Phillips, Irna (1905-1973) Encyclopedia Article

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Phillips, Irna (1905-1973)

A pioneering radio writer, Irna Phillips created arguably the first soap opera *(Painted Dreams,* 1930), then spent the next 40 years as the creative force behind everything from *Woman In White, Today's Children,* and *Road of Life* on radio to *As The World Turns* and *Another World* for television. She was among the first soap writers to focus on professional characters—doctors, nurses, and lawyers. Phillips also mentored future soap greats Agnes Nixon and Bill Bell.

Further Reading:

Dunning, John. *On The Air: The Encyclopedia Of Old-Time Radio.* New York, Oxford University Press, 1998.