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Yasujiro Ozu

AN AUTUMN AFTERNOON

Ozu's final film, made the year before his death, is a unique artistic testament, an attempt to distill the wisdom of 60 years and 53 films into a single work. Once again, Ozu turns to his favorite plot - a father giving up his only daughter in marriage - but the result is unusual, the focus broader and the tone consequently lighter, wryer, more mellow and detached - at least up until the very end. A modernized Japan, of factory chimneys, neon Coca-Cola signs, and rooftop golf, is placed side by side with the timeless perspective of eternity. Probably the best example of the purity of Ozu's late style and the subtle beauty of his color photography.

Japan, 1962. 112 mins. Color.



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