

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Conte d'hiver</b>
Author(s)	Piers Handling
Source	<i>Toronto International Film Festival</i>
Date	1992
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	101
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	Rohmer, Éric (1920-2010), Nancy, Meurthe-et-Moselle, Lorrain, France
Film Subjects	Conte d'hiver (A tale of winter), Rohmer, Éric, 1992



## Conte d'hiver A Winter's Tale Eric Rohmer

France, 1991, 114 minutes

Colour/35mm

Production Company: Les Films du  
Losange/Soficas Investimage/Sofiarp

Producer: Margaret Menegoz

Screenplay: Eric Rohmer

Cinematography: Luc Pagès

Editor: Mary Stephen

Sound: Pascal Ribier

Music: Sébastien Erms

Principal Cast: Charlotte Véry, Frédéric van den  
Driessche, Michel Voletti, Hervé Furic,  
Ava Loraschi

Print Source: Roissy Films, 10 avenue George V,  
75008 Paris, France. Tel: (331) 47-23-61-07.  
Telex: 280654. Fax: (331) 47-23-79-88.

Foreign Sales Agent: Roissy Films, 10 avenue  
George V, 75008 Paris, France. Tel: (331) 47-23-  
61-07. Telex: 280654. Fax: (331) 47-23-79-88.

Over the past two decades, Rohmer's fascination with the amorous foibles of his protagonists has provided viewers with a variety of endless pleasures through a number of filmic cycles. In this, the second instalment of a new quartet of films, "The Four Seasons of Eric Rohmer," he proves that he has lost none of his dexterity in examining the mysteries and contradictions, pain and silliness, of ordinary human relationships. Indeed, *A Winter's Tale* is one of his most telling and rewarding films in years. It begins with an idyllic prelude, a romantic encounter the young Félicie has one perfect summer during a vacation in Brittany. Five years later, Félicie is working in as a hairdresser in Paris. Having incorrectly noted her summer lover's address, she has inadvertently lost touch with him, a poignant loss in light of the fact that he left her pregnant and now in possession of a young daughter. This amorous interlude has coloured her subsequent relationships, even when a five year separation sees her having to choose between the attentions of a rather serious librarian and her attentive boss who owns the hair salon where she works. Félicie's voyage through the options afforded by these two men, with a third clouding her mind, allows Rohmer to spin his unique and winsome magic. Once more, he proves that he has no peer when it comes to examining the choices most of us confront in our daily lives. Fate intersects with circumstance, the heat of a Breton summer gives way to the chill of a Parisian December, Félicie makes a number of decisions with unforeseen results, and Rohmer graces his material with the wisdom he has acquired through years of noting the myriad details of people's lives.

**Eric Rohmer** was born Jean-Marie Maurice Scherer in Nancy, France in 1920. A director of short films since the early sixties, he received more attention during that period for his astute film criticism. In 1950 he founded the short-lived "La gazette du cinéma," a post he held until 1963. He made a number of documentaries for French television and made his first feature film, *Sign of the Lion*, in 1959. But it was with his cycle of "Six contes moraux" that Rohmer garnered international attention. Rohmer has written the screenplays for all his films and co-wrote the book "Hitchcock" with Claude Chabrol. Feature films include: *Sign of the Lion* (59), *La collectionneuse* (67), *Ma nuit chez Maude* (69), *Le genou de Claire* (70), *L'amour l'après midi* (72), *Die marquise von O* (75), *Perceval le gallois* (78), *La femme de L'aviateur* (80), *Le beau mariage* (81), *Pauline sur la plage* (82), *Les nuits de la pleine lune* (84), *Le rayon vert* (85), *Four Adventures of Reinette and Mirabelle* (86), *L'ami de mon amie* (87), *A Tale of Springtime* (89), *A Winter's Tale* (91).

Piers Handling