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Smuga Cienia
(The Shadow Line)

1976. Color. 1.33 format. 109 min.

English

Director: Andrzej Wajda / *Screenwriters:* Boleslaw Sulik, Andrzej Wajda / *Cinematographer:* Witold Sobocinski / *Music:* Wojciech Kilar, Lech Branski / *Principal Cast:* Marek Kondrat, Graham Lines, Tom Wilkinson, Bernard Archard, John Bennett, Martin Myldeck / *Production Company:* Film Polski / Thames TV / *Print Source:* Film Polski

Writer/director Andrzej Wajda has created a marvelous, sprawling sea epic based on Joseph Conrad's semi-autobiographical novel. The story concerns the maturation of a young naval officer who, when faced with impossible odds against his survival, perseveres against both the storms of sea and human obstacles. At the end of a hurricane-racked, malaria-ridden voyage, the officer admits that he has become a mature man and now understands the meaning of responsibility. Convinced that the call of the sea must be answered, he heads back out again.

Filmed in Bulgaria, England, Scotland and Bangkok with the participation of the British ship "Regina Maria," the yarn is magnificently enriched by Teresa Barska's sets and Witold Sobocinski's brilliant cinematography, highlighted by the use of full, rich color.

—Seymour Sturgis