

## Document Citation

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## EXTERMINATING ANGEL

Luis Bunuel, Mexico '62

Janus Film Library (Canada) Ltd.

Directed by Luis Bunuel; Script and dialogue by Bunuel from a story by Bunuel and Luis Alcoriza; 95 minutes.

"Classic about a score of house guests who become mysteriously marooned--nobody can get in or out of the house--and hunger, thirst and even die before a flock of lambs sets them free! Typically savage Bunuelian commentary on human society!"

-Film Review, 1966-68

"This is an interesting idea, but Bunuel develops it in a style reminiscent of Noel Coward's plays of the twenties, and the director's technique is never up to his satiric intent."

-Cinema Thomas Wiseman

"I have seen Exterminating Angel which I think is quite brilliant. At every point you suspect its going to collapse, but somehow he manages to create conviction and carry you on."

-Satyajit Ray, interviewed in  
"Sight and Sound" Summer 1970

"Devestating satire (idle rich, impotent, church), or brilliant surrealist joke? Either way it is Bunuel at his most bitingly funny as a group of aristocrats quite irrationally find themselves incapable of leaving a palatial mansion after a party, and camp down for days of primitive goings-on."

"Sight and Sound" Summer 1966

"Violence is rarely absent from even the most sophisticated of Bunuel's films... These people are literally--or rather spiritually--immured. It seems impossible to cross the threshold of the room. The characters react differently to the Kafka-esque situation. As the days lengthen, a man dies. A pair of lovers stab themselves to death in a closet. Slowly and inexorably the veneer of good manners slips away from the smartly dressed guests...Bunuel works for the most part within a single set and avoids all the lapses into fantasy that could easily ruin this strange fable. (It) is a savage commentary on human society, and it is typical of Bunuel that only the lambs can wander unimpeded through the invisible wall that surrounds the guests."

- Seventy Years of Cinema, Peter Cowie