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Press Release

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WEST COAST PREMIERE OPENING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 AT THE SURF

Jean Renoir's

LE PETIT THEATRE DE JEAN RENOIR

EVENT: West Coast premiere of Jean Renoir's LE PETIT THEATRE
DE JEAN RENOIR (France 1969)

CAST

"The Last Christmas Dinner"

NINO FORMICOLA	Le clochard
MILLY	La clochard
ROLAND BERTIN	Gontran
ANDRE DUMAS	Le Gerant

- - - - -
"The Electric Waxer"

MARGUERITE CASSAN	Emilie
PIERRE OLAF	Gustave
JACQUES DYNAM	Jules

- - - - -
"La Belle Époque"

JEANNE MOREAU	Singer
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- - - - -
"Le Roi d'Yvetot"

FERNAND SARDOU	Duvallier
FRANCOISE ARNOUL	Isabelle
JEAN CARMET	Ferand
ANDREX	Blanc
DOMINIQUE LABOURIER	Paulette

CREDITS

Directed, Produced, Written and Narrated by	JEAN RENOIR
Editor	Genevieve Winding
Director of Photography	Georges Leclerc

RUNNING TIME: 100 Minutes
IN COLOR

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jean Renoir's final work, LE PETIT THEATRE DE JEAN RENOIR, consisting of three separate comedies with interludes by the director and Jeanne Moreau, opens an exclusive West Coast premiere engagement this Wednesday (October 16) at the SURF, Irving at 46th, San Francisco.

The culmination of a cinema career spanning the better part of a century, LE PETIT THEATRE (France 1969) is a highly personal farewell in which Renoir plays himself for the first time, addresses his audience and then ushers us on a final tour of theatrical magic and make-believe.

In the first sketch, "The Last Christmas Dinner", the setting is the banks of the Seine where an old panhandling couple is trying to have one last blast. "The Electric Waxer" is a mad comic opera about a woman fatally obsessed with the shine on her parquet floor. For the third and final piece, Renoir returned to the lush Midi region of France -- the scene of so many of his early triumphs -- to tell the story of an odd menage à trois that finds happiness despite the pressure of social conventions.

Jeanne Moreau, as a turn-of-the-century chanteuse, entertains between the acts and Renoir himself introduces each sketch.

SPECIAL NOTE: The SURF takes great pleasure in showing LE PETIT THEATRE as part of the Bay Area celebration of Renoir's 80th birthday that includes current retrospectives at San Francisco State University, University of San Francisco and the San Francisco Museum of Art.

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10/8/74

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NOTICE OF PRESS SCREENING

Jean Renoir's

LE PETIT THEATRE DE JEAN RENOIR

WEST COAST PREMIERE

TIME: 8:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 2, 1974

PLACE: JWA SCREENING ROOM, 582 Market near Second, Hobart Bldg., 1st fl.

OPENING DATE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1974 at the SURF

RUNNING TIME: 100 Minutes

STORY: In this farewell to his audience and a cinema career that has spanned the better part of a century, Renoir plays himself for the first time to take us on a final tour of fantasy and illusion with three short comedies and a song.
The opening sequence, "The Last Christmas Dinner", depicts an old panhandling couple having one final blast on the banks of the Seine.
"The Electric Waxer" is a mad comic opera about a woman fatally obsessed with the shine on her parquet floor.
"Le Roi d'Yvetot", set in the lush Midi where Renoir staged so many of his early triumphs, shows how an odd menage à trois can be happy despite social conventions. Jeanne Moreau, as a turn-of-the-century chanteuse, entertains us between the acts and Renoir himself ties together each piece.

COMMENT: "Marvelous! By some poetic chance, LE PETIT THEATRE is both a cause for celebration and an act of it."
Vincent Canby, N.Y. TIMES

"What a joy!...rich in imagination, brimming over with that warmth and affection that are at the heart of entertainment, a rarity indeed these days."
Judith Christ, NEW YORK MAGAZINE

"Not only an unabashed exercise in film...at its most masterly, but a retrospective in miniature of one of the most perceptive, expansive careers in world cinema."
NEWSWEEK

SPECIAL NOTE: The SURF takes great pleasure in showing this homage to Jean Renoir as part of the Bay Area celebration of his 80th birthday that includes current retrospectives at San Francisco State University, the University of San Francisco and the San Francisco Museum of Art.