

The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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PERSPECTIVES ON FRENCH CINEMA: NEW FRENCH FILMS AT MoMA

For the ninth year, PERSPECTIVES ON FRENCH CINEMA will offer New York audiences previews of some of the latest films from France. Opening in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2 on February 17, 1983, the series will run through the 27th of February.

PERSPECTIVES will present eight feature films selected by the Société des Réalisateurs de Films in Paris (the Association of French Film Directors) and the Department of Film of The Museum of Modern Art.

The films will be publicly screened in New York for the first time. While many of the directors whose work is included are unfamiliar to New York filmgoers, some, such as Jacques Demy, Chantal Akerman, Jean-Louis Bertucelli and Alain Jessua, are better known here.

A delegation from France will visit MoMA and introduce several PERSPECTIVES screenings: JEAN-LOUIS BERTUCELLI will speak at the screenings of his film INTERDIT AUX MOINS DE TREIZE ANS (NO ONE UNDER 13 ADMITTED) on Friday, February 18 at 2:30 and Saturday, February 19 at 5:00; BERTRAND VAN EFFENTERRE will speak after LE BATARD on Thursday, February 17 at 6:00 and Sunday, February 20 at 2:30; and BERNARD GIRAUDEAU, star of HECATE, will address the audience at the film's screenings on Friday, February 18 at 6:00 and Saturday, February 19 at 2:30.

BERTRAND VAN EFFENTERRE, Director of LE BATARD, was represented in PERSPECTIVES in 1979 with his film MAIS OU ET DONC ORNICAR. LE BATARD, adapted from a Eudora Welty story, is a "road movie," a love story, and a character portrait of Patrice (Gérard Klein), a young Marseillais on the lam. LE BATARD was completed early in 1983.

JEAN-LOUIS BERTUCELLI won the Special Prize for Young Directors at the 1982 Cannes Film Festival for his INTERDIT AUX MOINS DE TREIZE ANS (NO ONE UNDER 13 ADMITTED). Bertucelli, acclaimed in the United States for his 1970 RAMPARTS OF CLAY, brings to the screen a tough urban story of a petty criminal in INTERDIT...which stars Patrick Depeyrat and Sandra Montaigu.

HECATE, by Paris-based Swiss director DANIEL SCHMID, will be introduced by BERNARD GIRAUDEAU, who stars opposite Lauren Hutton as a young
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diplomat ensnared by Hutton's enigmatic charms. Set in a 1930's North Africa, HECATE (named for the Greek goddess of sorcery and witchcraft) was produced in 1982.

ITINERAIRE BIS (SIDE ROADS) is described by its director, CHRISTIAN DRILLAUD, as "a film where the supporting actors have the principal roles and where the story is secondary." This character comedy stars Georges Wilson and Rufus as eccentrics surrounded by a yet more eccentric assortment of friends and acquaintances. (1982).

A strong cast, headed by Nathalie Baye, Michel Piccoli and Gérard Lanvin, distinguishes UNE ETRANGE AFFAIRE (A STRANGE AFFAIR) by PIERRE GRANIER-DEFERRE. Lanvin plays Louis, a rather ordinary young man, whose contented existence and marriage to Nina (Baye) are destroyed by his enthrallment to Malair (Piccoli), his new boss at the department store where Louis works. Piccoli plays a kind of white-collar vampire, a master manipulator whose cold charisma entraps the weak young man. (1982).

Michel Piccoli is also part of the exceptional cast of JACQUES DEMY's UNE CHAMBRE EN VILLE (A ROOM IN TOWN), which stars Dominique Sanda, Richard Berry, Danielle Darrieux and Jean-François Stevenin as well. Demy shared this year's Grand Prix des Arts et Lettres, awarded by the French Ministry of Culture, with J.L. Godard; UNE CHAMBRE EN VILLE attracted wide critical acclaim in Paris. Like Demy's THE UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG, UNE CHAMBRE EN VILLE's dialogue is completely sung, and like the earlier film, it is a lush romantic melodrama, this time set in Nantes during the labor unrest of the '50s.

