

# CLASSIC LUXURY

# Bonnie & Clyde, and Mob City

By Sherrie Wilkolaski

If you have spent anytime watching TV lately you might think you've stepped back in time. The networks are feeding us stories from the neo-noir era, with tales from our grandparents' generation. Real life gangsters can be found with a few clicks of the remote as we're drawn back to a period of prohibition, bank robberies and mob hits. What is our fascination with going back in time? And why now are we fixated on a period of rebellion, poised in a such a classic setting? Can we do it better now?

## BONNIE & CLYDE

Lifetime released their version of Bonnie Elizabeth Parker (October 1, 1910 – May 23, 1934) and Clyde Chestnut Barrow (March 24, 1909 – May 23, 1934) story as mini-series back in December. I marked my calendar and had my popcorn ready. It was a bore. It could have been cut back by two hours. The costumes were nice, but it moved like molasses. The 1963

version with Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway blows it away, it is a classic. If you're in the mood for reliving the life of two young villains, watch it on Netflix.

## MOB CITY

Another flashback program is rue-life crime drama, *Mob City*. It should have been scheduled as a mini-series, it has been cancelled in February 2014 and currently has aired only six episodes. The set design and costuming was gorgeous, but the dialogue was just not there.

Have we heard these stories too many times to enjoy the classic history of the mob in the 1940's, or are production studios rushing to fill their timeslots with content that just isn't ready for

airing?

## BOARDWALK EMPIRE

HBO has gotten it right. *Boardwalk Empire* is something to watch. This crime show drama has depth. Bugsy Segal is a character to be loved. The production quality is as good as it gets. HBO is quality. They are not looking for quantity.

*Boardwalk Empire* is a series that will be a classic for years to come, ironically telling the account of another classic age. It is interesting how everything comes back around again, yet even with today's technology and resources, we can still identify those things that will stand the test of time. It's not something that can be developed, it just is. ■



