

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Angela</b>
Author(s)	Lawrence Cohn
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1984 Apr 11
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Angela, Sagal, Boris, 1976

## **Angela**

**(CANADIAN-COLOR)**

An Embassy Home Entertainment (videasette) release of a Zev Braun production for Classic Films and Canafilm Films. Executive producer, Braun. Produced by Julian Melzack, Claude Heroux. Directed by Boris Sagal. Stars Sophia Loren. Screenplay, Charles Israel; camera (Bellevue Pathe color), Marc Champion; editor, Yves Langlois; music, Henry Mancini; sound, Patrick Rousseau; assistant director, Charles Braive; production managers, Claude Léger, Bob Gray; production design, Seamus Flannery; art direction, Keith Pepper; set decoration, Ronald Fauteux; stunt coordinator, Erik Cord; camera operator, Richard Ciupka; associate producers, Alfred Pariser, Leland Nolan. Reviewed on Embassy Home Ent. videocassette, N.Y., April 4, 1984. (No MPAA Rating). Running time: 91 MINS.

Angela Kincaid	Sophia Loren
Jean Labrecque	Steve Railsback
Ben Kincaid	John Vernon
Hogan	John Huston
Coco	Michelle Rossignol
Marie Labrecque	Luce Guilbault

"Angela" is a competently made but uninvolved melodrama shot in Montreal at the end of 1976. Reviewed here for the record as it finally appears in the homevideo market, domestically unreleased film had foreign playdates only.

Production history was a troubled one, with directors Benjamin Manaster and Sidney J. Furie replaced and the late Boris Sagal taking over. As with other tax shelter-financed entries during the Canadian production boom, pic is copyrighted by a financial institution, the Montreal Trust Co.

Prolog is set during the Korean War, with Angela Kincaid (Sophia Loren) giving birth to a child while her husband Ben (John Vernon) is off fighting. Upon his return, Ben accuses her of promiscuity, does not believe the kid is his and then ends up in jail on a long stretch after Angela finks on him concerning a gun-running caper for local gangster Hogan (John Huston).

Shifting 20-plus years ahead to 1976 (with Loren and several other cast members not aging at all), Angela is a successful restaurant manager who falls in love with a young man Jean Labrecque (Steve Railsback) who is actually her son, whom she had given up for dead, kidnapped as an infant by Hogan and given to foster parents.

Melodrama pays off with a vengeful husband Ben released from prison gunning for Angela plus Angela's inevitable realization that she has unwittingly been engaged in incestuous relations.

Atmospherically filmed, picture is unfortunately flat and suffers from an emotionally unsatisfying ending. General format, including, a fine, melancholy Henry Mancini musical score, recalls the surprise 1976 hit "The Sailor Who Fell From Grace With The Sea:" a sexually repressed mature (and beautiful) woman letting go in a torrid affair. Unfortunately, though the handsome Sophia Loren is well-cast, film's erotic content is nil and would qualify for roughly a PG rating if submitted for same.

Performing is rather low-key, with Steve Railsback playing the son's part as so friendly and pleasant the character comes off as slightly retarded. Guest star John Huston is effective in a tailor-made role of the local gangster, playing checkers all day with his black henchman at a cafe, and carrying obvious mythological overtones as he carelessly determines the destinies of the other characters.

—Lor.