

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
October 1994

EVGENII BAUER: SILENT WITNESS

through November 14, 1994

An exhibition of works by Evgenii Bauer (1865-1917), a filmmaker who transformed the look of early Russian cinema, is on view at The Museum of Modern Art from October 27 to November 14, 1994. Hidden for over seventy years in the vaults of the Soviet film archive, Bauer's work constitutes a major rediscovery in recent studies of pre-revolutionary Russian cinema. Although his film career began late -- Bauer was already forty-eight when he made his first film -- he produced eighty-two films during the course of his prolific four-year career. Only twenty-six of Bauer's films survive; twenty of these are featured in this exhibition.

Bauer revolutionized early Russian cinema with dramatic backlighting, artfully deployed draperies and gauzes, and the manipulation of shadows and light that prefigured German Expressionism. Technically innovative, he found ways to move the camera at a time when most remained stationary. The opulent style of his set designs stand in stark contrast to the cluttered sets of his contemporaries' films. Bauer's films are outstanding for the authentic view they offer of Czarist Russia, presenting many street scenes as well as varied interiors of the homes and fashions of the aristocracy and the proletariat.

Highlights of the exhibition include *Grezy (Daydreams, 1915)*, a haunting tale of obsession regarded by many to be Bauer's masterpiece and that

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may remind modern audiences of Hitchcock's *Vertigo*; *Nemye svideteli* (*Silent Witnesses*, 1914), his sharpest portrayal of Czarist Russia's class structure; *Slava nam-smert'vragam* (*Glory to Us, Death to the Enemy*, 1914), a window to the military events in progress for World War I; and *Korol' Parizha* (*The King of Paris*, 1917), Bauer's last film, completed by Russia's first woman director, Ol'ga Rakhmanova.

In addition, six films in the exhibition are being shown for the first time since their initial release: *Posle smerti* (*After Death*, 1915), *Peravaya lyubov'* (*First Love*, 1915), *Shast'e vechnoi nochi* (*The Happiness of Eternal Night*, 1915), *Zhizn' za zhizn* (*A Life for a Life*, 1916), *Nelly Raintseva* (1916), and *Nabat* (*The Alarm*, 1917).

EVGENII BAUER: SILENT WITNESS was organized by Adrienne Mancina, Curator, and Jytte Jensen, Assistant Curator, Department of Film and Video, The Museum of Modern Art, with the assistance of the Gosfilmofund of Russia, the Ministry of Culture of the Netherlands, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, and the Netherland's Film Museum.

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The Museum of Modern Art

EVGENII BAUER: SILENT WITNESS
October 27 - November 14, 1994

Exhibition Schedule

Thursday, October 27

7:00 p.m. *Tsyacha vtoraya khitrost (The Thousand and Second Ruse)*. 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Lina Bauer, S. Rassatov, Sergei Kvasnitskii. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 14 min.

Ditya bol'shogo goroda (Child of the Big City). 1914. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Elena Smirnova, Nina Kozlyaninova, Mikhail Salarov. Russian and English intertitles. 41 min. Screening accompanied by a live performance by the Nederlands Slaapkamerkoor.

Friday, October 28

7:00 p.m. *Tsyacha vtoraya khitrost (The Thousand and Second Ruse)/Ditya bol'shogo goroda (Child of the Big City)*.
See Thursday, October 27, at 7:00.

Saturday, October 29

3:00 p.m. *Umirayushchii lebed (The Dying Swan)*. * 1917. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Vera Karalli, Aleksandr Kheruvimov, Vitol'd Polonskii. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 39 min.

Za schast'em (For Luck). * 1917. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Nikolai Radin, Lidiya Koreneva, Taisiya Koreneva. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 35 min.

5:00 p.m. *Sumerki zhenskoi dushi (The Twilight of a Woman's Soul)*. * 1913. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Nina Chernova, A. Ugryumov, V. Demert. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 45 min.

Grezy (Daydreams). * 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Aleksandr Vyubov, N. Chernobaeva. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 40 min.

Sunday, October 30

3:00 p.m. *Kholodnye (Cold Showers/Frigid Souls)*. * 1914. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Lina Bauer, Andrei Gromov, P. Lopukhin. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 44 min.

Zhizn' za zhizn (A Life For a Life). * 1916. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Olga Rakhmanova, Liliya Koreneva, Vera Kholodnaya. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 48 min.

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5:00 p.m. *Posle smerti (After Death)*. * 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Vitol'd Polonskii, Olga Rakhmanova, Vera Karalli. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 47 min.

Nelly Raintseva. * 1916. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Zoya Barantsevich, Olga Rakhmanova, A. Kheruvimov. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 37 min.

