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THE BIG CITY—(*Mahanagar*) *At the 55th Street Playhouse. In Bengali; English titles.* It is no news that Indian director Satyajit Ray has remarkable ability to penetrate life and personal relationships, and this talent is beautifully extended in this soft, delicately conceived movie, first shown here at the 1964 New York Film Festival. This is another case of a film being long overdue for commercial release. Of course, as fans of Ray know, the very intimacy of his approach requires leisurely, willing-to-savor viewing. Here, Ray (he contributed screenplay, music, and direction) closes in on the life of a family in modern Calcutta. Husband and wife are struggling for a living for themselves and his aging parents. The wife decides to take a job and this touches a sensitive nerve. Developing events and relationships reflect the vast changes taking place for women in India's major cities today, and the adjustments that must be made. There is subtle, exquisite acting by Madhabi Mukherjee as the wife, Anil Chatterjee as the husband, and by the supporting cast. Ray's unpretentious and careful style breathes authenticity.