

Document Citation

Title	Paisan
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Publisher name not available</i>
Date	1948
Type	other
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	7
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Paìsà (Paisan), Rossellini, Roberto, 1946

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"There is no dramatic pattern in which all of these incidents are tied, yet the cumulative impact of them achieves an oddly disturbing effect. This is a film to be seen---and seen again."

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"A brilliant and harrowing semi-documentary with only four professional actors in the cast. The gifted director has pulled fragments into a terrible and commanding film entity. All the violence, confusion, despair and camaraderie of modern warfare are projected with proven and deep understanding in PAISAN."

Howard Barnes
N.Y. HERALD TRIBUNE
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LEGION RATING: B

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"If there is one director in all the world who epitomizes the motion picture art, as opposed to those ancient phases of a decade and a generation ago, it is Roberto Rossellini of Italy. He has taken the apparent shapelessness of life and given it form and personal implications in such a fashion as to satisfy the documentarian's demand for ~~an~~ authenticity and the fictionist's demand for dramatic revelation of individual destiny.

"In PAISAN it is not so much the individual performances that last in the memory as the veracity of their relationships and the cumulative effect of their teeming documentation of war. For whatever PAISAN may lack in final polish, it remains, with OPEN CITY, among the most authentic representations of our time."

NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

"A forthright camera which photographs what it sees without relying on the trick gymnastics that pass for masterly stuff in so many films of domestic origin. I can recommend it to you heartily."

John McCarten
NEW YORKER Magazine
(3/27/48)

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