Friday, November 4

3:00 p.m. *Peravaya lyubov' (First Love)*. * 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With I. Glinskaya, Jr., Emma Bauer, V. Glinskaya. No intertitles; synopsis provided. 8 min.

Shast'e vechnoi nochi (The Happiness of Eternal Night). * 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Vera Karalli, Ol'ga Rakhmanova, Vitol'd Polonskii. No intertitles; synopsis provided. 52 min.

6:00 p.m. *Leon Drey/Pokoritel' zhenskikh serdets (Leon Drey/The Lady Killer)*. * 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Nikolai Radin, Boris Borisov, M. Khalatova. No intertitles; synopsis provided. 44 min.

Yurii Nagorny. * 1916. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Amo Bek-Nazarov, Emma Bauer, Andrei Gromov. No intertitles; synopsis provided. 43 min.

8:00 p.m. *Korol' Parizha (The King of Paris)*. * 1917. Russia. Evgenii Bauer (completed by Ol'ga Rakhmanova). With Vyacheslav Svoboda, Nikolai Radin, Emma Bauer. No intertitles; synopsis provided. 51 min.

Saturday, November 5

3:00 p.m. *Kholodnye (Cold Showers/Frigid Souls)*. * 1914. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Lina Bauer, Andrei Gromov, P. Lopukhin. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 44 min.

Zhizn' za zhizn (A Life for a Life). * 1916. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Olga Rakhmanova, Liliya Koreneva, Vera Kholodnaya. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 48 min.

5:00 p.m. *Nemye svideteli (Silent Witnesses)*. * 1914. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Dora Chitorina, Aleksandr Kheruvimov, Aleksandr Chargonin. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 43 min.

Deti veka (Children of the Age). * 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Vera Kholodnaya, Ivan Gorskii, V. Glinskaya. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 41 min.

Sunday, November 6

3:00 p.m. *Korol' Parizha (The King of Paris)*. *
See Friday, November 4, at 8:00.

5:00 p.m. *Slava nam-smert' vragam (Glory to Us, Death to the Enemy).** 1914. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Dora Chitorina, Ivan Mosjoukine. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 40 min.

*Revolutsioner (The Revolutionary).** 1917. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Ivan Perestiani, Vladimir Strizhevskii, Zoya Barantsevich. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 30 min.

Monday, November 7

3:00 p.m. *Nabat (The Alarm).*** 1917. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Nikolai Radin, Vera Karalli, Mikhail Narokov. No intertitles; English synopsis provided. App. 50 min.

Friday, November 11

3:00 p.m. *Nemye svideteli (Silent Witnesses)* / Deti veka (Children of the Age).**
See Saturday, November 5, at 5:00.

6:00 p.m. *Peravaya lyubov' (First Love)* / Shast'e vechnoi nochi (The Happiness of Eternal Night).**
See Friday, November 4, at 3:00.

8:00 p.m. *Leon Drey/Pokoritel' zhenskikh serdets (Leon Drey/The Lady Killer)* / Yurii Nagorny.**
See Friday, November 4, at 6:00.

Saturday, November 12

3:00 p.m. *Slava nam-smert' vragam (Glory to Us, Death to the Enemy)* / Revolutsioner (The Revolutionary).**
See Sunday, November 6, at 5:00.

5:00 p.m. *Sumerki zhenskoi dushi (The Twilight of a Woman's Soul).** 1913. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Nina Chernova, A. Ugryumov, V. Demert. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 45 min.

*Grezy (Daydreams).** 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Aleksandr Vyrubov, N. Chernobaeva. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 40 min.

Sunday, November 13

3:00 p.m. *Posle smerti (After Death).** 1915. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Vitol'd Polonskii, Olga Rakhmanova, Vera Karalli. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 47 min.

*Nelly Raintseva.** 1916. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Zoya Barantsevich, Olga Rakhmanova, A. Kheruvimov. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 37 min.

5:00 p.m. *Umirayushchii lebed (The Dying Swan)*.* 1917. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Vera Karalli, Aleksandr Kheruvimov, Vitol'd Polonskii. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 39 min.

Za schast'em (For Luck).* 1917. Russia. Evgenii Bauer. With Nikolai Radin, Lidiya Koreneva, Taisiya Koreneva. Russian intertitles, live English voice-over. 35 min.

Monday, November 14

3:00 p.m. *Nabat (The Alarm)***
See Monday, November 7, at 3:00.

* Silent, with piano accompaniment by Donald Sosin, except for October 30 and November 5, by Stuart Oderman.

** Silent, without piano accompaniment

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