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Far from Vietnam

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DIRECTORS: Alain Resnais, William Klein, Joris Ivens,
Agnes Varda, Claude Lelouch, Jean-Luc Godard

Films and Filming

"Simply as an assemblage of film, weaving highly contrasted material into an overwhelming whole, it is absolutely fascinating. . . . The material is remarkable for its restraint: atrocities are few and shock is never allowed to stop thought."

— RAYMOND DURGNAT

Film Quarterly

'*Far From Vietnam*' is the work of half a dozen directors who are opposed to the U.S. action in Vietnam, but to varying degrees and for varying reasons.

"The partisan tone of the film has led many American reviewers to dismiss it as Marxist and dishonest. But '*Far From Vietnam*' is much more than a string of half-truths.

"It ('*Far From Vietnam*') may still provoke some people into thinking more deeply about the war — and perhaps into doing something about it in their own particular metiers. But the film is an expression of concern rather than an attempt to persuade. Its significance lies in the simple fact that it exists."

— WILLIAM JOHNSON

CO-FEATURE

CAT IN THE SACK:

Claude is 23, a truculent idealist and a French-Canadian nationalist. Barbara is not quite 20, a nice Jewish girl with ambitions for the theater and a not exactly accidental resemblance to Godard's Anna Karina. Between them they experience most of the going hang-ups. Gilles Groulx has made a casual, sweetly bitter film about the break-up of an affair. Brash, irreverent, totally alive to the currents of the time, *Cat in the Sack* indicates one direction taken by the young Canadian cinema. And Canada itself, its people, and above all its winter-locked land, becomes protagonist-antagonist in a thoroughly modern, possibly timeless story of love and indifference.

Six important film directors in Paris expressing their views on the Vietnam war. It is also extraordinary that a film by Alain Resnais, Jean-Luc Godard, Agnes Varda, Claude Lelouch, William Klein and Joris Ivens turns out to be a unified work. Much of the credit for this must go to Chris Marker, who put it all together. But there was also a kind of team spirit created by the situation in Vietnam itself which has acted as the true catalyst for this unusual group work, in which the artists speak directly and boldly to their audience.

NOTES FROM N.Y. FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAM