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Gillo Pontecorvo's film meticulously reconstructs a bloody episode in the Algerians' struggle for independence from brutal French occupiers. Financed by the Algerian government and, for a time, banned in France, **THE BATTLE OF ALGIERS** chronicles the birth, development, and fall of a terrorist group in the casbah of Algiers between 1957 and 1960. Pontecorvo chose a sober, quasi-documentary style, filming real locations and using mostly nonprofessional actors. The film, with the murky look of newsreels of the time, explores the inexorable logic of repression and the counterbalancing and equally cruel dynamic of the terrorist attack—issues with particular resonance today. Attacked from both the left and the right when it opened, **THE BATTLE OF ALGIERS** has never been more timely than now and seldom more beautiful than in this newly struck 35mm print. —AB (Italy, 1966, 121m) *Presented by Mark Danner*

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