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"THE SATIN SLIPPER"

Cast

Don Rodrigue.....LUIS MIGUEL CINTRA  
Dona Prouhese.....PATRICIA BARZYK  
Dona 7 Epees.....ANNE CONSIGNY  
Don Pelage.....FRANCK OGER  
Dona Musique.....ANNE GAUTIER  
Don Balthazar.....JEAN BADIN  
Don Camille.....JEAN-PIERRE BERNARD  
The Angel.....ISABELLE WEINGARTEN  
The Chinaman.....YANN ROUSSEL  
The King of Spain.....HENRI SERRE  
The Second King.....JEAN-YVES BERTHELOOT  
Don Isabel.....MANUELA DE FREITAS

and with the participation of:

The Moon.....MARIE CHRISTINE BARRAULT  
Saint Jacques.....DENISE GENCE  
The Voice of the Angels.....MARIA BARROSO

## "THE SATIN SLIPPER"

based on the play  
by  
Paul Claudel

Don Rodrigue, a Spanish knight during the end of the 15th Century and the beginning of the 16th century --the epoch of great discoveries -- is found washed up on the shores of Africa, the victim of a shipwreck. Dona Prouheze, the woman who discovers Rodrigue, is the victim of a loveless marriage to the elderly local governor, Don Pelage, who is defending the citadels of the Catholic Kingdom of Spain against the Moslems. Rodrigue finds himself falling in love with Prouheze, and the French-born woman falls in love with him.

Pelage and Prouheze return to Spain, but Prouheze immediately plans to rendezvous with Rodrigue, the man she loves, at an inn in Catalonia. Before setting out to meet Rodrigue, Prouheze makes an offering to the Virgin: her satin slipper, a symbolic gesture meaning that she will not run toward evil but proceed on her way with the gait of a cripple.

Rodrigue, disobeying orders from the King of Spain, hurries off to keep his rendezvous with Prouheze. However, their meeting is not to be, as Rodrigue is wounded in a military skirmish while on his way to his beloved Prouheze.

Prouheze attempts to visit the recovering Rodrigue, but is forced to leave his castle without seeing him when her husband arrives and reminds Prouheze of her duty. She returns, unhappily, with Pelage to Africa.

As soon as Rodrigue has recovered from his wounds, he sets out to find Prouheze. When Rodrigue finally reaches Mogador, a Moroccan citadel on the Atlantic coast, an ambitious adventurer named Don Camille, who is also in love with Prouheze, attempts to bar his way. Nevertheless, Rodrigue makes his way to Prouheze. The two lovers embrace for the first time, then, immediately, they separate. Prouheze remains in Mogador, while Rodrigue crosses the Atlantic.

During this Moroccan episode, Prouheze's cousin, Dona Musique, is reunited with her love, the Vice-Roy of Naples, and weds him. Several years go by, and Dona Musique becomes pregnant with the future John of Austria.

At Mogador, Prouheze has become a widow. Free at last, she weds Don Camille. This marriage is equally as terrible as her first, for Camille takes pleasure in torturing his wife.

Prouheze decides to call upon Rodrigue to save her. She sends him a letter, but it takes ten long years for it to reach the hands of Rodrigue.

Rodrigue leaves with his troops and ships, determined to lay siege to Mogador in order to find Prouheze again, and deliver her from the tortures of her husband. However, Prouheze has come to the realization that she must never yield herself to Don Rodrigue but instead remain his inaccessible dream, his inexhaustive desire.

Rodrigue arrives with his fleet at Mogador. Prouheze is sent as an envoy from the citadel to Rodrigue's ship. She arrives with her daughter, Dona Sept-Epees, the child of Camille, whom she presents to Rodrigue as his spiritual child. Prouheze then entrusts the child to Rodrigue, and announces that she is returning to Mogador. Rodrigue reluctantly allows Prouheze to leave.

Don Rodrigue has now fallen from favor with the King of Spain for abandoning his position of governor of the Americas, and is sent in disgrace to the Philippines. Rodrigue sets about conquering Japan, but during the course of battle loses a leg and is taken prisoner by the Japanese.

Several years pass. Rodrigue has aged. Prouheze, his unobtainable love, has died at Mogador. John of Austria, the son of Prouheze's cousin, Dona Musique, is leading the war against the Turks. Dona Sept-Epees, Prouheze's daughter, saves John of Austria's life one night when he is attacked by bandits. Immediately, the young man falls in love with the courageous young woman.

The King of Spain plots an odious farce to have revenge upon Rodrigue, who taunts the King with the display of his lofty misery, as Rodrigue cruises aboard his old ship in front of the splendid floating palace of the court. Summoned with great pomp before the King, Rodrigue accepts the offer to reign over England at the side of Queen Mary Stuart. Rodrigue is completely taken in and rejoices over the idea of governing England. After declaring his generous plans to govern England, Rodrigue is arrested for high treason and sold as a slave.

Rodrigue's spiritual daughter, Dona Sept-Epees, sends him a letter announcing her plans to join John of Austria aboard his ship. The minute she arrives, she will have a cannon fired.

A kindly Brother intercedes in favor of Rodrigue and arranges with an elderly nun to take the old and ill Rodrigue away with her on a boat. As Rodrigue goes off with the nun, we hear the sound of cannon fire in the distance. It is Dona Sept-Epees announcing to her father that she has boarded the ship of John of Austria.