

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
November 1994

FINAL WEEKS OF POPULAR JEAN RENOIR RETROSPECTIVE AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The Museum of Modern Art's popular retrospective of the complete extant work of director Jean Renoir (1894-1979), one of cinema's great masters, continues through November 27, 1994. Presented in commemoration of the centenary of the director's birth, the exhibition comprises thirty-seven works, including thirty-three films by Renoir and a 1993 BBC documentary about the filmmaker by David Thompson. Twenty-three of the works by Renoir have been drawn from the Museum's film archives. Many of the remaining titles are also from the Cinémathèque française, Paris, and Interama, New York.

The son of the Impressionist painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Jean Renoir produced a rich and complex oeuvre that mined the spectacle of life, in all its fascinating inconstancy. In 1967 he said, "I'm trying to discover human beings, and sometimes I do." Although critics and scholars disagree on how to categorize Renoir's films -- some believe that his work can be divided into periods, while others argue that his films should be viewed as an indivisible whole -- there is no dissent about their integrity. His works are unfailingly humane, psychologically acute, and bursting with visual and aural moments that propel the narratives.

- more -

Highlights of the second half of the program include a new 35mm print of *La Bête humaine* (*The Beast in Man*, 1938), a powerful adaptation of a novel by Emile Zola, previously available in the United States only in 16mm. Also shown are two rarely seen comedies, Renoir's first sound film, *On Purge Bébé* (*Baby Takes a Laxative*, 1931); and *Chotard et Cie* (*Chotard and Company*, 1932), both of which are being screened for the first time in over twenty-five years.

A special feature of the exhibition is David Thompson's beguiling documentary on Renoir's life and work, made for the occasion of the one-hundredth anniversary of his birth. Interwoven with remembrances by family, friends, and colleagues are the observations of many major filmmakers who illuminate Renoir's style and technique, and numerous excerpts from past interviews with Renoir himself.

JEAN RENOIR was organized by Laurence Kardish, Curator, Department of Film and Video, in association with the Cinémathèque française, Paris, and Interama, New York.

* * *

No. 62

For further information or film stills, contact Christine Dietlin, Film Press Representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9752.

The Museum of Modern Art

JEAN RENOIR

October 22 - November 27, 1994

Exhibition Schedule

Saturday, October 22

5:00 p.m. *Une partie de campagne (A Day in the Country)*. 1936/1946. France. Jean Renoir. With Renoir, Sylvia Bataille, Jane Marken. In French, English subtitles. 40 min.

Un tournage à la campagne (Filming A Day in the Country). 1994. France. Scenes and shots made in 1936 for *Une partie de campagne* but not used in the final version of the film; edited in narrative sequence by Alain Fleisher for the Cinémathèque française, Paris. In French, no English subtitles. 80 min.

Sunday, October 23

12:30 p.m. *Le petit théâtre de Jean Renoir (The Little Theater of Jean Renoir)*. 1969. France. Jean Renoir. With Jeanne Moreau, Fernand Sardou, Jean Carmet. In French, English subtitles. 100 min.

2:30 p.m. Three early films by Jean Renoir.
La fille de l'eau (The Whirlpool of Fate). * 1924. France. With Catherine Hessling. English intertitles. App. 70 min. Print courtesy Interama, New York.
Sur un air de Charleston (Charleston). * 1927. France. With Catherine Hessling. French intertitles. App. 15 min.
La petite marchande d'allumettes (The Little Match Girl). * 1927. France. With Catherine Hessling. French intertitles. App. 35 min.
Total running time app. 120 min.

5:00 p.m. *Nana*. * 1926. France. Jean Renoir. Based on the novel by Émile Zola. With Catherine Hessling, Werner Krauss, Jean Angelo. French intertitles; synopsis provided. App. 120 min.

Monday, October 24

2:30 p.m. *Une partie de campagne (A Day in the Country)/Un tournage à la campagne (Filming A Day in the Country)*.
See Saturday, October 22, at 5:00.

