

Document Citation

Title	Home from babylon
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Museum of Modern Art (New York, N. Y.). Roy and Niuta Titus Theater</i>
Date	1995 Jun 09
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	2
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Hem från babylon (Home from babylon), Sjöberg, Alf, 1941

Friday, June 16 at 2:30

ALF SJÖBERG

Tuesday, June 27 at 6:00

June 9-27, 1995

HEM FRÅN BABYLON (HOME FROM BABYLON). 1941. Sweden. Produced by Wivefilm. Directed by Alf Sjöberg. Screenplay: Alf Sjöberg and Sigfrid Siwertz, based on Sigfrid Siwertz' "Hem från Babylon". Cinematography: Karl-Erik Alberts. Film Editor: Tage Holmberg. Set Design: Bertil Duroj. Music: Arthur Österwall, Seymour Österwall and Miff Görling. Sound: Åke Nilsson. In Swedish, with English subtitles. 107 min.

With Gerd Hagman (Britta von Wendt), Arnold Sjöstrand (Linus Treffenberg), Georg Rydeberg (Mr. Lee), Anders Henrikson (Nabocof), Irma Christensson (Marcelle), Olof Widgren (John Bidencap), Rune Carlsten (Director Wigelius), Georg Funkquist (Hugo), Barbro Kollberg (Gunborg), Frank Sundström (Marabou), Carl-Gunnar Wingård (The Mayor), Gull Natorp (Mrs. von Wendt)

"The most interesting Swedish film of the season. Here, Swedish film tears down all restrictions of environment and motive; Alf Sjöberg, who so far has only showed his mastery in individual inspired scenes, has for the first time made a film, that is a *film* with both context and purpose."

---Lars Djurberg, *Stockholms Tidningen*, December 24, 1941

" (...) The same is even more true of DEN BLOMSTERTID [FLOWERING TIME] (1940) and HEM FRÅN BABYLON [HOME FROM BABYLON] (1941) where novelettish material was turned inside out in search of ideological overtones, for the play of light and shadow as well as for narrative legerdemain. (...) In HEM FRÅN BABYLON, an adventurer returns home after running for his life in war-torn China and a Paris full of exiles and spies, only to find his patient fiancé eager to embark on the same life of danger and excitement he is impatient to abandon. Both films deal with Bovary-like cases of self-delusion; both are ironical in espousing conventions of cheap fiction only to expose them, as it were, between quotation marks; both present Sweden as an island, diseased with the very neutrality that protects it. (...)"

--- Edgardo Cozarinsky, *Cinama, A Critical Dictionary*, Ed. Richard Roud, 1980.

Alf Sjöberg: Filmmaker is presented in conjunction with the Bergman Festival.

Absolut Vodka is the principal sponsor of the Bergman Festival. Additional support has been provided by the Swedish Corporate Consortium, including Pharmacia, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, Skanska, Volvo, and Scandinavian Airlines. The Stockholm Information Service, Swedish Travel & Tourism Council, The Bernard Osher Foundation, and The American-Scandinavian Foundation also provided assistance.

Bergman Festival participants gratefully acknowledge the help and support of the Consulate General of Sweden in New York.

Newly subtitled Alf Sjöberg film prints are made possible by the Swedish Ministry of Culture, The Swedish Film Institute, The Swedish Institute, The Swedish National Council for Cultural Affairs and The Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, The Swedish Information Service, and Absolut Vodka.

The Brooklyn Academy of Music is the executive producer of the Bergman Festival.

The Museum's film and video programs are made possible by grants from the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and The Contemporary Arts Council of The Museum of Modern Art.