

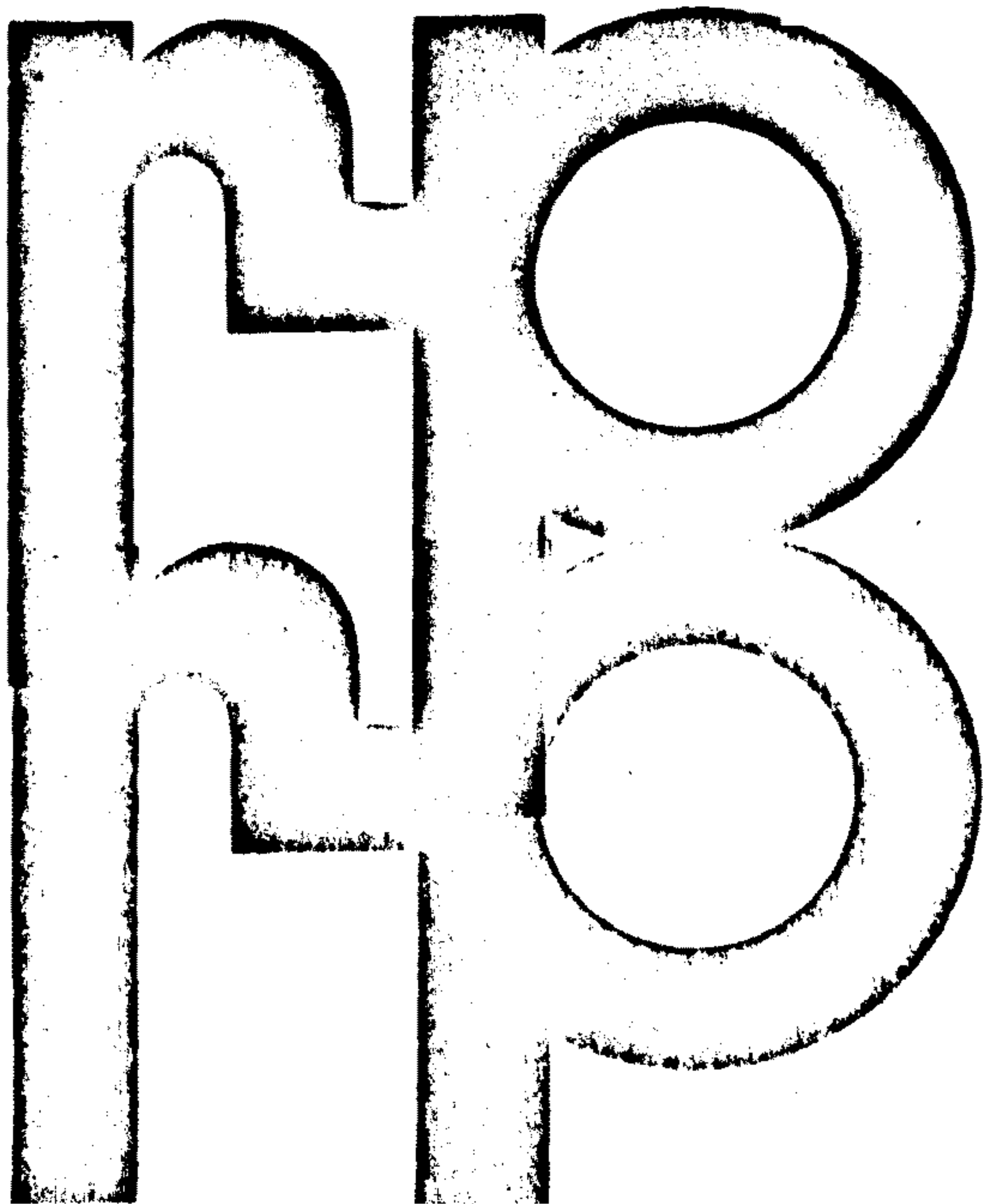
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SIX IN PARIS

(Paris Vu Par . . .)

A Film by
Claude Chabrol
Jean Douchet
Jean-Luc Godard
Jean-Daniel Pollet
Eric Rohmer
Jean Rouch



In 1966 CAHIERS DU CINEMA, the most influential French film journal, invited 47 critics and film directors to choose the best films of the preceding year. The most frequently chosen film was SIX IN PARIS. The film's six different episodes combine to form a tableau of contemporary Paris: noisy, irritable, terse, claustrophobic, where all encounters are possible, and possibly significant.

"Gare du Nord," by Jean Rouch, focuses on a squabbling young couple from the neighborhood of the busy railway station. At breakfast, the wife, bored with her mild, unambitious husband, dreams of wealth and romance. On her way to work she has a chance encounter with a man who offers her everything she has ever wanted. But the ending is not as simple as the choice.

"St.-Germain-des-Prés," directed by Jean Douchet, is a witty treatment of a familiar theme: the American in Paris, in love with the myth of the Left Bank (the glamorous St. Germain with its bohemian life and existentialist cafés). An American girl is picked up by two different men who give her the same line. Her discovery of their true situations, as opposed to the illusions they offer her, illuminates the prosaic, mundane St. Germain under the romantic exterior.

Eric Rohmer's "Place de l'Etoile" is the story of a salesman in a shop in that fashionable area who thinks he has accidentally killed a fellow pedestrian with his umbrella.

In "Montparnasse et Levallois" Jean-Luc Godard contributes a charming story about a girl (played by Johanna Shimkus) and her two boyfriends, one a modernistic sculptor, the other a garage mechanic. The girl sends two letters to her boyfriends and imagines that she has put them in the wrong envelopes.

Claude Chabrol's "La Muette" paints a ghastly portrait of the bourgeoisie in La Muette, a well-heeled residential area. The husband (played by Chabrol himself) continually chases after the maid and quarrels with the cold but well-preserved wife. Their young son, disgusted by their endless bickering, decides to exclude them from his life by means of earplugs—with ghoulis consequences.

Jean-Daniel Pollet, In "Rue St. Denis," offers a droll and touching tale of an intimidating whore and her reluctant customer in a shabby northern quarter of Paris.

90 minutes/color/16 & 35mm