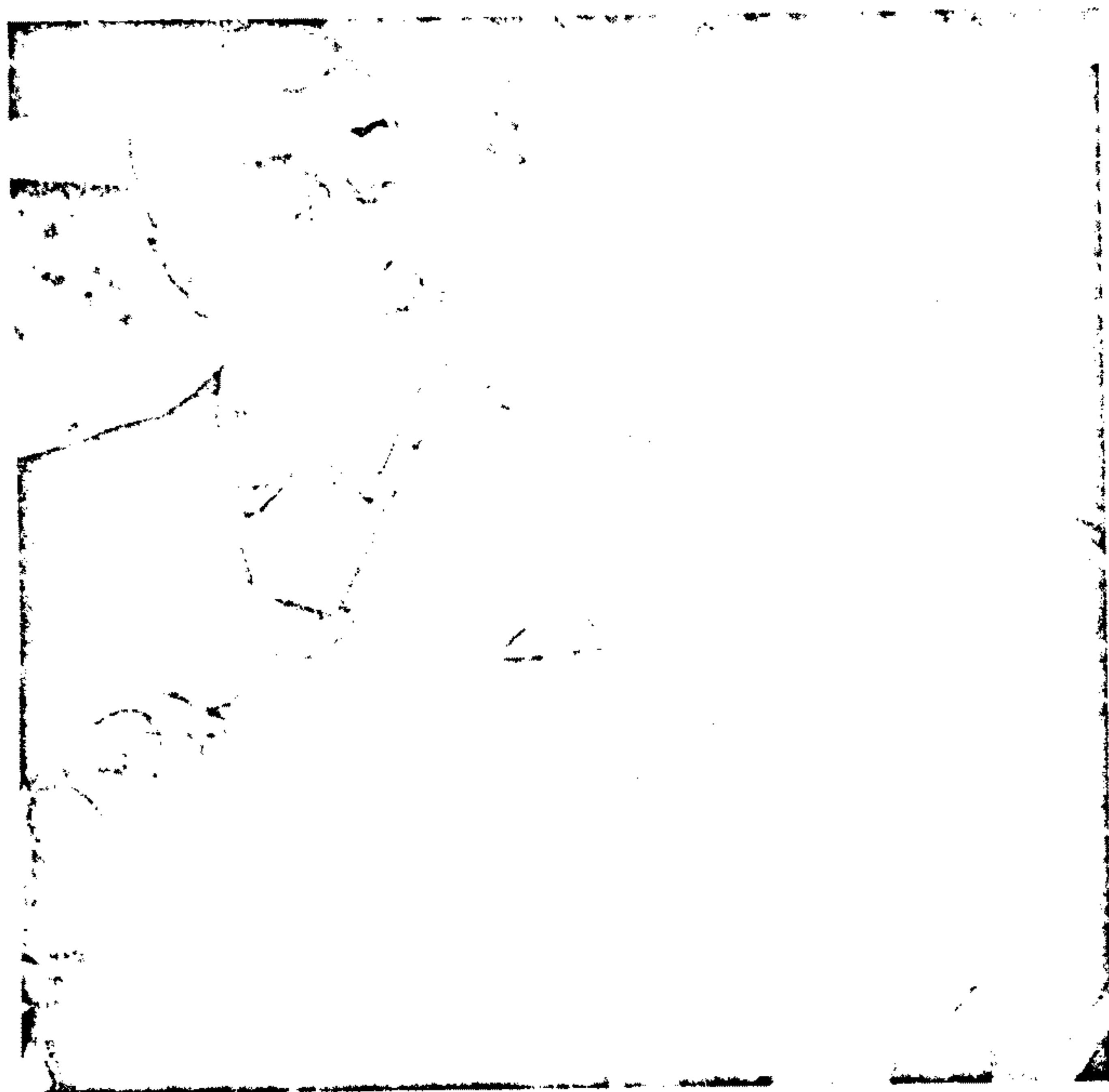


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Fernandel

# **ANGELE (1934)**

**150 min.**

**Rental S**

*Written and directed by Marcel Pagnol. Based on the Jean Giono novel, Un de Baumugnes. With Fernandel, Orane Demazis, Henri Poupon, Delmont.*

Pagnol reaches a degree of perfection in this film, which in the view of one critic, exceeds all his other work. Here, in the beautiful light of southern France, in the Provencal countryside, he tells a tender story. In its interpretation and in the quality of its observation it is remarkable.

Angèle, played by Orane Demazis (the Fanny of the trilogy) is the daughter of a farmer. She has been seduced by a coldblooded procurer from the city, and is saved from prostitution by a simple farm laborer, played by Fernandel.

When she returns to the farm, however, her father locks her in the cellar. Her whereabouts are discovered by Amedee, an old mountaineer, who is a friend of Albin, her old sweetheart, who also has taken to the hills. Angèle is driven by a flood from the cellar, and her friends rescue her from her father's wrath. Held by the tie of blood and French peasant morality, they must, however, return to face the old man and get his consent to their marriage. Reluctantly he consents.

The performances of Orane Demazis and Fernandel are outstanding. The discovery of Fernandel in a serious role, successfully conveying an almost tragic power, is intensely rewarding.

*"In the tradition of Balzac, the countryside, the fittings, indeed all the accessories contribute to the social characterization of the film. Orane Demazis, notable as Fanny, gives an amazing performance as Angèle, and the acting of Fernandel surpasses even this . . . Angèle remains Marcel Pagnon's finest film."*—Georges Sadoul, **FRENCH FILM**

*"Pagnol holds this story in full detail, with simple but poetic dialogue . . . Pagnol's theory that films are really a branch of literature and legit is one of the most discussed topics in the French film business. If he can make many more like this one, he can put his idea over, for ANGELE has all the earmarks of a hit."*—**VARIETY**