

Document Citation

Title	Mur murs
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Ciné Tamaris</i>
Date	
Type	press kit
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	4
Subjects	Varda, Agnès (1928), Brussels, Belgium
Film Subjects	Mur murs (Mural murals), Varda, Agnès, 1981

"MUR MURS"

("MURAL MIRROR ON THE WALL...")

Documentary about Los Angeles murals.
Who paints them...who looks at them..
...who pays for them.
How the capital of talking pictures
reveals itself without illusions
through its talking walls.
Who speaks? The people of L.A.
To whom? To a curious french filmmaker.

réalisation et commentaire: AGNES VARDA

images: BERNARD AUROUX
TOM TAPLIN
ALAN BLAISDELL
TIM KIENZLE
DANIEL ADAMS

son: LEE ALEXANDER
JOHN MASON

montage: SABINE MAMOU
BOB GOULD

organisation: LISA BLOK
JIM DENNETT
CLAUDINE DRAI

documentation: ALAIN C. RONAY
DENISE WARREN

machinerie: RANDY SELLARS
GUS RAMOS
FRANK MILLS

music: BUXTEHUDE--CAREY--CRUZ--FIDDY--HEALY
LOS ILLEGALS--LAUBER

la visiteuse: JULIET BERTO

la narratrice: AGNES VARDA

labos: Technicolor -- Fotokem
audi: Cine Sound
visa: n° 53053
© Agnes Varda/Cine-Tamaris 1980

réalisé avec la participation de Fonds de Création Audiovisuelle
du Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication et avec
celles d'Antenne 2 (Paris) et de Janus (Frankfurt).

ciné - tamaris (agnes varda) 86 rue daguerre 75014 paris
sarl au capital de 100.000 frs - rc 75 b 1797 - siren 302178587

"DOCUMENTEUR"

(no english title yet but it could be..)

"FALSE WITNESS"

or

"IN THE SHADOWS WHERE I WANDER"

or

"ALIEN IN L.A."

This film is the shadow of "MUR MURS"
documentary about Los Angeles murals.
The narratoress of "MUR MURS" lives in
Los Angeles as if it were nowhere.
Emilie wanders in the shadows of her
emotions, she is obsessed with words,
she works in front of the ocean.
Her son, Martin, is afraid of the beasts
of the dark, those which can't be seen.
It is Los Angeles without sun, fun or puns.

written and directed by AENES VARDA

photography NURITH AVIV

MCSHE LEVIN
TCM TAPLIN
BOB CARR

music GEORGES DELERUE

sound JAMES THORNTON

editing SABINE MAMOU

BOB GOULD

organization LISA BLOK

gaffer EITAN GRATUSHKA
ROBERTO QUEZADA

grip GUS RAMOS

- cast -

Emilie SABINE MAMOU

Martin, her son MATHIEU DEMY

Tina, waitress TINA ODOM
gary, writer..... GARY FELDMAN

Lisa, friend LISA BLOK

Tom Cooper TOM TAPLIN

Man in white room CHARLES SOUTHWOOD

Sound crew CHRIS LEPLUS
BARRY FARRELL
ANDREW MEYER

Couple in motel FRED & KELLY RICKER

AGNES VARDA

BIOGRAPHY

- Born in Belgium of a Greek father and a French mother. She grew up on the Western Mediterranean coast of France at Sete near Montpellier. Then, in Paris, she studied literature and psychology at the Sorbonne, art history at the Ecole du Louvre for four years, and photography at a night school.
- Agnes Varda became the official photographer for Jean Vilar's Theatre National Populaire. People became acquainted with her photos thanks to the success of the T.N.P. with Gerard Philippe. Several magazines asked her to do stories for them. She traveled to Germany, Portugal, China and Cuba.
- From 1954 with her first film, which didn't make a dime, she was recognized and praised as a pioneer filmmaker. She remained a photographer until 1961, then dedicated herself to writing songs and screenplays and making films only.
- Agnes has two children, Rosalie, born in 1958, and Mathieu, born in 1972. She is married to director Jacques Demy. Agnes lives in Paris, rue Daguerre, or elsewhere according to where her films take her. Since April 1979 Agnes has resided in Venice near Los Angeles.

FILMOGRAPHY

All films written and directed by Agnes Varda, and some of them (*) produced.

* 1954 - LA POINTE COURTE (90 minutes)

A full length black and white movie with Philippe Noiret and Silvia Mon fort. Agnes jumps into movies without any experience or knowledge of the cinema. She writes and directs "La Pointe Courte". That was a year before Alexandre Astruc's "Les Mauvaises Rencontres", two years before Vadim and four years before the New Wave exploded.

All the characteristics of this new trend in motion pictures are to be found in La Pointe Courte and Alain Resnais who did the editing, has never concealed how much that film influenced him. It already contains the theme of two separate stories and worlds which will be found later in "Hiroshima Mon Amour" and which is Agnes Varda's favourite subject (the "contradiction" and the "two worlds" appear in Cleo 5 a 7 and in Lions Love.)

