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New York Film Festival



Karin Månsdotter

Sweden 1954

Director: Alf Sjöberg
Production Company: Sandrew-Production
Screenplay: Alf Sjöberg, from the play *Erik XIV*
by August Strindberg
Photography: Sven Nykvist
Editor: Eric Nordemar
Sound: Lars Nordberg
Music: Lille Bror Söderlundh
Art Directors: Bibi Lindström and
(for prologue) Ulla Friberger
Costumes: Ulla Friberger
Production Manager: Rune Waldekranz
Running time: 102 minutes
A New York Film Festival Retrospective.
Print courtesy of the Swedish Film Institute.

Cast:
Karin Månsdotter: Ulla Jacobsson
Erik XIV: Jarl Kulle
Göran Persson: Ulf Palme
Fänrik Anders: Per Oscarsson
Fänrik Max: Bengt Blomgren
Hertig Johan: Kurt Olof Sundström
Änkedrottningen: Birgitta Valberg
Sigrid, Karin's daughter: Marianne Oberg (as a child); Ingrid Jellart (as a woman)
Stenbock: Stig Järrel
Svante Sture: Åke Claesson
Nils Sture: Måns Westfelt
Erik Sture: Curt Pettersson

Sjöberg's most ambitious film pioneered techniques which later became the common property of other filmmakers. The film is composed of three distinct parts: the prologue, in Gevacolor, is treated à la Brecht like a popular ballad sheet tracing the story of how a little peasant girl became first the mistress and then the Queen of Erik XIV; the central section is made up of scenes from Strindberg's play *Erik XIV*; the epilogue deals with Karin's exile and flight. In its scope and grandeur, its tenderness, magnificent acting, and dynamic narrative style, this is Sjöberg at his best.