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FILM AT THE PUBLIC TO PRESENT
THE REVIVAL ENGAGEMENT OF
JEAN-LUC GODARD'S
PIERROT LE FOU;
STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1989

PIERROT LE FOU (1965), arguably Jean-Luc Godard's masterpiece, will have a three-week revival at Joseph Papp's Public Theater from October 6-26, 1989. The showings are nightly, except Mondays, at 6:00, 8:00, and 10:00 PM, with an additional matinee at 4:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays. A mint 35mm print will be screened.

Jean-Paul Belmondo and Anna Karina star as doomed lovers, Ferdinand and Marianne, who run off to the south of France. Ferdinand, a television director in Paris, is married with two children to whom he likes to read books on the history of art. Marianne is involved with a bunch of gangsters. They become fugitives, at once attempting to live a peaceful existence by the sea but becoming more and more deeply involved with violence and crime.

Writing in the Chicago Reader about the film's current revival, Jonathan Rosenbaum notes: "After many years out of circulation, Jean-Luc Godard's ninth feature is finally back in a sparkling new 35mm 'Scope print...Looking at it again almost a quarter century after it was made, 20 years after its initial U.S. release, it is a bit like visiting another planet; it's an explosion of color, sound, music, passion, violence, and wit that illustrates what used to be regarded as cinema."

One of the key films of the 1960's, PIERROT LE FOU is as much about the nature of modern painting as it is an examination of the conventions of gangster movies. Penelope Gilliatt, writing in The New Yorker, called it "one of the intellectually most beautiful of all the products of his (Godard's) skepticism." Based on a novel by Lionel White, the film was shot by Raoul Coutard. It is released by INTERAMA.

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