

## Document Citation

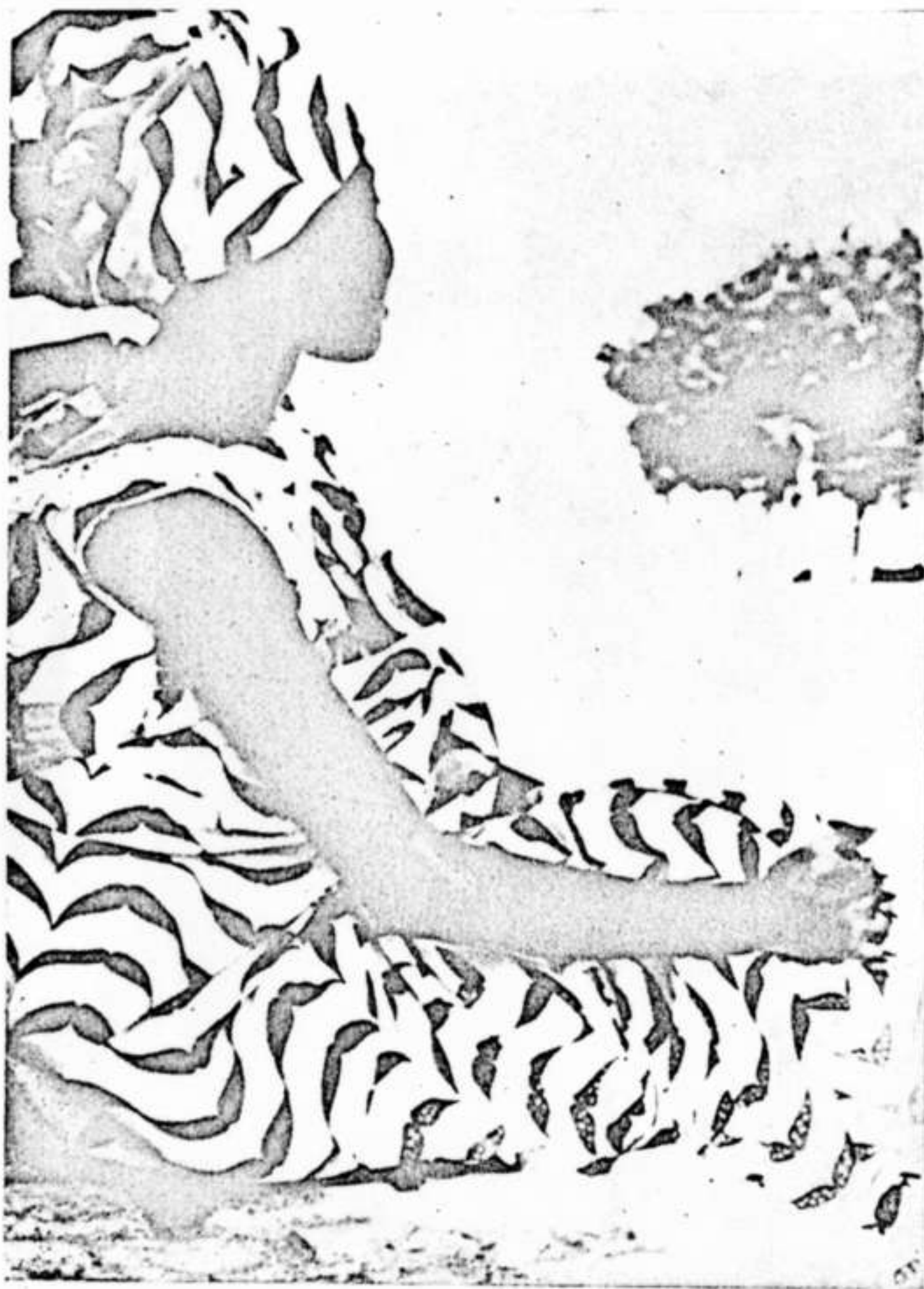
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FRIDAY 31 AUGUST

FILM HOUSE: 9.00

OUSMANE SEMBENE

## BLACK GIRL



Senegal 1963 Prod. Co.: Films Domirev Dir. and Script: Ousmane Sembene Photo: Christian Lacoste Ed.: Andre Gaudier Cast: Mbissine Therese Diop, Anne Marie Jellink, Momar Nar Sene Robert Fontaine. (English subtitles) 60 mins.

A beautiful girl from an illiterate medina family in Dakar is employed by a French family ostensibly to look after their children in France. At their holiday apartment in the South of France she becomes totally enslaved and finds herself denied any form of human communication since she can neither speak French nor write in her native language. She does not speak throughout the film and is totally at the mercy of her employers. She is no longer a person, she is simply "the black girl" "The very first frame presents a visual symbol that is central to the story: an African mask which the young girl offers her employers when they hire her, but which she takes back just before her suicide....." (Marie Claire Wuilleumier, Esprit, Paris.)

### THE CART DRIVER (Borom Sarret)

Senegal 1963. Prod. Co.: Films Domirev. Dir. and Script: Ousmane Sembene. Photo: Christian Lacoste. Ed.: Andre Gaudier. English sub-titles. 20 mins.

A young man who lives with his family in a poor quarter of Dakar, earns his living as a cart driver. One of his passengers asks to be taken into a posh residential quarter where vehicles like his are forbidden. The man runs off without paying and the cart driver protests to the police who confiscate his cart.

### TAAW

Senegal 1970. Dir. and Script: Ousman Sembene. Photo: Georges Caristan. Cast: Mamadou M. Bow, Amadi Dieno, Fatim Diagne, Coumba Nane. (English subtitles). 26 mins.

A day in the life of Taaw, a 20 year old, who, although he has been to school cannot get a job. Taaw ponders about the ten years of independence of Senegal and tells himself that there are only three ways to keep alive: "You are either a policeman, a paid informer or a member of parliament."