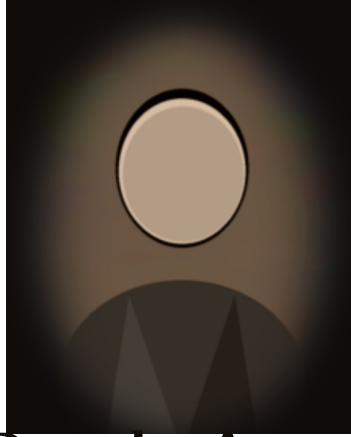




Dorothy Arzner

January 3, 1897 - October 1, 1979

La Quinta, California

Dorothy Arzner - American film director who carved a path for women in Hollywood sound pictures when the industry preferred them silent behind the camera - died in La Quinta, California, on October 1, 1979. She was eighty-two. Born January 3, 1897, in San Francisco, she moved from script typing and editing into directing, becoming the first woman admitted to the Directors Guild of America and a rare female voice behind features such as *The Wild Party* and *Dance, Girl, Dance*.

She coaxed performances from Katharine Hepburn, Lucille Ball, and others with a craftsman's eye for story and a refusal to treat women as decoration. After leaving studio directing she taught, mentored, and kept faith with the idea that a set could be fair without losing pace.

California studios taught her politics; editing rooms taught her timing. She directed as if competence needed no apology.

She died in La Quinta on October 1, 1979. Somewhere a slate is still clapped for a take that trusts the actress to carry the scene.

Arzner's gift was pioneering steadiness - making room without begging for it. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so October 1 remembers the San Francisco-born director who proved Hollywood could hear a woman's cut.

Services

Died in La Quinta, California, October 1, 1979. Film director; first woman in Directors Guild of America; The

Wild Party; Dance, Girl, Dance.

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