

FAQ 6

6.1

Q: You mentioned that some scenes from James Ellroy's *L.A. CONFIDENTIAL* were filmed inside the Hodel/Franklin House. I didn't see any. Which ones?



Yes, two separate scenes were filmed inside the Franklin House, but if you blink you miss them.



George Hodel 1949



David Strathairn as "Pierce Patchett"

L.A. CONFIDENTIAL FRANKLIN HOUSE SCENE 1

Scene between Kevin Spacey and James Cromwell (Capt. Dudley Smith)



This 1996-7 scene filmed in Hodel-Franklin House kitchen five years before residential interior renovation in 2002

L.A. CONFIDENTIAL FRANKLIN HOUSE SCENE 2

Scene at Franklin House with partygoers (Hookers and tricks)



This scene filmed in Hodel-Franklin House living-room in 1996-7



Kevin Spacey as detective Sgt. Jack Vincennes holding Pierce Patchett's Fleur dy Lis business card "Whatever You Desire"



George Hodel's Fleur dy Lis photo album

As in *CHINATOWN*, there are some fascinating *coincidences* related to the real life George Hodel and the characters in the fictional Ellroy novel, masterfully adapted to film in 1997 by director, Curtis Hanson.

First is the character, Pierce Patchett, who not only resembles George Hodel in physical appearance and voice, but is presented in the film as a powerful L.A. behind-the-scenes shadow figure, running a vice operation and working with corrupt cops. Pimp Patchett has high class prostitutes going to cocktail parties and entertaining wealthy and connected businessmen AT THE FRANKLIN HOUSE. (See above clips) Incredibly, this is something that Dr. George Hodel did in real life, at the same location, in the very same room! Patchett's logo is the Fluor dy Lis, which we see on George Hodel's private, personal album of loved ones. They share a common motto, "Whatever you desire." The storyline continues mimicking real life, even to the point where Pierce Patchett's murder is staged to appear to be a "suicide", which is exactly what George Hodel did to one of his victim's (his secretary, Ruth Spaulding) and again used to stage an "attempted suicide" to discredit a witness (Lillian Lenorak) as "having mental problems". Miss Lenorak was in the process of informing the D.A. of George Hodel's criminality, and her own perjury (present and actually witnessing Tamar Hodel's abortion) at his incest trial. Lenorak further made photographic identification of Elizabeth Short' to the D.A. as being Hodel's former girlfriend and as having attended parties at the Franklin House. **ART CONTINUES TO IMITATE LIFE!**

6.2

Q: I recently saw a repeat of the 48 HOURS BLACK DAHLIA CONFIDENTIAL show where the expert said she did not believe one of the photos was the same as the photo in your father's album. She said she thought the woman's chin was different. What do you think?



This photo shown on CBS' 48 HOURS in my opinion IS NOT ELIZABETH SHORT

I contacted the police artist, Ms. Sunni Chapman, and attempted to have her identify for me exactly which photographs she used to make the chin comparison to my father's photographs. She indicated she could not recall which specific photo she used in her analysis, and stated, "she could not positively eliminate the Hodel photo as being Elizabeth Short."

Ms. Chapman was given a number of photographs including the above photo, all identified as being known photos of Elizabeth Short. To the best of my knowledge, the above picture has floated around the Internet as a possible Dahlia "look-alike", and has never been verified as being Elizabeth Short. In my opinion it is not Elizabeth Short. The woman appears considerably older than age-22. If this photo was used for the chin comparison then Ms. Chapman's analysis is invalid. If other photographs, known to be Elizabeth were used, then her subjective opinion of "probably not, but can't say for sure" could be considered, (Ms. Chapman is not a qualified court expert in biometrics, which is the science of facial measurements, and informed me that "biometrics were not used in her analysis.")

(See below question repeated from FAQ I page-10 which further addresses the same points.)

6.3

Q: the facial recognition expert doesn't believe the photographs are of Elizabeth Short, and apparently, neither does—James Ellroy. On camera, you said, "I'm 99% convinced they are." Since it no longer matters to the case, why do you insist they are her?