1957 - Ô SAISONS, Ô CHATEAUX (20 minutes)

A short documentary in colour. The sophisticated beauty of fashion models mingles with the classic beauty of the Loire Valley's castles.

* 1958 - L'OPERA MOUFFE (17 minutes)

A short subject. The diary of a young pregnant woman in the social environment of the Mouffetard quarter in Paris.

1958 - DU CÔTÉ DE LA CÔTE (32 minutes)

Short subject, a little masterpiece of humor in colour telling the story of the Riviera.

1961 - CLEO DE 5 A 7 (90 minutes) (through Corinth Films N Y)

with Corinne Marchand, the portrait of a woman in 90 minutes, a meeting between beauty and death. Cannes Festival 1962. Prix Melies.

1963 - SALUT LES CUBAINS (30 minutes)

Short film. Agnes Varda brought back 1800 photographs from Cuba and made a both didactic and entertaining documentary. Socialism and cha-cha-cha. It won an award at Leipzig.

Agnes Varda (Biography/Filmography)

1965 - LE BONHEUR (90 minutes) (through Janus Films)

In the colours of impressionism, the film takes place in the countryside around Paris. With the Drouot family and Marie-France Boyer. A young carpenter loves his wife and kids then meets another woman and tries to add happiness to happiness. Is that sense of happiness a gift poisoned with cruelty? The answer in the film is as cruel and beautiful as nature itself. Louis Delluc Award 1966. Special award for the Berlin Film Festival. David Selznick Award.

1966 - LES CREATURES (90 minutes)

Filmed in Noirmoutier-en-l'Isle, an island off the coast of Brittany, with Catherine Deveuve and Michel Piccoli. The theme is the silence surrounding a pseudo-science fiction story and the love and misunderstandings between a pregnant mute woman and her husband writer. Venice Film Festival 1966.

1967 - In collaboration with other directors: LOIN DU VIETNAM

* 1967 - UNCLE YANCO (19 minutes)

A short subject filmed in San Francisco. Agnes Varda's emotions at finding her old Greek uncle, a hippie painter who lives on a boat.

* 1968 - BLACK PANTHERS (25 minutes)

A documentary made at Oakland California during a demonstration against the trial of Huey Newton, the leader of the black activists.

* 1969 - LIONS LOVE (100 minutes)

Made in Hollywood with Viva, the underground superstar, Jim Rado and Jerome Ragni, authors and stars of Hair. It is a kind of improvised account of a threesome of lovers watching History on T.V., about new stars and political assassination (Bobby Kennedy) in the Movie Mecca. Festivals of New York, San Francisco.

1970 - NAUSICAA (90 minutes)

Made for French television, an account, half fiction, half documentary, about Greeks in France. The main character is a young virgin named Nausicaa played by France Dougnac, with exiled Greek patriots. Never released.

1971 - Collaborated on dialogues for LAST TANGO IN PARIS written by Bernardo Bertolucci.

1972 - Two scripts written (as not yet filmed).

Agnes Varda (Biography/Filmography)

* 1975 - DAGUERROTYPES (80 minutes) (through Films Inc.)

A documentary in color; the people who live on the rue Daguerre in Paris, the street Agnes Varda lives on. An attentive observation of the "silent majority". Their relationship to illusion and to an illusionist. The portrait of a neighborhood family and immobility.

* 1975 - REPOSE DE FEMMES (WOMEN'S ANSWER) (8 minutes) (through Very Serious Business Co. San Francisco)

A feminist "cine-tract". Answers to a questionnaire sent out by a TV network: What is it to be a woman? New York Film Festival 1976.

* 1976 - L'UNE CHANTE L'AUTRE PAS (ONE SINGS, THE OTHER DOESN'T) (through Cinema V, N.Y.) (105 minutes)

The parallel story of two young girls over a period of 12 years (1964-1976). In the time of the struggle for birth control Pomme, who wants to sing, finds a cause for her rebellion. "Suzanne", sweet and traditional, fights for her devictimization. As Simone de Beauvoir wrote: "One is not born a woman, one becomes one". The film has been a controversial talked about event with all its love stories and new themes. "...a graceful mixture of feminist fiction musical comedy and social documentary". Molly Haskell (New York Magazine)

* 1978 - Production (only) of a period feature: LADY OSCAR directed by Jacques Demy, for a Japanese company shot around Paris and in the castle of Versailles.

1979 - Screenplay in english: MARIA AND THE NAKED MAN, to be shot in Los Angeles in 1981.

* 1980 - MUR MURS (WALL WALLS)

A documentary on the murals of Los Angeles. Who paints them, who pays for them, who looks at them. What a French woman could say about them. Cannes Film Festival 1981 (French selection).

* 1981 DOCUMENTEUR (means: FALSE WITNESS, sounds in French: DOCU-LIAR)

As the name indicates, it's a fiction. The narratoress of MUR MURS lives in Los Angeles as if it were nowhere. An obsessive diary.