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**THE DINA MERRILL FILM PROGRAM PRESENTS
DIVAS OUTDOORS: CLASSIC FILMS UNDER THE STARS**

**JOAN CRAWFORD, AS A RUTHLESS DIVA, COMES BACK TO THE LUNAR LAWN
AT HILLWOOD FOR *QUEEN BEE* ON FRIDAY, JUNE 7**

Guests offered sneak peak of upcoming special exhibition

WASHINGTON—The most stylish outdoor film event of the season returns to the [Lunar Lawn](#) at [Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens](#) with *Divas Outdoors: Classic Films Under the Stars* at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 7, 2013. This year, diva meets doyenne when Joan Crawford's fiendish *Queen Bee* follows a sneak preview of the special exhibition [Living Artfully: At Home with Marjorie Merriweather Post](#), opening to the public on June 8. The rain date for *Divas Outdoors* will be Saturday, June 8.

Presented by Hillwood and [One in Ten](#), this high-spirited night begins with picnic spreads across the lawn, all vying for the top spot in the competition. Guests are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs, and creative and delectable picnics inspired by the sophisticated setting at Hillwood. The evening also includes strolls through the splendid [gardens](#) and the opportunity for an early look at *Living Artfully*, the first exhibition to reveal a glimpse of the inner workings of Hillwood founder Marjorie Post's grand homes and perfectly coordinated way of life.

When the sun goes down, the stingers come out, as Joan Crawford stars in the 1955 classic melodrama, *Queen Bee*. Described at the time by [The New York Times](#) as "the height of mellifluous meanness and frank insincerity," Crawford plays the unhappy wife of a wealthy mill tycoon, who takes pleasure in manipulating everyone around her. The histrionics of this campy classic are sure to inspire laughter and fun across the lawn.



(more)

The Dina Merrill Film Program and Divas Outdoors

Hillwood serves as a fitting venue for the presentation of classic films, as they and their stars recall not only a golden age of film, but also a time of grand living that was celebrated by Hillwood founder and Washington social figure [Marjorie Merriweather Post](#). Every *Divas Outdoor* film had its theatrical debut around the time that Post resided and entertained at Hillwood. Without fail a gracious host, Post added a [splendid wing](#) to the mansion after she purchased the estate in 1955 that, among other types of entertaining, allowed her to screen movies for her guests. In 2010, Dina Merrill Hartley (Dina Merrill), actress, philanthropist, and Post's youngest daughter, made a gift to support film programs at Hillwood so her mother's long-standing tradition could be continued.

One in Ten, producer of Reel Affirmations: The Nation's LGBT Film Festival, returns for a seventh year as a partner for *Divas Outdoors*. During One in Ten's 20-plus-year history of showcasing global voices in LGBT cinema, they have developed a number of year-round screening series designed for Washington audiences.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- What:** *Divas Outdoors: Classic Films Under the Stars*
Featuring Joan Crawford in *Queen Bee*
- When:** **June 7, 2013**
Rain date: June 8, 2013
Gates open at 6:30 p.m.
Picnic competition judging at 8 p.m.
Film at 8:15
Hillwood's gardens will be open for evening-time strolls and guests get a sneak peak of the special exhibition [Living Artfully: At Home with Marjorie Merriweather Post](#)
- Price:** \$15, \$10 college students and children 6-18
This presentation is made possible by the Dina Merrill Film Program
- Information/:** www.HillwoodMuseum.org
Reservations: or call (202) 686-5807

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Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens is Washington, DC's most gracious cultural attraction. Marjorie Merriweather Post's spectacular estate and gardens, as well as one of the finest Russian art collections in the world, offer each visitor the opportunity to be immersed in a tranquil world of beauty. An engaging and welcoming respite from one's daily life located right in the city's own backyard, Hillwood is a true treasure for all who experience it. Since 2001, Hillwood has worked with an advisory committee, comprised of leaders in the GLBT community, to help reach out to the local community, form partnerships, and develop programming that welcomes the GLBT community to Hillwood year-round.