As part of my follow-up investigation I personally contacted two separate U.S. based companies, specializing in biometric facial recognition. (Measuring the spatial geometry of distinguishing features of the face.) Both communicated that the state of the art while improving is still not anywhere near 100% and their results could not be relied upon for complete accuracy, CBS' witness, Ms. Sunni Chapman (a composite artist, not a biometric expert) stated that it was her opinion that she is "85% certain the one photograph (nude) is not Elizabeth Short. (For unknown reasons, she did not analyze, or could not render an opinion on the second photograph.) In a follow-up telephone interview with me, Ms. Chapman confirmed that biometrics played no part in her analysis, nor is it used in her software program. Her candid off-camera statement to me was, "I would not be able to testify in court without doubt that the two photographs [George Hodel's] either were or were not her. [Elizabeth Short]. Most readers, after reviewing all the evidence, understand that the question of the photographic identification becomes a moot point. We know from other official police documents that George Hodel and Elizabeth Short were together at my father's Hollywood residence before the murder. Absent hard evidence to the contrary, it is my position that both the nude and the standing photograph are -- Elizabeth Short. I will be offering further proof in support of this belief, in the very near future.

(Author's Note-Update- In October, 2006, I would identify, interview and eliminate one of the two photographs and announce my findings on CNN Anderson-Cooper 360. See FAQ 20 for complete story on "Maganda")

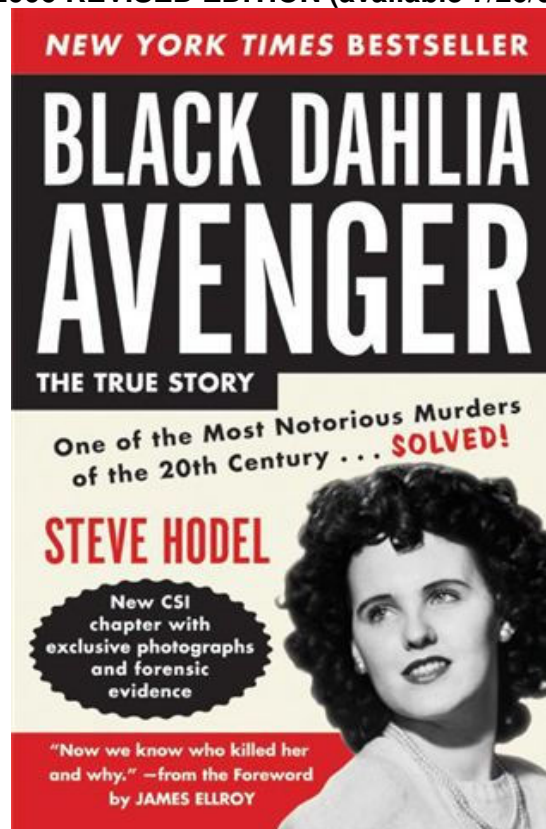
6.4

Q: When is your new information coming out? Is this going to be in your second book and are there more murders included in it?

I am in the process of completing my separate investigation and summary of Book II, which does include my father's further criminality. However, I believe your question refers to the "new new" chapter, which has been added to the HarperCollins trade-paperback. This is a new chapter supplementing the AFTERMATH chapter, which was added in June 2004. The newest chapter will be in bookstores by the end of this month. (**July 26, 2006.**) (See below revised edition)

This new chapter contains my 2004-2006 follow-up investigation along with never before seen Dahlia crime photographs and CSI findings which include physical evidence linking my father directly to the crime scene.

