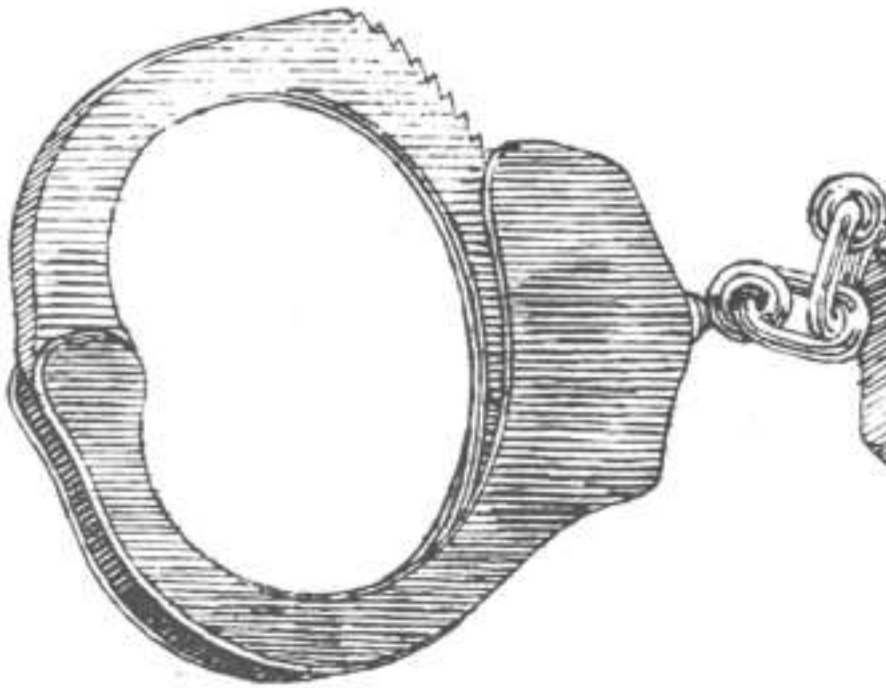


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2/11/74 *Crist*
Bernardo Bertolucci's **Partner**, shown at the New York Film Festival in 1968, is the sparkling third work of this young director whose *Last Tango in Paris* was last year's *cause célèbre*. Made when he was 27, five years after his *Before the Revolution*, *Partner* is a loose adaptation by Bertolucci and Gianni Amico of Dostoevski's *The*



Double. It is a double-star vehicle for Pierre Clementi who plays both the young drama teacher and his alter ego (or double or schizoid self) in this tale of a young man's duality. It is very much a youth film of 1968, with the cry for world revolution and *de rigueur* denunciation of American imperialism. But it is wonderfully imaginative and refreshingly comic in its various visions of the world as a stage, revolutions as stagecraft, love as a *tour de force*, and schizophrenia as the ultimate solution.

Clementi is delightful both as the ineffective young man and his alter ego who gets things done, achieving a mad mixture of the debonair and the Byronic, hopeless intellectualizer and sardonic observer. And the two girls in his double life, Stefania Sandrelli as his true love and Tina Aumont as a four-eyed (I fool you not) detergent saleswoman, are charming.