

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Too early, too late</b>
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Pacific Film Archive Calendar</i>
Date	4/5/1983
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	Straub, Jean-Marie (1933), France Huillet, Danièle
Film Subjects	Trop tôt, trop tard, Straub, Jean-Marie, 1981

**A New Film by Jean-Marie**

**Straub & Danièle Huillet:** 4/5/83

**Too Early, Too Late 9:05**

An avant-garde documentary on the conditions of revolution—shot in France in June 1980 and in Egypt in May 1981. Jonathan Rosenbaum writes: "For once, the customary relationship for Jean-Marie Straub and Danièle Huillet between a physical setting and a written text becomes inverted. In *Too Early, Too Late*, the landscapes are the true 'body of the text,' while the off-screen texts become the 'settings' for places (mainly rural) in France and Egypt—each one captured so that afterwards we feel that we've been there. A bit like jazz, where the passing human and animal traffic and elements such as wind function like improvisations on a fixed, given terrain. Ethical and beautiful as a documentary for the same reasons, it's a film of endless activity supported by a sustained distance, a complete absence of characters and a continual human presence; it is perhaps the most populated of all Straub-Huillet's films."

• Directed, Produced and Written by Jean-Marie Straub and Danièle Huillet. Based on the writings of Friedrich Engels and Mahmoud Hussein. Photographed by Willy Lubtchansky, Caroline Champetier, Robert Alazraki and Marguerite Perlado. (1981, 100 mins, In French with English titles, color, Print from New Yorker Films)