

Jeffry Heise

3 hours ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

As a BGSU alumnus, with a Film Studies BA and MA in Popular Culture from there, and a person who sat with Miss Gish at a screening of WAY DOWN EAST in that very theater, I am appalled that this could happen and if it does, I will never visit there again and any support for them in any way, shape or form will be gone.

Jordan Young

13 hours ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

It's an injustice, as Anne so well articulates!

Joseph Brando

15 hours ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

there is nothing more idiotic than yanking someone out of their grave to judge their ancient actions by today's standards

Loren England

16 hours ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

The reasons given for name changes (those reasons being pretty much the same) of buildings honoring people are pure, unadulterated crap!

Jeffrey Crouse

1 day ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

Lillian Gish, along with Mary Pickford, is regarded by lovers of cinema as the Mother of Film. See her entire body of work before making judgments. She is one of the great Americans.

Mal Thursday

1 day ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

It is wrongheaded to remove This Woman's Legacy from Bowling Green. She wasn't a slave owner or a racist, but a consummate artist of film.

Gayle Buhler

1 day ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

Lillian Gish was one of the pioneers in the invention of film history. Without her contributions, we would not have the mature film culture. Just because someone or some group dislikes one of her films is no reason to take her name off the theater. After all, she did also star in groundbreaking films that pled for understanding of the plight of an unwed mother (*Way Down East*) when such women were ostracized. What about her inter-racial friendship with a Chinese man in *Broken Blossoms*? Why does her portrayal of an abused girl in the same film not garner *Me Too* supporters? Is that not a film about a man exercising power over a female? Did she not expose inequities in that movie?

Wesley Stokes

1 day ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

This group of people who want to rewrite history and falsely blame people for things they had nothing to do with just turn my stomach

Rebecca Noel

1 day ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

Ms Lillian Gish was an actress fulfilling her contractual obligations. Why change history over something so obtuse and ridiculous? Life is so much more important and so short that we need to spend time on things vitally important to life. Let's honor Lillian Gish for her lifetime of service as an actress, both on stage and in film, in silent era and in "talkies". That is MORE important. Find out why Ms Gish was honored at that University theater in the first place and let that honor speak for itself

Bette Durr

2 days ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

I believe it would be a great injustice to rename the Gish Theater. You cannot judge a person's intentions based on one occurrence in their life. She was a young actress working with and in awe of her director who was considered the greatest director in the world at the time. Her contributions, as a pioneer in the film industry and her work for film preservation far outshines one role. The Gish Theater does not show Birth of a Nation and in no way condones the message of that one film. It would be a disservice to history to negate what Lillian and her sister Dorothy contributed to the building of American cinema.

Diane Barnes

2 days ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

The movie came out in 1915, roughly 50 years after the end of slavery. It would be better to openly address the history of racism rather than to erase evidence that it existed.

Jennifer Henry Murray

3 days ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

It was named after them for a reason. Keep it so in their memory. It's not a ball field selling out for more money.

Gilda Tabarez

5 days ago

D.W. Griffith and Lillian Gish both immediately redeemed themselves with the epic masterpiece "Intolerance" (1916) which condemned intolerance, hypocrisy and social injustice. Kind of like Rodney King saying "Can we all get along?" but still good-intentioned. In 1989, "Intolerance" was one of the first films to be selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress for being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant".

Adrian Paul Botta

3 hours ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

When The Gish will cease to exist, BGSU will remain on the map as "just" a university building a "just" learning community, as they like so much to write it everywhere these days ...
<https://gishtheater.wordpress.com/the-sad-story-of-the-gish-victim-of-ignorance-politics-and-hatred/>

Kegan Mahon

7 days ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

The removal of the original name for a cultural landmark, based on the political negativity of ONE film is nothing more than a childish temper tantrum.

Pamela Russell

1 week ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

I am signing this Petition because we here in these United States have a sacred document that guides our nation towards a more perfect union and I have defended that ideal all of my adult life. We are not "there" yet, but to purposefully ignore our 1st Amendment rights as citizens and assume incorrectly that the 21 year old actress Lillian Gish, threatened that ideal and also held racist views due to her participation as a paid actor in an epic film in a socio-political era quite different than from where we are at now, to me that feels like an action and thought process designed to divide us even more.

I may not like - let me correct myself - I may find appalling, how the author of the book that D. W. Griffith based his "Birth of A Nation" film upon, exemplified the South at one of the most shameful times in our history, with its sensationalized cruel, vile behavior towards fellow human beings, through racism and the actions of the KuKlux Klan and like minded people, etc. Keep in mind, those events and others similarly shameful, were commonplace after the Civil War during the "Reconstruction" period.

As a schoolgirl I did have to watch the film, and in retrospect I am glad. There remains a dirty underbelly to our society, our culture. If there are people offended by anything to do with D.W. Griffith's huge, and in spite of the horrendous and cruel portrayal of treatment of freed slaves as well as the brutality they endured, a brilliant feat of early cinematography, then making sure that people continue to refuse to accept racism and prejudice is key. But to dishonor a great and generous actor like Lillian Gish is disrespectful and just plain ignorant in my humble opinion..

Anne Papineau

1 week ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

The Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize (a cash prize of at least \$300,000) has been awarded to amazing artists who cross the ethnic spectrum, including African Americans like Spike Lee and Suzan Lori Parks. That is the true legacy of the Gish sisters. Don't erase their name from the theater Lillian endowed.

Jane Heinstrom

7 days ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

Are rich donors vetted for ideological purity before their names go on the edifice?

Anne Gaines

1 week ago

REASON FOR SIGNING

I'm signing because I believe in the considerable talents of both Lillian Gish and her sister Dorothy and don't want their name to be erased from the Theater due to misunderstanding! Also, I started the petition.