

## Document Citation

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Film Subjects	Sommarnattens leende (Smiles of a summer night), Bergman, Ingmar, 1955

THE RANK ORGANIZATION

presents

ULLA JACOBSSON  
EVA DAHLBECK  
HARRIET ANDERSSON  
MARGIT CARLOUIST  
GUNNAR BJORNSTRAND

in

"SMILES OF A SUMMER NIGHT"

Grand Prize for Comedy - Cannes Festival, 1956

An AB Svensk Filmindustri Production

Written and Directed By

INGMAR BERGMAN

Running time: Approximately 108 Minutes

Distributed By Rank Film Distributors of America, Inc.

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PRODUCTION CREDITS

Story and Direction	Ingmar Bergman
Camera	Gunnar Fischer
Music	Erik Nordgren
Costumes	Mago
Settings	P.A. Lundgren
Production Manager	Allan Ekelund

"SMILES OF A SUMMER NIGHT"

CAST

ANNE EGERMAN	ULLA JACOBSSON
DESIREE ARMFELD	EVA DAHLBECK
PETRA, the Maid	HARRIET ANDERSSON
CHARLOTTE MALCOLM	MARGIT CARLQUIST
FREDRIK EGERMAN	GUNNAR BJORNSTRAND
COUNT MALCOLM	JARL KULLE
FRID, the Groom	AKE FRIDELL
HENRIK EGERMAN	BJORN BJELVENSTAM
MADAME ARMFELDT	NAIMA WIFSTRAND
THE COOK	JULLAN KINDAHL
MALLA, Desiree's Maid	GULL NATORP

"SMILES OF A SUMMER NIGHT"

Synopsis

Fredrick Egerman (Gunnar Bjornstrand), a successful, self-centered, lustful lawyer is living a platonic marriage with his beautiful but virginal 18-year-old second wife, Anne, (Ulla Jacobsson). By his previous marriage, Egerman has a son Henrik (Bjorn Bjelvenstan), who is the same age as Anne, and like her, is also naive and unawakened to the facts of life. However, Petra (Harriet Andersson), the Egerman family maid, is doing her best to familiarize Henrik to the why's and wherefore's of the birds and bees.

This situation is interrupted when Desiree Armfeldt (Eva Dahlbeck), a famous actress who had once been Egerman's mistress, visits the dull township where he lives. Unknown to Egerman is that Desiree has borne him a son following a previous visit.

Egerman takes his young wife to see Desiree perform in the local theatre, but Anne leaves midway during the show suspecting that her husband and the actress have some mutual bond and unknown relationship. After taking his wife home and putting her to bed, Egerman slips out of the house to call on Desiree, and is interrupted when the actress' current lover Count Malcolm (Jarl Kulle) makes an unexpected call.

Desiree realizes that she loves and wants Egerman, and embarks on a plan to break up the lawyer's marriage. Her plot comes to a head at a weekend party given by Desiree's mother in her country home. The Count's wife lures Egerman into a passionate encounter so that her husband would become jealous and drop Desiree. An equally passionate but unexpected encounter takes place between Anne and Henrik.

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Petra, the maid, meanwhile winds up in a frolicsome affair with Desiree's groom.

Matters come to a climax when Egerman is caught by the jealous Count in the illicit affair with the Countess. Over a bottle of brandy, both men partake in a game of Russian roulette. Desiree, who has manipulated the strings of her plot with success, stops the game when the Count decides to return to his Countess, Anne runs off with Henrik, Egerman realizes that he loves the actress, and Petra is happy with her groom.

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### BIOGRAPHIES

INGMAR BERGMAN, who wrote and directed "Smiles of A Summer Night", was born in Stockholm in 1918, the son of a clergyman. He began his career with an amateur dramatic group, then became an assistant at the Stockholm Opera House, and later, a producer in provincial theatres.

In 1944, he wrote his first film script, "Frenzy," which achieved international success. Since then he has written plays, films scripts and directed some of the best Swedish films of the past 10 years.

ULLA JACOBSSON, who portrays Anne Eggerman in "Smiles of A Summer Night," is in her early twenties and already an experienced actress in the theatre and in films. She first achieved recognition in "She Danced One Summer," a post-war successful Swedish film. Born in Gothenberg, she acted for several years in the local theatre, and since then has appeared in Swedish as well as German motion pictures.

EVA DAHLBECK, one of the outstanding personalities of the Swedish stage and star of the Stockholm Dramatic Theatre, portrays Desiree in "Smiles of A Summer Night." She has appeared in a number of Ingmar Bergman comedies in recent years, is an accomplished pianist and singer, and recently written a play that will shortly be presented in Stockholm.

HARRIET ANDERSSON, who portrays Petra, the maid, in "Smiles of A Summer Night," is just 20 years old, but has been on the stage for four years, and had played in 15 films thus far. She has also been associated with the Municipal Theatre of Malmo and is recognized for her stage role of Hedwig in Ibsen's "The Wild Duck."

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MARGIT CARLOUIST, who is featured as Charlotte, the Countess, in "Smiles of A Summer Night," is 24, and is already an outstanding success on the Swedish stage. She has appeared in a number of films and is frequently heard on radio. She is one of the leading lights of the Dramatic Theatre of Stockholm.

GUNNAR BJORNSTRAND, who is Fredrik Eggerman in "Smiles of A Summer Night," was born in 1909 in Stockholm, the son of an actor. Before achieving success as an actor, he worked as a railway worker, insurance agent, sewing machine salesman, office worker and pastry cook. Finally he became a student at the Dramatic Theatre in Stockholm, where he studied with Ingrid Bergman.

After graduation, he played in minor roles and soon came to the notice of theatre and film producers. He appeared in many of Ingmar Bergman's productions. He is equally at home in drama or comedy.

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