

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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RESTORED TREASURES FROM THE CINÉMATHEQUE FRANÇAISE

December 9 - 13, 1988

Two rare silent films, recently restored by the Cinémathèque Française in Paris, are presented from December 9 through 13, 1988, at The Museum of Modern Art.

Inspired by a nineteenth-century popular novel, Rene LePrince's Fanfan la Tulipe (1925) is a lavish story of a young swashbuckling Norman soldier. Fanfan integrates fictional characters into a historical background which includes such figures as Louis XV and Madame de Pompadour. Told in eight episodes, the film was shot on location in the royal splendor of the Palace of Versailles and the chateaux of the Loire Valley. Live English voice-over translations of the French intertitles accompany each screening.

L'Arte (1923), directed by Robert Boudrioz, is regarded as one of the best of the genre of rural films made in France during the early twenties. Synthesizing realism and impressionism in its depiction of peasant life, the film tells the story of two brothers and their love for a girl who was raised with them on their family farm.

The exhibition was organized by Adrienne Mancina in association with the Cinémathèque Française and the Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley.

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