

## Topic Page: [Hepburn, Audrey, 1929-1993](#)

Definition: **Hepburn, Audrey** from *Philip's Encyclopedia*

US actress, b. Belgium. Her ingénue performance in *Roman Holiday* (1953) won her an Academy Award for best actress. A succession of similar roles in films such as *Sabrina* (1954) and *Funny Face* (1957) earned her further popular success. Other credits include *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1961) and *My Fair Lady* (1964). She later became involved in charitable and humanitarian work.

### Summary Article: **Hepburn, Audrey**

From *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*

English actor. She often played innocent, childlike characters. Slender and doe-eyed, she set a different style from the more ample women stars of the 1950s. After playing minor parts in British films in the early 1950s, she became a Hollywood star in *Roman Holiday* (1951), for which she won an Academy Award, and later starred in such films as *Funny Face* (1957) and *My Fair Lady* (1964).

Her break came when the French novelist Colette insisted Hepburn play in the Broadway version of her novel *Gigi*. This led to her casting in *Roman Holiday* and to a succession of films during the 1950s and 1960s: mainly comedies, such as *Sabrina* (1954) and *Charade* (1963), and the anarchic Holly Golightly in the bittersweet *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1961), but she also played Natasha in *War and Peace* (1956) and the doubting novice in *The Nun's Story* (1959).

Born in Brussels, Belgium, of Anglo-Dutch descent, she was trapped in Arnhem with her mother when World War II began, and spent the war years there in hardship, though managing to train as a dancer. She subsequently appeared in revues in London's West End, and small roles in several British films.

She turned down the title role in *The Diary of Anne Frank* (1959), saying that her memories of the Dutch occupation would have made it too painful. Her casting as Eliza Doolittle in the film version of *My Fair Lady* caused some controversy; many had expected the part to be played by Julie Andrews, who had created it on the stage. Among her later films were *Wait Until Dark* (1968) and *Robin and Marian* (1976). Her final film was *Always* (1988).

Latterly she was a special ambassador for the United Nations, and visited Somalia in 1992.

### weblinks

[Audrey Hepburn Page](#)

[APA](#)

[Chicago](#)

[Harvard](#)

[MLA](#)

---

Hepburn, Audrey. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. Abington, UK: Helicon. Retrieved from



© RM, 2018. All rights reserved.



© RM, 2018. All rights reserved.

## APA

Hepburn, Audrey. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. Abington, UK: Helicon. Retrieved from [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn\\_audrey\\_1929\\_1993](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn_audrey_1929_1993)

## Chicago

"Hepburn, Audrey." In *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*, edited by Helicon. Helicon, 2018. [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn\\_audrey\\_1929\\_1993](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn_audrey_1929_1993)

## Harvard

Hepburn, Audrey. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. [Online]. Abington: Helicon. Available from: [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn\\_audrey\\_1929\\_1993](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn_audrey_1929_1993) [Accessed 16 October 2019].

## MLA

"Hepburn, Audrey." *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*, edited by Helicon, 2018. *Credo Reference*, [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn\\_audrey\\_1929\\_1993](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/hepburn_audrey_1929_1993). Accessed 16 Oct. 2019.