

Document Citation

Title A pozdravuji vlastovsky

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Source Variety

Date 1972 Aug 09

Type review

Language English

Pagination

No. of Pages 1

Subjects

Film Subjects A pozdravujte vlastovicky (My love to the swallows), Jires,

Jaromil, 1972

A Pozdravuji Vlastovsky (CZECH—COLOR)

Karlovy Vary, Aug. 8. Czech State Film release of Barrnadov production. Written and directed by Jaromil Jires. Camera (Eastmancolor), Jan Curik; music, Labos Fiser. Reviewed at Karlovy Vary Film Fest, July 22, '72. Running Time: 90 MINS. Marouchka Magda Vasaryova Mother Viera Strniskova Father Julius Vasek Yarka Hanna Pasteririkova Julia Dagmar Blahova

Jaromil Jires is one of the few directors unveiled in the Czech film renaissance from '63-68, who is still working regularly. He amply exemplifies what a sensitive director can do with familiar material. Here it is about a girl resistant during the occupation and her last days before her execution.

Jires also wrote the film and intricately but simply works in the girl's prison life with insights into her home life, her decision to join the resistance and her final execution. There is no forced heroism or romantic melodrama but a moving look at the destruction of a worthy human being.

Magda Vasaryova has the girlishness, inner strength and determination that make grows in stature. Her trial is gone into, as well as family's reaction. Expert tender touches are kept from any false falls into romantic excesses.

The girl's finding a Czech friend in her cell one day, her secret writing of letters, her lust for life and her final execution, are shatteringly effective in Jires's surefooted, compassionate but never forced helming. Fine subdued color, expert acting down the line have this transcend its time and period to make a statement on belief and action. Mosk.

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