6:00 p.m. Three early films by Jean Renoir.
See Sunday, October 23 at 2:30.

Tuesday, October 25

2:30 p.m. *Nana*. **
See Sunday, October 23, at 5:00.

6:00 p.m. *Le petit théâtre de Jean Renoir (The Little Theatre of Jean Renoir)*.
See Sunday, October 23, at 12:30.

- more -

Friday, October 28

- 3:00 p.m. *Salute to France*. 1944. USA. Jean Renoir. With Burgess Meredith, Garson Kanin, Claude Dauphin. 30 min.
This Land Is Mine. 1943. USA. Jean Renoir. With Charles Laughton, Maureen O'Hara, George Sanders. 103 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *Toni*. 1934. France. Jean Renoir. With Charles Blavette, Jenny Hélià, Célia Montalvan. In French, no English subtitles; synopsis provided. 84 min.
- 8:00 p.m. *La nuit du carrefour (Maigret at the Crossroads)*. 1932. France. Jean Renoir. Adapted from a Georges Simenon Inspector Maigret novel. With Pierre Renoir, Winna Winfried. In French, no English subtitles. Print courtesy La Cinémathèque française, Paris. 74 min.

Saturday, October 29

- 12:00 p.m. *La Marseillaise*. 1937. France. Jean Renoir. With Louis Jouvet, Lise Delamare, Pierre Renoir. In French, English subtitles. 130 min.
- 2:30 p.m. *La grande illusion (Grand Illusion)*. 1937. France. Jean Renoir. With Jean Gabin, Pierre Fesnay, Erich von Stroheim. In French, English subtitles. 115 min.
- 5:00 p.m. *La règle du jeu (The Rules of the Game)*. 1939. France. Jean Renoir. With Renoir, Nora Grégor, Marcel Dalio. In French, English subtitles. 110 min.

Sunday, October 30

- 12:00 p.m. *Salute to France/This Land Is Mine*.
 See Friday, October 28, at 3:00.
- 2:30 p.m. *La nuit du carrefour (Maigret at the Crossroads)*.
 See Friday, October 28, at 8:00.
- 5:00 p.m. *Toni*.
 See Friday, October 28, at 6:00.

Monday, October 31

- 2:30 p.m. *La grande illusion (Grand Illusion)*.
 See Saturday, October 29, at 2:30.
- 6:00 p.m. *Le bled (Inside Algeria)*** 1929. France. Jean Renoir. With Jackie Monnier, Enrique Rivero, Diana Hart. Live translation of French intertitles. 87 min.

Tuesday, November 1

- 2:30 p.m. *Le bled (Inside Algeria)*** 1929. France. Jean Renoir. With Jackie Monnier, Enrique Rivero, Diana Hart. French intertitles; synopsis provided. Courtesy Cinémathèque française, Paris. 87 min.

6:00 p.m. *La règle du jeu (The Rules of the Game)*. 1939. France. Jean Renoir. With Renoir, Marcel Dalio, Nora Grégor. In French, English subtitles. 113 min.

Thursday, November 3

2:30 p.m. *Tire au flanc (Shirker)*.** 1928. France. Jean Renoir. With Georges Pomiès, Michel Simon, Fridette Faton. French intertitles; synopsis provided. App. 110 min.

6:00 p.m. *Le tournoi/Le tournoi dans la cité (The Tournament)*.** 1928. France. Jean Renoir. With Aldo Nadi, Jackie Monnier, Enrique Rivero. Live translation of French intertitles. Courtesy Cinémathèque française, Paris. App. 120 min.

Friday, November 4

2:30 p.m. *Diary of a Chambermaid*. 1946. USA. Jean Renoir. Based on the novel by Octave Mirbeau. With Paulette Goddard, Burgess Meredith, Hurd Hatfield. 95 min.

