

## Document Citation

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**Title:** Casque d'or

**Director:** Jacques Becker

**Year:** 1952

**Runtime:** 96 min

**Country:** France

**Cast:** Simone Signoret, Serge  
Reggiani

**Screening times and  
locations:**

**Saturday, August 6, 2005 8:45 PM**

All films are screened at Jackman Hall

**Film Description:**

Anyone who saw this beautiful print last summer will know what a revelation is in store. The film that made Simone Signoret a star, CASQUE D'OR was a favourite of François Truffaut and continues to elicit the highest praise: "Along with Ophuls' LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN, one of the great movie romances . . . an elegant masterwork" (Tom Milne, *Time Out Film Guide*); "one of the great films of French cinema" (James Monaco); "undoubtedly Becker's masterpiece" (Roy Armes). Set in the demi-monde of Paris at the turn of the century, the film chronicles the doomed love affair between "golden Marie" (Signoret) and a carpenter (Reggiani) who is driven to murder to keep her. Praised both for its sensual evocation of Paris during the time of the Impressionists and for its squalid portrait of a world of pimps, thieves, and prostitutes, CASQUE D'OR is most celebrated for Signoret's carnal performance. "Signoret had her finest role (until ROOM AT THE TOP). . . . Her performance is a triumph of sensuality; faintly smiling, she is so intensely, ripely physical that she takes command of the screen" (Pauline Kael). "Signoret, as voluptuously sensual as a Rubens painting, has never been more stunning" (Milne).

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