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INGMAR BERGMAN'S CLASSIC **The Seventh Seal**

THE SEVENTH SEAL is Bergman's stunning allegory of man's search for meaning in life. A knight, after returning home from the Crusades, plays a game of chess with Death while The Plague ravages medieval Europe. An exceptionally powerful film, it is a work of awesome scope and remarkable visual pleasures.

"Uncommon and Fascinating." NEW YORK TIMES

"Wholly Extraordinary." NEW YORK POST

"Beautiful" SATURDAY REVIEW



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STORY

The Black Death is wiping out the population of Europe as Antonius Block, a knight, returns disillusioned from the Crusades. Death appears before him, but he asks for a chance to live and proposes a game of chess.

Around him religion is becoming fanatical and society is collapsing. A witch is burned, but not before he questions her. He takes under his protection his squire, a troupe of traveling players, and a deaf and dumb girl.

Death takes his toll one by one, but Block manages to stall him long enough that the young family of players may get to safety. Then Death leads his prisoners away doing their dance of death.

CAST

The squire	Gunnar Bjornstrand
Death	Bengt Ekerot
Jof	Nils Poppe
Antonius Block	Max von Sydow
Mia	Bibi Andersson
Lisa	Inga Gill
The witch	Maud Hansson
Block's wife	Inga Landgre
The squire's girl	Gunnel Lindblom
Raval	Bertil Anderberg
The monk	Anders Ek
The smith	Ake Fridell
The church painter	Gunnar Olsson
Skat	Erik Strandmark
The merchant	Benkt-Ake Benktsson
Woman at the inn	Gudrun Brost
Leader of the soldiers	Ulf Johansson
The young monk	Lars Lind

CREDITS

Director	Ingmar Bergman
Scenario	Ingmar Bergman
Photography	Gunnar Fischer
Editor	Lennart Wallen
Music	Erik Nordgren
Sets	P. A. Lundgren
Producer	Allan Ekelund
Assistant Director	Lennart Ohlsson

AWARDS

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL, International Jury Prize Winner (twice) 1956, 1957.

A Janus Films Release

A Svensk Film

COMMENT

"Vivid and alive . . . magnificently made and acted, it quivers with misery and torment and bounces with peasant lustiness. The profundities of the ideas are lightened and made flexible by glowing pictorial action that is interesting and strong. Mr. Bergman hits you with it, right between the eyes."

New York Times

"It is wholly extraordinary, being at once mystical, realistic and poetic. It stands in the company of the great foreign films."

New York Post

"A rare and quite beautiful movie prizewinner. A richly rewarding experience."

Cue Magazine

"THE SEVENTH SEAL will continue to be a source of discussion for many years to come and — this concerns all the classics of thought — the interpretations will change with the ideas and the eras of the critics."

Andrew Sarris, THE SEVENTH SEAL

"In this half realistic, half legendary tale of the Middle Ages, Bergman has artistically treated the problems that preoccupy him most: problems of faith, of man's destiny, of good and evil. Whatever may be one's personal reactions to Bergman's views on these problems, there can be no denying the vividness and beauty of his images, the dramatic force and manifold of his treatment. THE SEVENTH SEAL is an important film, a classic of the screen."

Einar Lauritzen, SWEDISH FILMS

The Seventh Seal

96 Minutes. Black and White. Sweden, 1956. Subtitled.