

## Document Citation

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## **Anima** (AUSTRIAN-COLOR)

Cannes, May 26.

Concorde release of Clasart Film — Titus Film — TPCL release and production. Features entire cast. Written, directed and edited by Titus Leber. Camera (Color), Mike Gast; music, Symphonie Fantastique by Hector Berlioz. Reviewed at Cannes Film Fest (Official section-non-competing), May 26, '79. Running time, 85 MINS.

Bachelor	..... Mathieu Carriere
Anima	..... Charo Lopez
Anima (Male)	..... Bruno Anthony
Duchamp	..... Marquis DeFrignace
Childman	..... August Schuschnigg
Scientist	..... Christian Renaud

The film is inventive, symbolical and full of extraordinary superimpression work that is the hallmark of Austrian filmmaker Titus Leber. The tale of a martial bachelor searching for the woman to complete him may find its way at festivals, seminars and even perhaps specialized cultist areas on its sheer visual and experimental brio that manages to escape preciousness.

First an effeminate man tries to explain the man-woman duality to a doubting friend after some shots of man and woman, once almost one, separating into individuals. As they talk, the friend, Mathieu Carriere, becomes a sort of wandering soldier who is bedeviled by visions of the eternal woman, Anima.

Was she the governess he coveted and perhaps had as a young boy, the sphinx-like figure, part woman-part sewing machine, of the industrial age and finally the woman reduced to photos in special machines who rebels against the soldiers of all times? Love cannot quite make up for the swinging pendulum of differences that keep them apart.

Somewhat reflecting the experimental films of 50s, "Anima" has a visual brio and plastic inventiveness that show Leber to be a man who will go on doing his thing in his own way and doing it well, though limited to the specialized side of film exploitation. —Mosk.