Sarah Bernhardt was a French actress. During the war, she showed great commitment to the patriotic cause through her participation in performances at the front, appearance in propaganda productions and the campaign urging the United States to enter the war.
who lost her son in the trenches. The movie was filmed at the front and endorsed by the Ministry of War. She also premiered two plays with a patriotic content: Les cathédrales (1915) and Du théâtre au champ d'honneur (1916).

**At the Front**

As proof of her commitment to the patriotic cause, not only did Bernhardt appear in artistic productions that celebrated French heroism but she performed for soldiers at the front in 1916. Although witnesses attested to the rousing power of her voice, a fundamental disconnect between the actress and her public remained. She once declared after a performance with the Théâtre aux Armées, “I would have wanted to die there, among them, so fraternal, so heroic, so gay, so joyous, so simply French!” but soldiers were dismissive of the moral lessons dispensed by the rear and mocked the vaunted courage of civilian actors.[2]

**In the United States**

Between September 1916 and November 1918, Bernhardt toured the United States. Her motivations for this trip were not just financial: she was campaigning to convince the United States to enter the war.

Bernhardt maintained her activity after the war. Despite her declining popularity and deteriorating health, she continued to perform, gave public lectures and wrote novels.

Emmanuelle Loubat, Cardiff University

Section Editor: Emmanuelle Cronier

**Notes**


**Selected Bibliography**


**Citation**


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