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## Flirtation / Liebelei

Max Ophüls, Germany, 1932; 88m

In turn-of-the-century Vienna, a young officer (Wolfgang Liebeneiner) and the daughter of a violinist (Magda Schneider) fall in love and seem to be destined for happiness. Then, a duel over a married woman puts the lovers in jeopardy. Adapted from the play by Arthur Schnitzler, and Ophüls' last German film before exile, *Liebelei* is a romantic excursion into desire's unexpected detours. The young director's first success shows that, from the start, he reveled in the way music and the moving camera could celebrate the birth and demise of love. Ophüls' memorable star was Romy Schneider's mother.

*Originally screened at the WRT in July of 1999.*

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