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#58565

2p



SERGEI EISENSTEIN'S
**IVAN the
TERRIBLE
PART II**
WITH SCENES IN COLOR

IVAN THE TERRIBLE Part II recounts the murderous plot of the Russian landed gentry to dethrone Ivan IV. Lonely and melancholic, Ivan fights to withstand the heinous assault and cunningly outwits the treacherous Efrosinia in her plan to kill him. Renowned for its splendid color, IVAN THE TERRIBLE Part II remains Eisenstein's *tour de force* of visual excitement.

"Monumental"
NEW YORK TIMES

"A Genuine and Individual Work of Art"
NEWSWEEK

"A Rare Masterpiece"
LONDON OBSERVER

STORY

The time is the 16th century. Ivan has just returned to Moscow, lonely and sick at heart, weary of battles against foreign nations and the internal opposition from the Church and the boyars, the Russian landed nobility. He seeks the friendship of Philip, Metropolitan of Moscow, out of a sense of overbearing loneliness, but is brutally repulsed.

Over the dead bodies of boyars killed by the Oprichnicks — the new feudal aristocracy befriended by Ivan—Philip vows to crush the Tsar and proceeds to denounce him in the cathedral the next day. Ivan is outraged. "From now on," he cries, "I shall become what you have named me—Ivan the Terrible!" Philip is arrested at once.

Then begins the plot to murder Ivan, instigated by his aunt, Efrosinia, who intends to make her effeminate son, Vladimir, Tsar. Pimen, Bishop of Novgorod, appoints his confessor Peter to do the deed at a coming banquet. Ivan is suspicious; at the banquet (photographed in color) he tricks the terrified Vladimir into wearing the Tsar's robes. Thinking that Ivan is approaching, the assassin plunges a knife into the boy. The joyous Efrosinia cries, "The Tsar is dead! Long live the new Czar!" When Ivan steps out from the procession, she realizes what had happened and plaintively bewails the loss of her son. Ivan then moves quickly to overcome the treachery: Pimen is arrested and Efrosinia put to death. As the list of victims is tolled off, Ivan is at last left secure in the throne — but more lonely than ever.

CAST

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ivan IV | Nikolai Cherkassov |
| The Boyarina Efrosinia | Serafima Birman |
| Vladimir, her son | Piotr Kadochnikev |
| Philip | Andrei Abrikosov |
| Pimen | Alexander Mgebrov |
| Prince Andrei Kurbsky | Nikolai Nazvanov |
| Alexei Basmanov | Alexei Buchma |

CREDITS

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Scenario and Direction | Sergei Eisenstein |
| Music | Sergei Prokofiev |
| Photography | Eduard Tisse Andrei Moskvina |
| Sets and Costumes | Issac Shpinel |
| Production | Central Cinema Studio, Alma Ata, USSR |

A Janus Films Release

COMMENT

"Eisenstein's marvelous visual imagination is apparent not only in the superb decor and costumes, but in the way the individual sequences are constructed; and in the great assassination scene his genius seems to soar freely and widely, a pure fusion of emotion and intellect . . . the rich grandeur of a Mussorgsky opera or a Shakespearean drama."

Sight and Sound

"A cinematic event. A massive, great example of movie-making — wild, savage, unmistakably Russian barbaric splendor, in its power of accumulated detail reminiscent of Dostoevsky."

New York Herald Tribune

"Sergei M. Eisenstein, whose art sprang from the vortex of the Russian Revolution, is already assured a place among the few great pioneers of cinematography. In Eisenstein, the genius of an artist and the fervour of an inspired scholar were united . . ."

Marie Seton, "SERGEI M. EISENSTEIN"

IVAN the TERRIBLE
PART II

84 Minutes. Black and White and Color. U.S.S.R., 1946.

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