

European 60s

Pierrot le fou 1965

Friday, June 6 - Sunday, June 8, 2008



Film Information

Directed by

Jean-Luc Godard

Language

French with English subtitles

Running Time

101 minutes

Film Notes

In 1968, on the occasion of the American release of PIERROT LE FOU, Roger Ebert wrote that of all modern filmmakers, Jean-Luc Godard was the one who most “resists being written about.” What he meant wasn’t that Godard disliked attention—totally the opposite—but that his films were tough to describe accurately. For example, PIERROT LE FOU is based on a novel and comments on relationships and art and politics and war, but what it’s really about, as with several of Godard’s films, is cinema itself. There’s a story, but what it adds up to, scene-by-scene, isn’t a resolution so much as an attitude.

While Godard was never so predictable as to be defined by ‘periods,’ PIERROT LE FOU is generally seen as both a turning point in his career and an amalgamation. “Before it came the black-and-white films—cool, quick and austere, with an emphasis on interpersonal

relationships,” Ebert wrote. “After it came the Godard of color, wide screen and an increasing preoccupation with politics, American culture, violence, Vietnam and movies.”

With PIERROT LE FOU, we get all of the above. It is, in a sense, a perfect storm of Godard, the so-called *enfant terrible* of the New Wave, and for some, including film critic David Thomsen (see the reverse side), his masterpiece.

—Casey



OMAHA'S OWN
NONPROFIT CINEMA
402.933.0259
FILMSTREAMS.ORG



RUTH SOKOL
1340 WEBSTER
OMAHA, NE
FILMSTREAMS

DEVOTED TO THE PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF FILM AS AN ART FORM · DE

“Don’t ever promise to adore me all your life.
Let’s not make promises like that knowing me
knowing you. Let’s keep the feeling that this love
of ours, this love of ours, will be short and sweet.”

More Information

Screenplay by
Jean-Luc Godard

Based on the novel
“Obsession” by
Lionel White

Featuring
Jean-Paul Belmondo
Anna Karina
Graziella Galvani

Cinematography by
Raoul Coutard

Original Music by
Antoine Duhamel

Film Editing by
Françoise Collin

Country of Origin
France

“Belmondo represents Godard, forever discussing and writing about art and emotion, but Karina is the feminine movie sensibility, a photographed woman who turns the spectator’s heart with the speed of the projector. It is Karina’s masterpiece as well as Godard’s. As the structure of genres broke down, Godard began to make films, with the same mix of honey and acid you get in Billy Wilder. This is his film where all genres are snakes eating their own tails (and tales).”

—David Thomsen

Also Recommended, by Jean-Luc Godard

Breathless 1960
A Woman is a Woman (Une femme est une femme) 1961
It’s My Life (Vivre sa vie) 1962
Contempt (Le Mépris) 1963
Band of Outsiders 1964
Alphaville 1965
Masculin feminine 1966
Weekend 1967
La Chinoise 1967