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HOUSE OF BAMBOO 8:30

A gangster movie set in the Far East: Fuller in two of his elements. Split between two roles, two identities, a typically divided hero infiltrates a gang of renegades, all ex-U.S. Army personnel discharged with ignominy. The movie ends with a gun battle set in a children's amusement park on the roof of a Tokyo department store: innocent games vs. the violence of war. (BFI). Fuller himself has stated: "I wanted to make a film where a white man marries a Japanese woman. A real Japanese woman, not a made-up Hollywood actress, as in the hypocritical films. I also wanted to direct a real police film, where the cops and the gangster would be shown objectively. The police are much more violent and disagreeable than the criminals."

Directed by Samuel Fuller. Screenplay by Harry Kleiner. Photographed by Joe MacDonald. With Robert Ryan, Robert Stack, Shirley Yamaguchi, Sessue Hayakawa. (1955, 102 mins, 35mm, Cinemascope, Color, Print Courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox)



Sam Fuller's HOUSE OF BAMBOO (Aug. 14)