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PRESS RELEASE



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San Francisco's Foremost Specialized Cinema

RELEASE: SUNDAY
APRIL 19

THE MILKY WAY (La Voie Lactee), Luis Bunuel's most recent French film, an internationally-acclaimed anti-establishment fantasy-satire, opens its west coast premiere engagement Wednesday (April 22) at the SURF THEATRE, San Francisco.

The Bunuel film is the first of a full season of six recently-released films by such international directors as Bresson, Godard, Widerberg plus several younger filmmakers, extending through July at the SURF, which is now embarking on its tenth year of specialized programming under the aegis of its managing-owner, Mel Novikoff.

THE MILKY WAY has been described as a "theological western" and a "magical mystery tour of the dogma, hypocrisy and glories of Christianity." The film relates in surreal style the pilgrimage of two French tramps to the shrine of St. James in Spain. En route, they have a series of extraordinary encounters with assorted bizarre types, their journey comprising an odyssey through the heresies and schisms of Catholic Church history. The mood of the film, while still anti-Church, is said to be more humorous and less angry than some of Bunuel's previous attacks on church hypocrisy.

Paul Frankeur and Laurent Terzieff portray the two tramps, while a large cast of well-known French actors appear in cameo roles as various religious and historical figures.

The remaining programs in the newly-announced Surf series include Bresson's AU HASARD BALTHAZAR; Godard's TWO OR THREE THINGS I KNOW ABOUT HER; Widerberg's just-released early masterpiece, RAVEN'S END; HUNTING SCENES FROM BAVARIA, a hard-hitting drama on intolerance by a new young German director, Peter Fleischman; and a modern Japanese story, THE AFFAIR.

Full details are given in the new Surf folio, available by writing to the theatre.

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