2006 REVISED EDITION (available 7/26/06)

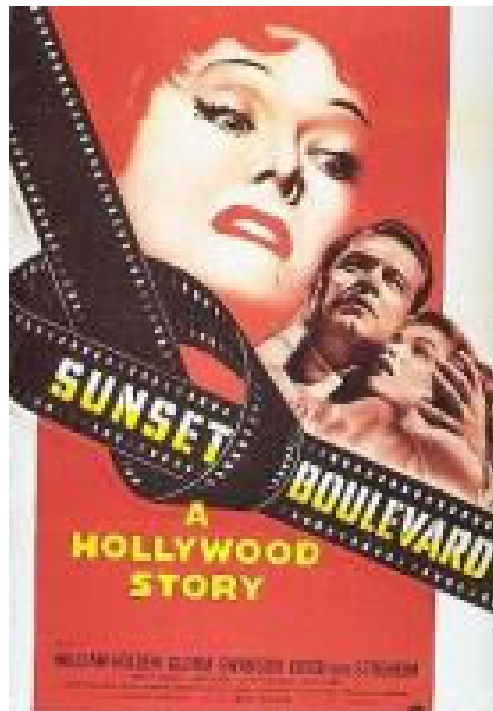


6.5

Q: Are you aware that there exists a reference to the Black Dahlia Murder in the 1950 film noir SUNSET BOULEVARD?

Yes. Another of the many Dahlia ironies. The scene (dialogue below) you are referring to takes place at a New Year's Eve party where William Holden, playing screenwriter, Joe Gilles, is introduced by his writer friend Artie Green, played by Jack Webb. What makes this especially ironic is the fact that actor Jack Webb would go on to star in the hugely popular, DRAGNET television series, as LAPD Sgt. Joe Friday, and become a close friend to real life LAPD Chief of Detectives, Thad Brown. Chief Brown, before his death in 1971, would inform Webb in a private-confidential conversation that, "The Black Dahlia murder was solved. It was a doctor in Hollywood who lived on Franklin Avenue." (As we know, Dr. George Hodel was a physician, who lived in Hollywood on Franklin Avenue.)

This Black Dahlia connection/association with *Sunset Blvd.*, one of Hollywood's greatest noir-films, would further stamp the crime into the viewing public's collective-consciousness, as a famous Hollywood murder, thus perpetuating--- the DAHLIA MYTH. Fictional accounts would follow in both novels and films, such as: John Gregory Dunne's TRUE CONFESSIONS (1977) and James Ellroy's BLACK DAHLIA (1987).



Sunset Blvd. Released date U.S. August, 1950
 William Holden (Joe Gilles) Gloria Swanson (Norma Desmond)
 Nominated for 11 Oscars-- won 3.

ARTIE GREEN'S APARTMENT



Joe Gilles (William Holden) dressed in a tuxedo, makes his entrance to a New Year's Eve party. Friend/screenwriter, Artie Green (Jack Webb) introduces him to the partygoers. (From the screenplay written March 21, 1949):



(Click for audio)

ARTIE

Well, what do you know, Joe Gilles!

GILLIS

Hi Artie.

ARTIE

Where have you been keeping that gorgeous face of yours?

GILLES

In a deep freeze.

ARTIE

I almost reported you to the Bureau of Missing Persons.
(To the company)

Fans, you all know Joe Gillis, the well-known screen writer, uranium smuggler and Black Dahlia suspect. (laughter)

6.6

Q: Other websites say that author James Ellroy does not support your theory or doesn't believe you really solved the murder. Is that true?

I have addressed this question numerous times in the past, and would again refer you and others to James Ellroy's foreword to my book, which is printed in its entirety, on the home page of this website.

I continue to encourage readers to always go to the original source whenever possible.

Many individuals have their own personal agendas and put their own self-motivated spins into their so called objective reportage, frequently editing out the truth in hopes of strengthening their own position.

Below is a verbatim sound byte from the television show, *CBS 48 HOURS- Black Dahlia Confidential*, which originally aired on 11/27/04. Let's hear it from the horse's mouth! In this section of the hour-special, reporter Erin Moriarty has just indicated that Los Angeles County Head Deputy D.A. Stephen Kay is in strong support of my investigation and believes that Dr. George Hodel was in fact the Black Dahlia murderer. She follows that with an interview with Ellroy:

Investigative reporter Erin Moriarty:

Crime novelist James Ellroy is also convinced.

James Ellroy:

I think Steve Hodel is a good and noble guy. I think he solved the Black Dahlia murder case."



(Click for audio)

Finally, let me again point out, that while James Ellroy does believe I have solved the murder and that my father did kill Elizabeth Short, he does not agree with me on all aspects of the investigation. We, as friends, respectfully disagree with each other on a number of points. That's what friends do.