BARBARA BAIN

Born in Chicago on September 13th, Barbara Bain graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology before relocating to New York City. Once there, Bain found gainful employment as a high fashion model and explored her life-long love of dance by studying with Martha Graham, master of American modern dance. Further exploring her interest in the arts, Bain began her acting training in the private class of the most famous and respected of all acting teachers, Lee Strasberg. After a successful audition, she accepted an invitation to become a member of his legendary The Actors Studio.

Bain toured with the road company of Paddy Chayefsky's *Middle of the Night,* a tour which landed her in Los Angeles, and not long thereafter Bain found work on some of the most popular television shows of the day. She appeared opposite Larry Hagman in United Artists' *Harbormaster* and with Darrin McGavin in the popular *Mike Hammer* series. Perhaps her first real big break came, however, when she was cast in the recurring role of Karen Wells, love interest of David Janssen, in the seminal private-eye series, *Richard Diamond, Private Detective.*

Bain continued to work steadily, appearing in numerous television series: *Tightrope, The Law and Mr. Jones, Straightaway* and *Adventures in Paradise.* She also had the opportunity to flex her comedy skills in one of the most memorable episodes of the classic *The Dick Van Dyke Show,* created by Carl Reiner. In the episode "Will You Two Be My Wife," Bain turned in a hilarious performance as "Dorie-doo," a blonde bombshell with whom Van Dyke must break-up in order to marry the ever-perky Mary Tyler Moore. Bain also showed off her comedic abilities as Alma Sutton in the spy-comedy, *Get Smart,* created by Mel Brooks and Buck Henry. In between these two well-remembered sit-com appearances, Bain continued to be in demand, appearing in *The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis, Hawaiian Eye, 77 Sunset Strip, Wagon Train, Ben Casey, My Mother the Car,* and *Perry Mason.*

But it was in 1966 that Bain would bring to life the role that would make her an international star. Created by Bruce Geller, *Mission: Impossible* was an espionage-thriller series the likes of which had never appeared on television. Bain played Cinnamon Carter, a secret agent with beauty (her specialty was distraction) and the brains to match, a role for which she would become the first actress in television history to win three consecutive *Emmy*® awards for Lead Actress in a

Dramatic Series, a record that would stand for nearly two decades. She would revisit the Cinnamon Carter character in 1997 on *Diagnosis Murder*, appearing alongside Phil Morris, the adult son of her *Mission: Impossible* co-star Greg Morris, and reuniting with her one-time co-star, Dick Van Dyke.

In 1969, Bain left the Impossible Missions Force and began appearing in a number of high-profile television movies: *Murder Once Removed* with John Forsythe, *Goodnight, My Love* directed by Peter Hyams, *A Summer Without Boys* and Steven Spielberg's *Savage.*

In 1973, Bain accepted the invitation of British producers Gerry and Sylvia Anderson to appear in their exciting new television series, *Space: 1999,* opposite her then-husband Martin Landau and actor Barry Morse of *The Fugitive* fame. Set some twenty-five years in the future, *Space: 1999* was, at the time, the most expensive science fiction television series ever produced with feature film quality special effects. Bain appeared in *Space: 1999* for two seasons as Doctor Helena Russell, a role that earned her high acclaim and millions more fans worldwide.

Following *Space: 1999*, Bain continued to make guest appearances in some of television's hottest shows: *The New Mike Hammer, Moonlighting, The Scarecrow and Mrs. King, Murder, She Wrote, My So-Called Life, Walker, Texas Ranger, Millennium, Strong Medicine, CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, and *Likely Suspects.* She also appeared in numerous feature films including *American Gun* (with James Coburn), *Skinheads, The Spirit of '76, Forget Me Not, Nothing Special* (with Karen Black), *Panic* (opposite William H. Macy) and the forthcoming *Silver Skies* with George Hamilton and the late Alex Rocco. Recently, she has appeared in many short films, including *Grace, Lost Music, Match Made* and *Pacific Edge*, for which she was awarded Best Actress awards at both the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival and the Golden Door International Film Festival.

Although Bain continues to work steadily in film and on television, it is her stage and charitable works that have been the main focus of Bain's post-*Space: 1999* life. She has garnered Los Angeles Critics Circle and DramaLogue Awards for her acting in such plays as Arthur Kopit's *Wings*, Eugene O'Neill's *A Long Day's Journey Into Night*, Samuel Beckett's *Happy Days* and Eugène Ionesco's *The Chairs.*

A continuing member of The Actors Studio, Bain teaches and directs there. She also has directed numerous plays in 99-seat theater venues in Los Angeles. In addition, Bain has just completed her 7th year working with the Blank Theatre and their Young Playwrights Festival, mentoring young writers aged 9 to 19 and directing their plays for production on the stage of the Stella Adler Theatre in Hollywood.

Bain counts as her proudest achievement her work as founder of the Screen Actors Guild Foundation's BookPALS (Performing Artists for Literacy in Schools) program, a literacy program designed to develop a love of reading in children. Since its inception in 1993, Bain has seen BookPALS grow from a regional program to a national one, with some 300 of Bain's colleagues reading to children throughout North America.

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