

PROGRAMME
ENGLISH

OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2021



Bilbao

society and
contemporary culture

AZKUNA
ZENTROA
ALHÓNDIGA
BILBAO



The big sleep (1946)

Jean-Pierre Melville. La noche, los gatos y el jazz (The night, cats and jazz)

After the [Pier Paolo Pasolini](#) and [Luis García Berlanga](#) cycles, Azkuna Zentroa's Zinemateka closes the 2021 programme with a retrospective of [Jean-Pierre Melville](#), another key director of European cinema.

The ten films programmed in this cycle cover the cinematographic career of the filmmaker, one of the founders of the Nouvelle Vague and the greatest exponent of French film noir and the French resistance. "Misanthrope and proud, mythomaniac and obsessive, independent to the radical, lover of jazz, cats and the night," as the cinematographic historian Carlos Aguilar Gutiérrez describes it, Melville is often said to have been the most American European director in terms of those dedicated to making film noir. For this reason, his legacy is a cult filmography and a referent to many, and for many contemporary film directors.

The cycle begins with the screening of the short documentary *24 heures dans la vie dun clown* (1946), with which Melville entered audiovisual production, and the feature film *Le silence de la mer* (1946), a debut based on the novel by Jean Marcel Bruller (Vercors). It continues with *Bob le flambeur* (1956), considered one of his masterpieces. A "love letter to Paris," in the words of Melville himself, and the germ of french noir. With *Deux hommes dans Manhattan* (1959), starring Melville himself and set in New York, he made his debut in crime films.

Having become one of the spiritual fathers of the Nouvelle Vague, he directed *Leon Morin, prêtre* (1961), with leading French actors such as Enmanuelle Riva and Jean Paul Belmondo, and with *Le doulos* (1962) and *Le deuxième souffle* (1966) he established himself as the greatest exponent of French film noirs, a French derivation of the gangster film noir of the 1940s.

Melville directed his three best feature films before his sudden death: *Le samurai* (1967), *Le cercle rouge* (1970) and *Un flic* (1972), a trilogy, starring Alain Delon, that elevated the director to the top of French film noir.

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24 heures de la vie d'un clown (1946) + Le silence de la mer (1949)

October 7, Wednesday / 5:00 p.m.
October 8, Thursday / 7:00 p.m.

24 heures de la vie d'un clown (1946)



Story about a day in the life of Beby, a professional clown: his memories, his work and his daily life.

18' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Beby, Maiss.

Le silence de la mer (1949)



Second World War (1939-1945). During the occupation of France by German troops, an old man and his niece must share accommodations and live with a friendly Nazi officer.

83' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Howard Vernon, Jean-Marie Robain, Nicole Stephane, Georges Patrix, Ami Aaroe, Denis Sadier.

Bob le flambeur (1956)

October 13, Wednesday / 5:00 p.m.
October 14, Thursday / 7:00 p.m.



Bob is an old gangster and a hardcore gambler who is almost on the verge of going broke. So, despite his friends' warnings, he decides to rob the Dauville casino. Everything is planned to perfection, but the police are informed of the robbery.

101' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Roger Duchesne, Isabelle Corey, Daniel Cauchy, Guy Decomble, André Garret, Claude Cerval, Simone Paris, Howard Vernon.

Deux hommes dans Manhattan (1959)

October 27, Wednesday / 5:00 p.m.
October 28, Thursday / 7:00 p.m.



A French diplomat working at the UN headquarters in New York inexplicably disappears. In order to find some clues about his whereabouts or about the mysterious reasons that could have forced him to leave the city, the French journalists Moreau (Jean-Pierre Melville) and Delmas (Pierre Grasset)

move to New York.

84' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Jean-Pierre Melville, Pierre Grasset, Christiane Eudes, Paula Dehelly, Ginger Hall, Colette Fleury, Jean Darcante, Michèle Bailly.

Léon Morin, prêtre (1961)

November 3, Wednesday / 5:00 p.m.
November 4, Thursday / 7:00 p.m.



Second World War (1939-1945). In a small French town lives Barny, a young widow who works in the Post Office. She and her daughter suffer the rigors of war, rationing, the black market, and raids. To avoid the deportation of the girl, the daughter of a Jewish father, she sends her to the countryside. But, driven by desperation, she seeks comfort in the confessional and lets off steam by declaring herself an atheist.

117' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Jean-Paul Belmondo, Emmanuelle Riva, Irène Tunc, Nicole Mirel, Gisèle Grimm, Marco Behar, Monique Bertho, Gerard Buhr, Howard Vernon.

Le doulos (1962)

November 10, Wednesday / 5:00 p.m.
November 11, Thursday / 7:00 p.m.



After being released from prison, Maurice Faugel murders his friend Gilbert Varnove. He then prepares a robbery for which he needs a series of tools provided by Silien (Belmondo), an individual suspected of being a police informant. The robbery goes wrong, and Maurice, who suspects that Silien has betrayed him, decides to settle accounts with him.

108' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Jean-Paul Belmondo, Serge Reggiani, Jean Desailly, Michel Piccoli, René Lefèvre, Carl Studer, Monique Hennessy, Marcel Cuvelier, Philippe Nahon.

L'Armée des ombres (1969)

November 24, Wednesday / 4:30 p.m.
November 25, Thursday / 6:30 p.m.



Philippe Gerbier (Lino Ventura) is a civil engineer who has given all his efforts to the courageous French resistance, for which he is one of the leaders. But the day comes when the collaborationist police

capture him, and is then held in a concentration camp under careful surveillance. After a transfer, he manages to escape by improvising a lightning escape. From that moment on we will live with his testimony the day to day of the resistance and its difficulties in the face of the powerful invader.

139' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Lino Ventura, Simone Signoret, Paul Meurisse, Jean-Pierre Cassel, Paul Crauchet, Serge Reggiani, Claude Mann, Christian Barbier.

Le cercle rouge (1970)

December 1, Wednesday / 4:30 p.m.
December 2, Thursday / 6:30 p.m.



While Corey is released from prison after serving a sentence in a French jail, Vogel, a criminal under custody of the fearsome Commissioner Mattei escapes from the train in which they travel. After robbing a former associate, Corey meets Vogel and proposes that they team up to carry out a meticulous jewel heist.

140' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Alain Delon, Bourvil, Gian Maria Volonté, Yves Montand, François Périer, André Eycan, Paul Crauchet, Paul Amiot, René Berthier, Pierre Collet, Jean Champion, Yvan Chiffre, Yves Arcanel.

Un flic (1972)

December 15, Wednesday 5:00 p.m.
December 16, Thursday 7:00 p.m.



A group of thieves steal the funds that a wealthy heiress has deposited in a bank. But, during the robbery, one of them is injured. The leader of the gang must face Commissioner Colemane, who is one of his best friends.

196' / France / D: Jean-Pierre Melville / S: Jean-Pierre Melville / C: Alain Delon, Richard Crenna, Catherine Deneuve, Riccardo Cucciolla, Michael Conrad, Paul Crauchet, Simone Valère, André Pousse, Jean Desailly.

INFORMATION

Every projection is in Original

Version (OV).

The programming is subject to

last minute change.

+ Info: azkunazentroa.eus

The cinema room is opened 15 minutes before the projection of the film. We recommend you to come a few minutes in advance.

ABREVIATURES

D: Director | G: Guion | S: Script | C: Casting