)
- <u>Salto Mortale</u> (1931)
- Who Takes Love Seriously? (1931)
- Her Grace Commands (1931)
- Congress Dances (1931)
- Seitensprünge (1931)
- Queen of the Night (1931)
- The Woman They Talk About (1931)
- Bombs on Monte Carlo (1931)
- The Little Escapade (1931)
- Alarm at Midnight (1931)
- Der Hochtourist (1931)
- *Ronny* (1931)
- That's All That Matters (1931)
- The Opera Ball (1931)
- Her Majesty the Barmaid (1931)
- Weekend in Paradise (1931)
- When the Soldiers (1931)
- Frederica (1932)
- Spoiling the Game (1932)
- Distorting at the Resort (1932)
- How Shall I Tell My Husband? (1932)
- The Beautiful Adventure (1932)
- The Black Hussar (1932)
- Two Hearts Beat as One (1932)
- When Love Sets the Fashion (1932)
- The Song of Night (1932)
- Greetings and Kisses, Veronika (1933)
- The Tsarevich (1933)

- <u>Madame Wants No Children</u> (1933)
- Inge and the Millions (1933)
- Wege zur guten Ehe (1933)
- Kind, ich freu' mich auf Dein Kommen (1933)
- <u>Das häßliche Mädchen (</u>1933)
- <u>Die kleine Schwindlerin</u> (1933)
- Tell Me Who You Are (1933)
- What Women Dream (1933)
- Konjunkturritter (1933)
- Daughter of the Regiment (1933)
- The Big Bluff (1933)
- Marion, That's Not Nice (1933)
- Peter (1934)
- Bretter, die die Welt bedeuten (1934)
- Alles für die Firma (1935)
- Heut' ist der schönste Tag in meinem Leben (1935)
- <u>Little Mother</u> (1935)
- *Ball at the Savoy* (1935)
- <u>Viereinhalb Musketiere</u> (1935)
- Catherine the Last (1936)
- Bubi (1937)
- <u>Crossroads</u> (1938)

## YouTube

https://youtu.be/t8yiGaQh0sU Documentary

https://youtu.be/Q08FXSPhVsq Otto Wallburg - My Father

https://youtu.be/ilLGCUMkEZg Bretter, die die Welt bedeuten (volle Länge)

https://youtu.be/zwXBjBPG5eA Gruss und Kuss Veronika (German only)

https://youtu.be/7l55m27qAJk Hokuspokus

https://youtu.be/bNhkL3Le-nY Heut' ist der schönste Tag in meinem Leben \*\*\*\*\*



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