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FOR PRESS REPRESENTATIVES

SENSO

Italy - 1954

Director . . . . . Luchino Visconti  
Screenplay . . . . . Visconti & Suso Cecchi  
d'Amico based on a  
novel by Camillo Boito  
Photography. . . . . G.R. Aido  
Robert Krasker  
Music . . . . . Anton Bruckner's  
Seventh Symphony directed  
by Franco Ferrara

Leading Players:

Countess Serpiere . . . . . Alida Valli  
Lt. Mahler. . . . . Farley Granger  
Marquis Ussoni. . . . . Massimo Girotti

also

Heinz Moog  
Christian Marquand  
Sergio Fantoni

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Visconti develops his story along two separate lines: the "private theme" involving the three central characters--the countess, her patriot cousin, and her Austrian officer-lover; and the "public theme" involving the historical events of the Third War of Italian Independence in 1866. The characters are developed in Marxian terms: The Countess Serpiere representing the total moral decay of Venetian aristocracy as she abandons her country in pursuit of an enemy lover; Lt. Mahler, An Austrian Hapsburg officer who is a cynical military bourgeois living off the aristocracy; and the Marquis Ussoni, a patriot of the upper class, intellectually aware of its descending destiny and willing to accept leadership from among the ascending lower class.