Don’t miss the Movie Time film series shown every other Wednesday at the Charles Allis Art Museum. These films are presented by leading Milwaukee historian, Dale E. Kuntz. Special choices from his collection of classic films from the 30s and 40s are shown on 16mm, reel-to-reel film. Most of his films are not available on DVD, so the audience has a rare opportunity to see these films in their original glory.

Prior to each screening, Dale fascinates the audience with his vast knowledge of film history and gives the inside scoop on each movie, including details about the stars and clues to help the audience spot little oddities that ended up in the film instead of on the cutting room floor.

As a bonus, on any Wednesday when a film is scheduled, general admission to the Museum doubles as a movie ticket. Guests may choose to arrive early to visit the museum and then stay for the film. Bring a friend, check out our permanent collection and current exhibition, then grab a seat in the Great Hall and enjoy!

Show Girls Musicals

From April 10th through July 5th, the Charles Allis Art Museum will have a new exhibition entitled More on Less: The History of Burlesque in America. To compliment the exhibition, Movie Time will show a series of “Show Girls Musicals”. Sorry, we don’t have any of the films that were shown along with the acts in the burlesque theaters. (You wouldn’t want to see them anyhow!) Special films were produced that were not allowed in the regular movie theaters. They were far more risqué with poor production values and often grainy film. Our feature films show chorus girls appearing in Vaudeville.

Burlesque was similar to Vaudeville, only a lot more raunchy with comedians, solo acts and a big finale. Our gals are a bit more refined. They may not be Greer Garson, Greta Garbo or Meryl Streep, but they are sassy, saucy and sensational – Alice Faye, Betty Grable, Judy Garland and even Barbara Stanwyck.

6:30 – 10pm
Wednesday Evenings
Showtime at 7:30pm

Admission:
$7 Adults :: $5.00 Students and Seniors
Free to our Members!

Museum Hours:
Wed – Sun 1pm-5pm
Dames
Wednesday, April 8th
1934, 90 mins.
Joan Blondell, Dick Powell, Ruby Keeler, Guy Kibbee, ZaSu Pitts
An early Warner Brothers back-stage musical, with the producers trying to find a backer for the show. They find one (Kibbee), the only problem is that he doesn't like the music or approve of the show girls. They find ways to get around him until he almost closes the show. Highlights of the film are fantastic Busby Berkeley production numbers including the ever-popular "I Only Have Eyes For You".

Rose of Washington Square
Wednesday, April 22nd
1939, 86 mins.
Alice Faye, Tyrone Power, Al Jolson, Louis Prima
The first version of "Funny Girl". Based loosely on the life of Fanny Brice. Only Alice is a torch singer, not a comedienne. Power plays a charming crook who uses Alice's star status for his own good. Alice gets to sing and dance the title song as well as Brice's signature song, "My Man". Jolson reprises his old favorites, including "Mammy", "California Here I Come" and others.

Ball of Fire
Wednesday, May 6th
1941, 111 mins.
Barbara Stanwyck, Gary Cooper, Dana Andrews, Oscar Homolka
A delightful screwball comedy in which Stanwyck plays a burlesque dancer on the run from the cops. She hides out in the home of seven prim professors, led by Cooper. She helps him with his research on American slang. The professors learn from her how to loosen up and become more human. If the story sounds familiar, it is a take-off on Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Gene Krupa and his band supply the music for Stanwyck's dance, "The Rum Boogie". Ball of Fire received the Academy Award Nomination for Best Sound Recording.

Tin Pan Alley
Wednesday, May 20th
1940, 94 mins.
Alice Faye, Betty Grable, John Payne, Jack Oakie, Nicholas Brothers
Payne and Oakie are a pair of struggling song writers who can't get their songs published. They get a sister act to help promote the music. Like all Hollywood stories, they become a big success - only to have their success pull them apart while the sisters go on to become major Broadway stars. Wonderful old songs like "K-K-Katy" and "Shiek of Araby" earned Alfred Newman an Oscar for Best Scoring of a Musical Film.

Ziegfeld Girl
Wednesday, June 3rd
1941, 131 mins.
Judy Garland, Hedy Lamarr, Lana Turner, James Stewart, Tony Martin, Jackie Cooper, Edward Everett Horton, Eve Arden
A large scale musical done in the grand MGM manner! The story concerns the girls who try out for the Ziegfeld follies (you never see Mr. Ziegfeld though). Some succeed, some let fame go to their head, and some find happiness elsewhere. Musical numbers include "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows", "Minnie From Trinidad" and Busby Berkeley's fantastic "You Stepped Out of a Dream".

The Dolly Sisters
Wednesday, June 17th
1945, Color, 114 mins.
Betty Grable, June Haver, John Payne, S. Z. "Cuddles" Sakall
The Hollywood version of the famous Dolly Sisters, who came over from Hungary as young girls to become major Broadway stars before and during World War I. Along the way, the meet with doubt, success, love, marriage and tragedy. All accompanied by music of the time: "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows", "The Dark Town Strutters Ball" and the popular tune written especially for the film, "I Can't Begin to Tell You", which was nominated for Best Song.