

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Notice of press screenings: Rainer Werner Fassbinder's Lili Marleen</b>
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Surf Theatres</i>
Date	1981 Aug 04
Type	press release
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Lili Marleen, Fassbinder, Rainer Werner, 1981

**Castro Theatre**  
429 Castro Street  
San Francisco  
California 94114  
415-621-6120

**Clay Theatre**  
2261 Fillmore Street  
San Francisco  
California 94115  
415-346-1123

**Lumiere Theatre**  
1572 California Street  
San Francisco  
California 94109  
415-885-3200

**Cannery Cinema**  
2801 Leavenworth Street  
San Francisco  
California 94133  
415-441-6800

**Surf Theatre**  
4510 Irving Street  
San Francisco  
California 94122  
415-664-6300

## Press Release

### NOTICE OF PRESS SCREENINGS

### RAINER WERNER FASSBINDER'S

### LILI MARLEEN

EVENT: San Francisco Premiere of Rainer Werner Fassbinder's  
LILI MARLEEN (Germany, 1980)

TIME: 1) Monday morning, August 10 at 9 AM at JWA's  
screening room, 582 Market Street, San Francisco.  
  
2) Monday evening, August 10 at 8 PM at JWA's  
screening room, 582 Market Street, San Francisco.

RUNNING TIME: 120 minutes

OPENING DATE: Friday, August 14 at the CLAY Theatre, Fillmore  
at Clay, San Francisco.

STORY: Rainer Werner Fassbinder's most recent work, LILI  
MARLEEN, starring Hanna Schygulla, Giancarlo  
Giannini, and Mel Ferrer, captures the sensual,  
cynical atmosphere of Nazi-era Germany in a  
fictional tale woven around the legendary song  
beloved by both the Allies and the Axis during  
World War II.

In Fassbinder's adaptation of the autobiography,  
"Heaven Has Many Colors," by the late German  
chanteuse, Lale Anderson, Hanna Schygulla  
portrays Willie, a struggling, second-rate,  
singer-tap dancer working in Zurich and involved  
with an aspiring composer-conductor (Giancarlo  
Giannini) whose father (Mel Ferrer) is a wealthy  
Swiss Jew, engaged in spiriting Jews out of Germany.

Considering the relationship dangerous, the father  
prevents Willie from re-entering Switzerland while  
she is on a trip to Germany. She then turns for  
help to Nazi officer (Karl Heinz von Hassel), who  
arranges for her to record "Lili Marleen" which  
becomes an immediate hit when accidentally played  
on the German military radio network. (Actually,  
"Lili Marleen" was written as a poem during World War I  
by Hans Leip and set to music in the '20s by  
Norbert Schultze.) Hitler falls in love with it  
and Willie becomes an overnight star.

COMMENT: "LILI MARLEEN" would have made one hell of a Hollywood  
musical in the '40s...it is a movie with a fantastic  
plot and a very rich and energetic mise-en-scene.  
The feelings Fassbinder expresses in LILI MARLEEN are  
sweeter and more passionate than any he has expressed  
before." --Andrew Sarris, Village Voice

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8/4/81