

Document Citation

Title	Baxter, vera Baxter
Author(s)	Gene Moskowitz
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1977 Jun 22
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Baxter, Vera Baxter, Duras, Marguerite, 1976

Baxter, Vera Baxter

(FRENCH-COLOR)

Paris, June 21.

Sunchild release of Sunchild. INA production. Features entire cast. Written and directed by Marguerite Duras. Camera (Eastmancolor), Sacha Vierny; editor, Dominique Auvray; music, Carlos D'Alessio. Reviewed at Salle Ponthieu, Paris, June 4, '77. Running time, 90 MINS.

Vera Claudine Gabay
Unknown Delphine Seyrig
Cayre Gerard Depardieu
Friend Noelle Chatelet
Barman Claude Auzan
Mistress Nathalie Baye

Marguerite Duras goes her way, noted at film festivals, achieving modest specialized commercial dates. Made cheaply, her productions can about clear costs. She is addicted to verbose dialog. No much help to local crisis-ridden film industry.

A writer and playwright, Duras got the film bug when she penned Alain Resnais "Hiroshima Mon Amour." But she does not have the visual flair of Resnais as a director.

Duras lately is concerned with the anguish of women. This year she competed at the recent Cannes Film Festival with "The Truck" in which she and rising star Gerard Depardieu read a script. Depardieu appeared, when unknown, in one of her early pix and he may be paying off a debt as he does with an even smaller role in this pic.

The new one is visually quite elegant as it tries to probe the psyche of a cold, remote thirtyish woman whose husband, a building operator of sorts, has practically sold her to get rid of a gambling debt. An unknown woman questions her about her life for she has been drawn to her name, which she heard in a bar, and also heard a bit of her life from the men she gave herself to in aid of her cheating husband.

A voice comments on the woman who is played with poise and glassy stares by newcomer Claudine Gabay. She sits in a villa as she tries to understand her life of early marriage to a friend of her brother, children and faithfulness despite her husband's peccadillos until the husband himself is instrumental in her first adultery which she commits passively.

There are metaphors of the sea as life rolling on, countless studies of the austere villa whose arrangement is about as cold as her life and talk. —Mosk.