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Innocence Unprotected. 1968. Black & white and color, 75 minutes. CINEMATHEQUE 2-28-1988

"Innocence Unprotected was a film made by and starring a Serbian acrobat named Dragoljub Aleksic. That film has been re-prepared, ornamented, annotated, and lengthened by Makevejev, creating a peculiar cinematic time machine."

4th Chicago International Film Festival Notes

"Makevejev's method is to take big sections of the old film, variously tint them (and hand color some details), and intercut them with newsreels of the German occupation, Nazi propaganda films, and interviews with the crew, the cast and especially with Aleksic still triumphant.

"The original... was the first Serbian talking picture, filmed in Belgrade in 1942, under the noses of the Nazis, and for the absolutely non-political purpose of making money. After the war, the film suffered a certain eclipse, at least partly because it pushed the Yugoslav talkie back into a pre-history when nothing like that was supposed to have happened."

Howard Thompson

With a nod to Eisenstein, Makevejev calls his film "an amusing montage of attractions," and describes the work as "the art of a metropolitan half-world... on the margins of an industrial culture and morality, somewhere between cafes and circus entertainment, cheap literature, and melodramatic trash."

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