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★ **AFTER THE
REHEARSAL
(EFTER
REPETITIONEN)**

Sweden/France 1983 72 minutes

Cast: Erland Josephson, Ingrid Thulin

CINEMATHEQUE ONTARIO

Ironically, this coda to Bergman's career received some of the best reviews of any of his films: Andrew Sarris called it "one of Bergman's greatest films. He has attained a sublimity of self-revelation in this masterpiece such as few artists have achieved in any medium;" Jay Scott acclaimed it as "a major work, an indispensable addition to Bergman's oeuvre;" and Richard Corliss (*Time Magazine*) said it was "as direct, serene and human as any he has made." A spare, pellucid work featuring three actors in one set, **REHEARSAL** is a far-reaching meditation on life and theatre and the connections between the two. Erland Josephson plays a theatre director who is rehearsing Strindberg's "A Dream Play," Ingrid Thulin his former star, now a ravaged alcoholic who has been assigned a small role, and Lena Olin the ambitious young female lead. The solitary musings and incendiary encounters of these characters illuminate a world which Bergman both loves and fears: that of the bare stage. "As passionate, knowledgeable and funny about the stage as François Truffaut's **DAY FOR NIGHT** is about movies . . . another Bergman classic" (Vincent Canby, *The New York Times*).