Belgian filmmaker CHANTAL AKERMAN's newest film, TOUTE UNE NUIT (ALL IN ONE NIGHT), weaves together the stories of over 50 characters' activities during one hot and stormy summer night in the city of Brussels. People meet in bars, apartments and on streetcorners; by dawn, a tapestry of emotions and dramas has been created.

ALAIN JESSUA's PARADIS POUR TOUS is the last film to star the late Patrick Dewaere, who plays a miserable life insurance salesman, bored by the mediocrity of his suburban life, beleaguered by his mother-in-law (Stephane Audran) and despised by his wife. When he bungles a suicide attempt, he comes to the attention of Dr. Valois (Jacques Dutronc), a psychiatrist with a startling new therapy: a dose of microwaves called "flashing" which induces happiness and confidence. As the therapy's bizarre side effects become evident, however, a black comedy of repercussions
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is set in motion. PARADIS POUR TOUS (PARADISE FOR ALL) was made in 1982.

Each of the eight films in PERSPECTIVES ON FRENCH CINEMA will be screened twice; a complete schedule follows.

PERSPECTIVES ON FRENCH CINEMA is presented by the Department of Film in association with the French Film Office/Unifrance USA and with the cooperation of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy.

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- Thurs. 2/17/2:30: ITINERAIRE BIS (SIDE ROADS). 1982. Christian Drillaud. With Georges Wilson, Rufus. 85 mins.
- 2/17/6:00: LE BATARD. 1983. Bertrand van Effenterre. With Gérard Klein, Julie Jézéquel, Brigitte Fossey, Mylène Demongeot, Victoria Abril. Q.&A. with director after screening.
- Fri. 2/18/2:30: INTERDIT AUX MOINS DE TREIZE ANS (NO ONE UNDER 13 ADMITTED). 1982. Jean-Louis Bertucelli. With Patrick Depeyrat, Akim Oumaouche, Sandra Montaigu. 90 mins. Q.&A. with director after screening.
- 2/18/6:00: HECATE. 1982. Daniel Schmid. With Bernard Giraudeau, Lauren Hutton, Jean Bouise, Jean-Pierre Kalfon. 105 m. Q.&A. with Giraudeau after screening.
- Sat. 2/19/2:30: HECATE. Q.&A. with Giraudeau after screening.
- 2/19/5:00: INTERDIT AUX MOINS...Q.&A. with director after screening.
- Sun. 2/20/2:30: LE BATARD. Q.&A. with director after screening.
- 2/20/5:00: ITINERAIRE BIS.
- Thurs. 2/24/2:30: UNE ETRANGE AFFAIRE (A STRANGE AFFAIR). 1982. Pierre Granier-Deferre. With Michel Piccoli, Nathalie Baye, Gérard Lanvin, Jean-Pierre Kalfon. 100 mins.
- 2/24/6:00: UNE CHAMBRE EN VILLE (A ROOM IN TOWN). 1982. Jacques Demy. With Dominique Sanda, Richard Berry, Danielle Darrieux, Michel Piccoli, Jean-François Stevenin. Score by Michel Colombier. 90 mins.
- Fri. 2/25/2:30: TOUTE UNE NUIT (ALL IN ONE NIGHT). 1982. Chantal Akerman. 89 mins.
- 2/25/6:00: PARADIS POUR TOUS (PARADISE FOR ALL). 1982. Alain Jessua. With Patrick Dewaere, Jacques Dutronc, Fanny Cottençon, Stephane Audran. 110 mins.
- Sat. 2/26/2:30: UNE CHAMBRE EN VILLE.
- 2/26/5:00: TOUTE UNE NUIT.
- Sun. 2/27/2:30: PARADIS POUR TOUS.
- 2/27/5:00: UNE ETRANGE AFFAIRE.

For information the public may call MoMA: (212) 708-9400.

For further PRESS information, please call Alicia Springer, Film Press Representative, (212) 708-9752. MUSEUM ENTRANCE AT 18 WEST 54th STREET.