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1928-29 **Frau im Mond** (Ufa). Dir/Prod: Lang. Sc: Von Harbou, based on her novel. Ph: Curt Courant, Oskar Fischinger, Otto Kanturek. Art dir: Otto Hunte, Emil Hasler, Karl Vollbrecht. With: Gerda Maurus (*Frieda Venten*), Willy Fritsch (*Prof. Helius*), Fritz Rasp (*Walt Turner*), Klaus Pohl (*Prof. Mansfeldt*), Gustav von Wangenheim (*Hans Windegger*).

Barthelemy Amengual in *Cahiers de la Cinémathèque*, no. 12, has described this film as 'the perfect example of those works in which the auteur theory imposes its legitimacy' precisely because the 'Langian presence' is heard 'in a minor key'. Lang the architect and the organiser of crowds can be seen in the design of the rocket hangar and the scene of the lift-off. 'The expressionist of *Mabuse* also conceived of these mad scientists, financial sharks, demons of the will to power, who are spreading the darkness of the industrial capitalist world.' Amengual predictably continues that 'the clearest indication of the Langian presence is attached to the figure of Destiny', manifested here, as always with Lang, externally, in the design of the rocket, 'which is as partitioned off and discontinuous as a prison'. The only defence erected against Destiny, as in *Fury*, *You Only Live Once* and *You and Me*, is the unity of the couple, established here when Frieda, who has hidden herself outside the rocket, reappears after it has left for earth, abandoning her lover, whom she rejoins.