6:00 p.m. *Tire au flanc (Shirker)*.**
See Thursday, November 3, at 2:30. Live translation of French intertitles. T1

8:15 p.m. *Le carrosse d'or (The Golden Coach)*. 1952. France/Italy. Jean Renoir. With Anna Magnani, Duncan Lamont, Odoardo Spadaro. In English. 100 min.

Saturday, November 5

2:00 p.m. *Le tournoi/Le tournoi dans la cité (The Tournament)*.**
See Thursday, November 3, at 6:00.

5:00 p.m. *Le déjeuner sur l'herbe (Lunch on the Grass/Picnic on the Grass)*. 1959. France. Jean Renoir. With Paul Meurisse, Catherine Rouvel, Fernand Sardou. In French, English subtitles. 92 min.

Sunday, November 6

2:00 p.m. *Le carrosse d'or (The Golden Coach)*.
See Friday, November 4, at 8:15. T1

5:00 p.m. *The River*. 1951. USA/Great Britain. Screenplay by Jean Renoir and Rumer Godden, based on the novel by Godden. With Nora Swinburne, Esmond Knight, Patricia Walters. 99 min.

Monday, November 7

2:30 p.m. *Le déjeuner sur l'herbe (Lunch on the Grass/ Picnic on the Grass)*.
See Saturday, November 5, at 5:00.

6:00 p.m. *La Marseillaise*. 1937. France. Jean Renoir. With Pierre Renoir, Lise Delamare, Louis Jouvet. In French, English subtitles. 130 min.

Tuesday, November 8

- 2:30 p.m. *Madame Bovary*. 1933. France. Jean Renoir. Screenplay by Renoir, based on the novel by Gustave Flaubert. With Valentine Tessier, Pierre Renoir, Alice Tissot. In French, English subtitles. 100 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *On purge bébé (Baby Takes a Laxative)*. 1931. France. Jean Renoir. Screenplay by Renoir, based on the play by Georges Feydeau. With Fernandel, Jacques Louvigny, Marguerite Pierry. In French, no English subtitles; synopsis provided. 62 min.

Thursday, November 10

- 2:30 p.m. *The River*.
See Sunday, November 6, at 5:00.
- 6:00 p.m. *Madame Bovary*.
See Tuesday, November 8, at 2:30.
- 8:15 p.m. *Éléna et les hommes (Elena and Her Men/ Paris Does Strange Things)*. 1956. France/Italy. Jean Renoir. With Ingrid Bergman, Jean Marais, Mel Ferrer. In French, English subtitles. Courtesy Interama, New York. 96 min.

Friday, November 11

- 2:30 p.m. *Le caporal épinglé (The Elusive Corporal/ The Vanishing Corporal)*. 1961. France. Jean Renoir. With Jean-Pierre Cassel, Claude Brasseur, Claude Rich. In French, English subtitles. Courtesy Interama, New York. 110 min.
- 6:00 p.m. *Le crime de Monsieur Lange (The Crime of Monsieur Lange)*. 1935. France. Jean Renoir. With Jules Berry, René Lefèvre, Florelle. In French, English subtitles. Courtesy Interama, New York. 85 min.
- 8:00 p.m. *On purge bébé (Baby Takes a Laxative)*.
See Tuesday, November 8, at 6:00.

Saturday, November 12

- 2:00 p.m. *Le crime de Monsieur Lange (The Crime of Monsieur Lange)*.
See Friday, November 11, at 6:00.
- 5:00 p.m. *La bête humaine (The Beast in Man)*. 1938. France. Jean Renoir. With Jean Gabin, Simone Simon, Fernand Ledoux. In French, English subtitles. Courtesy Electric Pictures, London. 105 min.

Sunday, November 13

- 2:00 p.m. *Éléna et les hommes (Elena and Her Men/Paris Does Strange Things)*.
See Thursday, November 10, at 8:15.
- 5:00 p.m. *Le caporal épinglé (The Elusive Corporal/The Vanishing Corporal)*.
See Friday, November 11, at 2:30.

