

Press release

PIERRE ÉTAIX BACK AGAIN!

After resolving several years of legal imbroglio, Pierre Étaix fully recovers his rights and can see his complete film works finally released in restored version. This project has been conducted by Studio 37, Technicolor Foundation for Cinema Heritage and Groupama Gan Foundation for Cinema. *The Great Love*, one of the five feature films is selected at Cannes Classics. All the films from this Complete Film Works will be theatrically released on July 7th in France (Carlotta) and DVD release is announced for fall 2010 (Arte).

AN UNUSUAL AND UNIQUE PROJECT

The Technicolor Foundation (formerly Thomson Foundation) and the Groupama Gan Foundation, the only two in France to cater to cinema buckled down, conducted the "the Complete Film Works of Pierre Étaix" project for many long months, alongside the producer Studio 37. They supported Pierre Étaix and Jean-Claude Carrière during their legal problems and buckled down for restoring the eight feature films and short films part of the Étaix complete oeuvre. They finally lead the promotion of this complete oeuvre in France and abroad.

Thanks to the success of a first joint adventure with *Mr Hulot's Holiday*, the two foundations committed themselves to Pierre Étaix and the same high standards described above. "However, though we understood every restoration is specific, we didn't know this one would be unique. The figures speak for themselves: eight films restored, (this is the restoration of a Complete Oeuvre), no fewer than 1000 pages of contractual documentation to resolve the years of legal imbroglio which had made these films unavailable for over two decades", say Séverine Wemaere, Head of Technicolor Foundation and Gilles Duval, Head of Groupama Gan Foundation.

The singularity of this project also and above all depended on these two foundations' involvement with Pierre Étaix and those close to him. "Pierre Étaix welcomed us with arms wide into both his past and present. Interview followed interview, each revealing new aspects of a body of work that is quite unique: music-hall, film, circus, magic, and Pierre's whole artistic world of his drawings, posters, installations...", emphasize Gilles Duval and Séverine Wemaere. All these reasons – the legal support, the restoration and the release of eight films – make this project unusual in the milieu of restoring heritage films.

This project is part of the framework conceived by both foundations for promoting worldwide film heritage is defined by their quality chart: "we thus set ourselves conditions we deemed necessary to achieve this kind of operation and which cover the entire enterprise. These were: respect for the filmmaker and the original film; complete restoration using the negative to ensure its preservation, an obligation to deposit the preserved masters as well as prestige prints in appropriate archive facilities, and, above all, to give the restored film the widest possible exposure. All these aspects are dealt with in the preliminary phases with all parties concerned (rights owners, producer, distributors, etc.)", explain Gilles Duval, Head of Groupama Gan Foundation and Séverine Wemaere, Head of Technicolor Foundation.

CANNES CLASSICS 2010

Screening on Wednesday May 19th, at 5:00pm
at Salle du Soixantième.

THE GREAT LOVE

A film by PIERRE ÉTAIX

(1969 – Color – 87 mn)



French release of the Complete Œuvre of Pierre Étaix: July 7th, 2010 (Carlotta)

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Pierre Etaix Restored Complete Film Works

Rupture (1961) / short

Happy Anniversary (1963) / short

The Suitor (1963)

Yo Yo (1965)

As Long as You're Healthy (1966)

The Great Love (1969)

Land of Milk and Honey (1971)

Feeling Good (2010 – inédit) / short



About Technicolor Foundation for Cinema Heritage

Created in 2006, The Technicolor Foundation for Cinema Heritage (*formerly Thomson Foundation*) is a non-profit entity, acting in the field of preservation and promotion of film and audiovisual heritage, which reflects the history and the culture of a country.

The Technicolor Foundation operates worldwide and as a priority, in countries where archives are at risk. Three main lines guide its programs: **preserve** a film heritage as a key part of a country's memory, **promote and highlight** a film heritage in order to show it and to share it with large audience, **train and sensitize** everyone who can play a part in the safeguard of film heritage.

The foundation currently conducts programs in several countries: among them Cambodia, Thailand, USA, India, Turkey, Ethiopia, China, Romania and France.

Each year, one of the objectives of this foundation is also to restore a key title of the international cinema in order to better raise the audience's awareness about the importance of film heritage and about the risks endangered by films when not properly safeguarded. In 2008, the Foundation restored *Lola Montès* by Max Ophüls and in 2009 *Mr Hulot's Holiday* by Jacques Tati, *Selvi Boylum al Yazmalim* by Atif Yilmaz and the Complete Oeuvre of Pierre Etaix in 2010 with *The Great Love* selected at Cannes Classics.

The foundation changed its name in 2010, turning from Thomson Foundation into Technicolor Foundation, as a consequence of its founder name change.

www.technicolorfilmfoundation.org

About Fondation Groupama Gan pour le Cinéma

Founded in 1987, the Groupama Gan Foundation for the Cinema is today one of the key private partners for French films. It has accompanied 130 filmmakers in making their first feature film, thanks to project grants. Today its support is recognised as a mark of quality.

The Foundation also promotes more than 30 film festivals in France and around the world. At the Festival de Cannes, it has been awarding for several years the Un Certain Regard – Fondation Groupama Gan pour le Cinéma Prize.

The Foundation also champions the restoration of many film classics. It has notably participated in the restoration of *Le Carrosse d'or* by Jean Renoir, *L'Age d'Or* by Luis Buñuel, *Jour de Fête*, *PlayTime*, *My Uncle* and *Mr Hulot's Holiday* by Jacques Tati. This year alone it participated, with the Technicolor Foundation, in the restoration of the Turkish director Atif Yilmaz's film *Selvi boylum, al yazmalim* and, of course, Pierre Etaix's films!

www.fondation-groupama-gan.com