

Persmap



Renoir

RENOIR

Een film van Gilles Bourdos

Cast: Michel Bouquet, Thomas Doret, Vincent Rottiers, en Christa Theret

Côte d'Azur, 1915. In de nadagen van zijn leven wordt Pierre-Auguste Renoir gekweld door het verlies van zijn vrouw, de pijn van artritis en het slechte nieuws dat zijn zoon Jean gewond is geraakt. Als een jong meisje op wonderbaarlijke wijze zijn wereld betreedt, krijgt de oude schilder nieuwe energie. Ze zal zijn laatste model en muze worden. Wanneer Jean terugkeert om te revalideren, raakt ook hij in de ban van het beeldschone meisje. Ondanks de felle tegenstand van zijn vader, wordt hij smoorverliefd op deze vrije, ontembare geest en ontdekt door haar zijn artistieke zelf.



Land: Frankrijk - Speelduur: 113 min. - Jaar: 2012 – Genre: Drama
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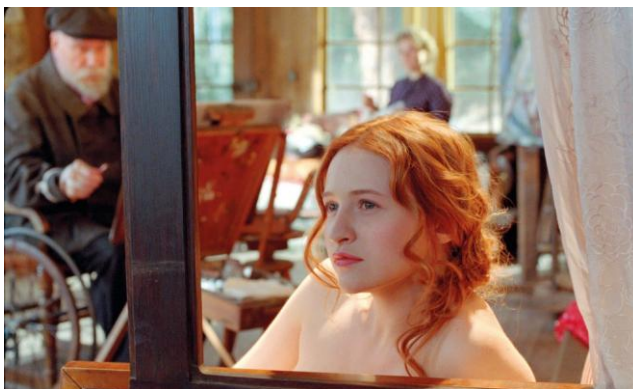
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CAST

Pierre-Auguste Renoir MICHEL BOUQUET
Andrée CHRISTA THÉRET
Jean Renoir VINCENT ROTTIERS
Coco THOMAS DORET
Gabrielle ROMANE BOHRINGER

CREW

Directed by GILLES BOURDOS
Screenplay JÉRÔME TONNERRE,
GILLES BOURDOS
With the collaboration of MICHEL SPINOSA
From the work «LE TABLEAU AMOUREUX» JACQUES RENOIR
Original music ALEXANDRE DESPLAT
Director of photography MARK PING BING LEE
Editor YANNICK KERGOAT
Sound FRABÇOIS WALEDISCH
Sound Editor VALÉRIE DELOOF
Mix CYRIL HOLTZ
Set designer BENOIT BAROUH
Costume designer PASCALINE CHAVANNE
1st assistant director CHRISTOPHE MARILLIER
Casting RICHARD ROUSSEAU,
ELSA PHARAON
Continuity PILAR BILLET
Painting copyist GUY RIBES
Production manager SAMUEL AMAR
Executive producer CHRISTINE DE JEKEL
Producers OLIVIER DELBOSC,
MARC MISSONNIER



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In 1915, the 21-year-old Jean Renoir is seriously injured on the battlefield, and narrowly escapes losing a leg. He goes to convalesce at Collettes, the home of his father, celebrated impressionist Pierre- Auguste Renoir, in Cagnes-sur-Mer on the French Riviera. While the war has set the world ablaze and drenched it in blood, the Eden-like property of the old painter exalts life. It is here that Jean meets the incandescent Andrée, who will become his father's last model and his own young wife, as well as the star of his early films under the name Catherine Hessling.

A life source for both the dying father and the 'as yet unborn' son, Andrée Heuschling will prove the conduit of labyrinthine desires, both amorous and artistic. Her destiny, unique in the history of art, is that of artist's model and actress at the crossroads of painting and cinema, and the object of an artistic Oedipal complex for a father and son.

Crushed by the towering paternal figure, Jean is a young man without vocation, a falsely hearty loner who has found consolation in the fraternity of the trenches.

If the ultimate work is one of truth, Auguste Renoir's final period refuses any meditation on finitude. The war has injured two of his sons : a source of constant anguish. But neither the death of his wife, nor the paralyzing sickness that is gradually overtaking him can take hold of his final paintings. Noble and heroic to the bitter end, determined to capture all the grace of desire, all the joy of the living, Renoir recreated, in his garden, the earthly pictorial paradise of his masters : Giorgione, Titian and the French school of the 18th century. All his life he would paint women, flowers and children above all.

It was by imagining his strange studio of wood and glass, nestled in the heart of this Mediterranean Eden – a studio that looked more like D.W. Griffith's primitive film studio than a painter's – that the film came to me, even as it was here that cinema first appeared to Jean. Determined to become an actress, Andrée instils in the young man her love of cinema. He lets her decide for him, faithful to his father's theory that one must let life carry one where it will, like a cork borne along by a stream. Later he will confide : "I only took my first steps in cinema in the hope of making my wife a star", nonetheless adding, since their artistic couple later shattered, that : "cinema was for us a voracious divinity."

With this film, I am returning to my own source – born in Nice, to the Mediterranean. It is less a place than it is matter. A land of ochre and deep green, of the heady Mistral wind and Klein Blue. It is from my native landscapes that my cinematographic dreaming has drawn its substance. While poaching on Renoir's territory, I immersed myself in thoughts of water. Like the son, the father always followed the course and the women of water.

Gilles Bourdos

GILLES BOURDOS (Director, writer)

BIOGRAPHY

Gilles Bourdos (born 1963) is a French film director, screenwriter and producer. He is best known for his atmospheric thrillers, which use troubling themes in contrast with powerful aesthetic imagery. He was one of the founders of the French production company Persona Films which produced most of his early work.

Bourdos, who was born in Nice, France, made his feature film début at the 1998 Cannes Film Festival with *Disparus* (1998), a political thriller and love triangle during the Surrealist movement in Paris in 1938. His second critically acclaimed feature, *Inquietudes* (2003), is based on the Ruth Rendell novel *A Sight for Sore Eyes* and stars Gregoire Colin and Julie Ordon. His most recent work and first English language film, *Afterwards* (2008), features Evangeline Lilly, John Malkovich, and Romain Duris, and is based on the French bestseller *Et Après* by Guillaume Musso.

FILMOGRAPHY

As director

2008 AFTERWARDS
2003 INQUIÉTUDES
1998 DISPARUS
1993 RELÂCHE (short)
1989 L'ÉTERNELLE IDOLE (short)

As screenwriter

2008 AFTERWARDS
2003 INQUIÉTUDES
1998 DISPARUS
1994 EMMÈNE-MOI
1993 RELÂCHE (short)
1989 L'ÉTERNELLE IDOLE (short)

