

Document Citation

Title	The saga of Anatahan
Author(s)	
Source	<i>National Observer</i>
Date	1979 Apr 01
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Anatahan, Von Sternberg, Josef, 1953

Archie Tait and Chris Rodley, who have been devising such interesting programmes for the Arnolfini Art Centre in Bristol, have now come to the ICA in London. They are welcome. Their opening sea-

son, didactically designed to challenge orthodox notions of reality, starts with the first opportunity in 20-odd years to see Joseph von Sternberg's last movie The Saga of Anatahan (1954), a calculatedly artificial account of a dozen Japanese sailors and a girl marooned on a Pacific atoll from 1944 to 1950, refusing to believe the war had ended. Sometimes artifice is only artifice, just as less is often merely less. But this astonishingly bold film, made when most other moviemakers were neo-deep in realism, demands to be seen and deserves to be thought about.