

Tue, Apr 24, 1962

Anita Ekberg to Marry Hollywood's Rod Taylor



ANITA EKBERG

HOLLYWOOD — Anita Ekberg said Monday she will be married soon to actor Rod Taylor, who rose to fame as star of television's "Hong Kong" series.

The beauty Swedish actress flew in from Rome Sunday night into the waiting arms of the Australian-born actor. The two have been a trans-Atlantic romance for several months.

Miss Ekberg said the wedding will take place as soon as Taylor can get time off from his film activities. He is currently starring in Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds."

The actress, a familiar figure along Rome's Via Veneto, said she is not returning to Rome until Taylor can go back there with her as her husband.

"And then I'll just go back to sell my villa and return here," she announced. "Hollywood is Rod's home and that's where I'm going to stay."

Each has been married before — Anita to British actor Anthony Steel and Taylor before he came to Hollywood from Australia.

Thu, May 10, 1962

Rod Taylor Says He, Ekberg Not To Rush Into Marriage

By BOB THOMAS
AP Movie-Television Writer
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — "The stage is a serious business. You've got to work hard at it. That's why we're not going to be rushed into anything."

This was Australian actor Rod Taylor speaking about his engagement to his Swedish flame Anita Ekberg. Reports circulated last week that they would be wed on the weekend.

"Yes, I know there are people who are eager for us to get married," said the actor. "But we aren't going to do it just to beat out the rumors. We'll marry when we are good and ready."

"Marriage is a tough enough proposition without starting out with extra handicaps. We have certain things to work out."

For one thing, Taylor is still committed to making "The Birds," Alfred Hitchcock's new horror film about a fierce horde of mad as birds. When I saw the actor on the movie set, he was bandaged and bloody from an encounter with a sea gull.

"I'll be tied up in the picture at least until next month, maybe longer, the way things are going. These birds are tough to work with," said Taylor. "It wouldn't make much sense to get married until I was through."

What problems remain to be worked out?

"Career problems," he ex-

plained. "Anita's career is in Italy, mine is here. I don't blame her for liking to work over there. Hollywood treated her pretty handsomely in Italy; she is a real star and is treated like one."

"But I am just old-fashioned enough to believe that the husband should be the boss of a family. I have no intention of going to Rome and hanging around the set while she makes a movie."

How does Anita feel about all this?

"She understands," Taylor said, adding with a smile, "she is a good, healthy Swedish peasant-type. She says she wants a home."