

PORTRAIT



On a scale with the fascination he exerted over filmmakers, Henri Langlois was abundantly filmed, the subject of a large number of documentaries. From the 'Anticours' (*Parlons cinéma*) to the subjective, personal views of Pierre-André Boutang or Jean Herman, by way of the remarks of directors and actresses collected by Roberto Guerra and Elia Hershon, a 'cinematographic' portrait of the founder of La Cinémathèque française took shape.

Through these portraits, this mischievous, brilliant pedagogue gives glimpses of the extent of his knowledge and a bit of his complex personality but, above all, reveals his boundless love of cinema. He draws the paths that led him, as a very young man, to destine his life to the preserving of this Art, combining the notions of Cinémathèque and cinema museum where works would be exhibited, and thereby creating the profession of film programmer. The relationships he kept alive with film personalities placed him at the centre of a system allowing him to collect abandoned works and also to engender new ones, thanks, in particular, to his unfailing support for filmmakers. These filmmakers have always shown not only their greatest support for him, especially at the time of 'the Langlois affaire', but also their deepest gratitude and affection.

On the occasion of his centenary, La Cinémathèque française has collected testimony from 13 illustrious directors: Bernardo Bertolucci, Souleymane Cissé, Francis Ford Coppola, Stephen Frears, William Friedkin, Costa-Gavras, Kiyoshi Kurosawa, Manoel de Oliveira, Roman Polanski, Jean-Paul Rappeneau, Volker Schlöndorff, Agnès Varda and Wim Wenders. These short homage-films provide a personal, moving portrait of the founder of La Cinémathèque française, along with a few vivid memories.

In each of the 'Anticours', there are four or five phrases that could make the most fertile subjects for meditation or dissertations or even, since we cannot do without it, university work.

Jean-Claude Biette



Parlons cinéma, Harry Fischbach, 1976

ABOUT HENRI LANGLOIS

Programming
Thanks to Henri Langlois

THE FILMS OF THE SHOWING « PORTRAIT »

Running time : 82 min.

Langlois

United States, 1970 – 52 minutes

Direction : Roberto Guerra et Elia Hershon

A portrait of Henri Langlois after his reinstatement at La Cinémathèque française, illustrated by interviews with Lillian Gish, Ingrid Bergman, Jeanne Moreau, Kenneth Anger, Simone Signoret, Jean Renoir, Catherine Deneuve, Viva and Michel Auder.

Langlois was restored in 2014 by La Cinémathèque française and Kathy Brew.



Jeanne Moreau, Kenneth Anger and Simone Signoret

Chit Chat with Henri Langlois / Conversation avec Henri Langlois

France, 1975 – 22 minutes

Direction : Pierre-André Boutang et Yonnick Flot

Interviewed in the Musée du Cinéma at the Palais de Chaillot, Henri Langlois evokes his vision of the history of cinema and the masterpieces that have punctuated it.

La Cinémathèque française

France, 1962 – 8 minutes

Direction and script: Jean Herman

Production : La Grande Ourse

Photography : Denys Clerval

Jean Herman filmed Henri Langlois and the personnel of La Cinémathèque française in the offices located on Rue de Courcelles.