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premier releases

Sony Pictures Classics presents the latest from Terence Davies



Terence Davies' *THE HOUSE OF MIRTH*, based on the novel by Edith Wharton and starring Gillian Anderson, Dan Aykroyd, Anthony LaPaglia, Elizabeth McGovern, and Eric Stoltz, opens January 19 throughout the Bay Area. The film runs 124 minutes and is not yet rated by the MPAA.

Adapted from the Edith Wharton novel, *THE HOUSE OF MIRTH* is a sustained snarl of rage at a world where women are overwhelmingly dependent on men for their livelihoods and in which one malicious whisper can destroy a life. Lily Bart (Gillian Anderson/*THE X FILES MOVIE*) is a ravishing socialite at the height of her success. Unfortunately, she quickly discovers the precariousness of her position when her beauty and charm start attracting unwelcome interest and jealousy. Torn between her heart and her head, Lily always seems to do the right thing at the wrong time. She seeks a wealthy husband and in trying to conform to social expectations, she misses her chance for real love with lawyer Lawrence Selden (Eric Stoltz/*PULP FICTION*). Her quest for a husband comes to a scandalous end when she is falsely accused of having an affair with a married man and is rejected by society and her friends.

Terence Davies' first 35 mm film, *DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES* won the International Critics Prize at the 1988 Cannes Film Festival, along with seventeen other international prizes. He followed this success with *THE LONG DAY CLOSES* in 1992. In 1995, Davies directed *THE NEON BIBLE* starring Gena Rowlands which he adapted from John Kennedy Toole's novel.

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