

Document Citation

Title	Late spring
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Japan Society</i>
Date	
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Banshun (Late spring), Ozu, Yasujiro, 1949

Sunday December 19, 1:00 p.m.

LATE SPRING (Banshun), 1949, 107 minutes

Screenplay: Yasujiro Ozu and Kogo Noda. Photography: Yuharu Atsuta.
Music: Senji Ito. Art Direction: Tatsuo Hamada.

Cast: Chishu Ryu (Prof. Somiya), Setsuko Hara (his daughter, Noriko), Yumeji Tsukioka (Aya), Haruko Sugimura (Aunt Masa), Hohi Aoki (Katsuyoshi), Jun Usami (Hattori), Kuniko Miyake (Akiko Miwa), Masao Mishima (Onodera), Yoshiko Tsubouchi (Kiku), Yoko Katsuragi (Misako), Toyo Takahashi (Shige), et al.

This story of a widowed father who must trick his unmarried daughter into believing he will remarry in order to make her consider marriage was one of Ozu's favorite films. This may well have been due to the special rapport he shared with his star, Setsuko Hara. From the time of his father's death in 1934, Ozu had lived with his mother and had been very solicitous of her well-being. Though often romantically linked with with some of his actresses, Ozu never married. Setsuko Hara, phenomenally popular with postwar film audiences, became known as "The Eternal Virgin" both for the wholesome image she projected on screen and for the fact that she never married. Since her retirement in 1962 she has lived in seclusion in North Kamakura, the town where Late Spring is set.