

Document Citation

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Title | Excerpt. Poland : Samson - Siberian Lady Macbeth |
| Author(s) | |
| Source | <i>Publisher name not available</i> |
| Date | |
| Type | book excerpt |
| Language | English |
| Pagination | 381 |
| No. of Pages | 1 |
| Subjects | |
| Film Subjects | Sibirska Ledi Magbet (Siberian Lady Macbeth), Wajda, Andrzej, 1961 Samson (Sampson), Wajda, Andrzej, 1961 |

SAMSON

1961

119 min.

Cinemascope

Directed by Andrzej Wajda; screenplay by Wajda and Kazimierz Brandys, based on the novel by Brandys; photography by Jerzy Wojcik; music by Tadeusz Baird. With Serge Merlin, Alina Janowska, Jan Ciecierski. Polish dialog with English subtitles.

Andrzej Wajda (KANAL, ASHES AND DIAMONDS, SIBERIAN LADY MACBETH), one of Poland's most acclaimed directors, depicts a man's search for meaning in the midst of wartime brutality. Jakub Gold (Serge Merlin) is imprisoned after accidentally killing a schoolmate in a brawl. When World War II breaks out, Gold is able to leave jail, but is confined in a new prison — a Warsaw Jewish ghetto. Although he manages to escape, he is equally unhappy as a free man: because of his Semitic features, he is treated as an outcast. Only when he is given the chance to join the Resistance movement against the Nazis does Gold find some purpose in living.

"... the story is a good, powerful one ... Merlin is very good in the key role. A large cast of Polish actors lend able support ..." —Variety



Samson

SIBERIAN LADY MACBETH

1961

90 min.

Directed by Andrzej Wajda; screenplay by Sveta Lukic, based on a novel by Nikolaj Ljeskov; photography by Aleksandar Sekulovic. With Olivera Markovic, Ljuba Tadic, Kapitalina Eric, Bojan Stupica. Jugoslavian dialog with English subtitles.

Andrzej Wajda (SAMSON, ASHES AND DIAMONDS, KANAL) turns his bold talents to a drama of passion and violence. The beautiful Catarina, bored with her narrow existence as the wife of a mill owner, is ripe for an affair. Sergei, a handsome young worker, arrives while Catarina's husband is away, and the two begin their passionate affair. When Catarina's father-in-law discovers the lovers, Catarina poisons him. From this crucial point, the drama moves relentlessly from murder to murder: the husband is slain upon his return and his young cousin, the rightful heir to the mill, is strangled. Catarina and Sergei are eventually caught and condemned to exile in Siberia.

On their way to Siberia, Sergei abandons Catarina for a pretty young prisoner. In an attempt to keep her lover, Catarina tries to drown the girl but is herself drowned.



Siberian Lady Macbeth