Monday, November 14

2:30 p.m. *La bête humaine (The Beast in Man)*.
See Saturday, November 12, at 5:00.

6:00 p.m. *Swamp Water*. 1941. USA. Jean Renoir. With Dana Andrews, Walter Huston, Walter Brennan. Original tinted print. 90 min.

Tuesday, November 15

2:30 p.m. *Swamp Water*.
See Monday, November 14, at 6:00.

6:00 p.m. *Le testament du Docteur Cordelier (The Testament of Doctor Cordelier)*. 1959. France. Jean Renoir. Screenplay by Renoir, based on Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. With Jean-Louis Barrault, Teddy Billis, Michel Vitold. In French, English subtitles. Courtesy Interama, New York. 100 min.

Thursday, November 17

2:30 p.m. *Le testament du Docteur Cordelier (The Testament of Doctor Cordelier)*.
See Tuesday, November 15, at 6:00.

6:00 p.m. *Boudu sauvé des eaux (Boudu Saved From Drowning)*. 1932. France. Jean Renoir. Screenplay by Renoir, from the play by René Fauchois. With Michel Simon, Charles Granval, Marcelle Hainia. In French, English subtitles. 83 min.

8:00 p.m. *Diary of a Chambermaid*.
See Friday, November 4, at 2:30.

Friday, November 18

3:00 p.m. *Chotard et Cie (Chotard and Company)*. 1932. France. Jean Renoir. With Fernand Charpin, Jeanne Lory, Georges Pomiès. In French, no English subtitles; synopsis provided. 88 min.

6:00 p.m. *Les bas-fonds (The Lower Depths)*. 1936. France. Jean Renoir. Based on the play by Maxim Gorky. With Louis Jouvet, Jean Gabin, Suzy Prim. In French, English subtitles. 92 min.

8:00 p.m. *La vie est à nous (People of France)*. 1936. France. Written and directed by Jean Renoir, Jacques Becker, Henri Cartier-Bresson, and others for the French Communist Party. With Julien Bertheau, Marcel Duhamel, Jean Dasté, and others. In French, English subtitles. 65 min.

Saturday, November 19

2:30 p.m. *La chienne (The Bitch)*. 1931. France. Jean Renoir. With Michel Simon, Janie Marèse, Georges Flamant. In French, no English subtitles; synopsis provided. 95 min.

5:00 p.m. *La vie est à nous (People of France)*.
See Friday, November 18, at 8:00.

Sunday, November 20

2:30 p.m. *Jean Renoir*. 1993. Great Britain. David Thompson. A documentary on Renoir made for Omnibus/BBC TV. Excerpts from many films and interviews with, among others, Paulette Goddard, Rumer Godden, Burgess Meredith, and Alain Renoir. Video. 120 min.

5:00 p.m. *Chotard et Cie (Chotard and Company)*.
See Friday, November 18, at 3:00.

Friday, November 25

3:00 p.m. *La chienne (The Bitch)*.
See Saturday, November 19, at 2:30.

6:00 p.m. *The Southerner*. 1945. USA. Jean Renoir. With Zachary Scott, Betty Field, Beulah Bondi. 91 min.

8:00 p.m. *French Cancan*. 1955. France. Jean Renoir. With Jean Gabin, Maria Félix, Françoise Arnoul. In French, English subtitles. 105 min.

Saturday, November 26

2:30 p.m. *The Woman on the Beach*. 1946. USA. Jean Renoir. With Joan Bennett, Robert Ryan, Charles Bickford. 71 min.

5:00 p.m. *Jean Renoir*.
See Sunday, November 20, at 2:30.

Sunday, November 27

2:30 p.m. *The Southerner*.
See Friday, November 25, at 6:00.

5:00 p.m. *French Cancan*.
See Friday, November 25, at 8:00.

* * *