

## Document Citation

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The Films of Satyajit Ray

APARAJITO - Part Two of the "Apu Trilogy" (1957, 108 mins, 35mm) THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

7:30 & 9:30

This is the second film in Satyajit Ray's brilliant trilogy of Indian life. Although the story of Banerji's novel concludes with APARAJITO, the film is obviously a transitional work; a preparation for Ray's own ending to the tale in THE WORLD OF APU. APARAJITO is filled with autobiographical references; like Apu, Ray was orphaned at an early age, and studied at the University of Calcutta. Ray shifts the emphasis in this part away from the family, in order to concentrate on Apu's growth into manhood. Shamlal, a noted journalist of the TIMES OF INDIA writes the following about this film: "APARAJITO is a highly dramatic construction. It is full of tension: tensions leading up to and after the father's death; tensions on the issue of Apu's education in the village; tensions of growing up in Calcutta leading to the mother's death. To my mind, the theme of APARAJITO is adolescence, the awkward, intense process by which a child, no longer a child yet not quite a youth, grows out of the mother's influence.....This is the intensely painful, but inevitable and universal phenomenon of adolescence, and this is the theme of APARAJITO. Ray reveals his greatness as a film-maker by approximating in the formal tensions of APARAJITO, the tense quality of adolescence itself.