

## Document Citation

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QUAI DES ORFEVRES ( Jenny Lamour ), 1947

Directed and scenario by Henri-Georges Clouzot.

Cast: Bernard Blier, Louis Jouvet, Suzy Delair, Charles Dullin, Simone Rennant.

H.G.Clouzot : The Greatest French specialist in thrillers, sometimes incorporating neurotic tensions, and always violence; made his name after the war with suspenseful effects of his films, his meticulous creation of atmosphere, uses of actors, effective style, and a certain taste of visual experiment.

Maurice (Blier) and Jenny (Delair) are married music hall artists, but Maurice is jealous and Jenny ambitious. When Jenny goes to the house of the lecherous head of a film company (Dullin) who has offered her a job, Maurice rushes off to kill him but finds him already dead. Dora (Rennant), a friend of Jenny's ,persuades Maurice that Jenny was responsible but the murder is eventually solved by Chief Inspector Antoine (Jouvet).

This thriller is saved from banality by a clever sense of character and suspense that is often worthy of Hitchcock.

Clouzot said: " My greatest pleasure is the actual production the editing... Dialogue, which played a major role in my first films (Quai des Orfèvres is one of them), has diminished in importance. I developed a form of editing built around continuing shocks. I always set light against shadow. I could be accused, because of this of being simplistic... But I pursue a process of simplification in order to accentuate contrasts.. . What do sophisticated, old fashioned dramas, the recounting of spicy stories matter to us ?. The social drama, the drama of our times, has arrived. It is those that hold us, those that we hope to fix on the screen ".