



Films on the Green Goes Musical

SIX FREE FRENCH SCREENINGS IN NYC PARKS THIS JUNE-JULY

New York, May 10, 2010—There will be music in the air this summer, as **Films on the Green** presents five French musicals and the film adaptation of an opera in parks throughout New York this June and July. The **Films on the Green** series of free screenings is jointly organized by the **Cultural Services of the French Embassy** and the **New York City Department of Parks and Recreation** for the third year running.

Screenings will take place **most Fridays of June and July** at sunset (around **8:30pm**, seating begins at 8:15pm), and will be **free of charge**.

DATE	LOCATION	MOVIE
June 11 ~ 8:30pm <i>(rain date June 12)</i>	Central Park – Cedar Hill (79th St & 5th Ave)	The Young Girls of Rochefort
June 18 ~ 8:30pm	Washington Square Park	8 Women
June 25 ~ 8:30pm	Washington Square Park	Same Old Songs
July 02 ~ 8:30pm	Tompkins Square Park	A Woman is a Woman
July 09 ~ 8:30pm	Tompkins Square Park	Love Songs
July 16 ~ 8:30pm	Central Park – Cedar Hill (79th St & 5th Ave)	Tosca: the Movie

The Young Girls of Rochefort is a classic of French cinema starring Gene Kelly and George Chakiris (of *West Side Story* fame) opposite Catherine Deneuve and Françoise Dorléac. The film’s score, by Michel Legrand, was nominated for an Oscar in 1969. A dark musical comedy, **8 Women** boasts a first-rate cast of many of France’s finest female actresses, including Catherine Deneuve, Isabelle Huppert, and Emmanuelle Béart. This over-the-top parody of murder mysteries was nominated for 12 Césars in 2003. **Same Old Songs** features an interesting twist: the actors lip-synch to songs performed by the original artists, making for unusual juxtapositions (of a female character singing in a male voice, for instance). The movie won Best Film at the 1998 César Awards. One of Jean-Luc Godard’s first movies, and undoubtedly one of his most playful, **A Woman is a Woman** is a tender tribute to childishness and to American musicals—but with a distinct New Wave flair! **Love Songs**, about youths coping with the loss of a loved one, also parts ways with tradition: its use of the romantic and comedic elements of the musical contrasts with its serious storyline. To cap it all off in style, the series will end with **Tosca: the Movie**. *Tosca* is not an opera performance captured on film, but rather the opera adapted for film, starring celebrated opera singers Angela Gheorghiu and Roberto Alagna. It is a must-see for both opera aficionados and novices.

This year, in partnership with **Town Square’s SummerStarz 2010**, Films on the Green will for the first time ever venture beyond Manhattan, with a special Brooklyn screening of *Azur and Asmar*, an animated movie for kids. The July 8 screening in East River State Park will be preceded by French-language activities and music for kids.

Detailed information about the six movies, as well as the special *Azur and Asmar* screening, can be found below.
High-resolution photos: xxx

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Credits: Organized by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation. The Cultural Services of the French Embassy would like to thank the generous sponsors who made this event possible: **BNP Paribas, TV5 Monde, Village Voice, FACE (French American Cultural Exchange), AirFrance Skyteam.**

FILMS ON THE GREEN 2010 - FILM CAPSULES - JUNE

<p>The Young Girls of Rochefort <i>Les Demoiselles de Rochefort</i></p> <p>Genre: Comedy / Musical Language: French (with English subtitles) Duration: 125mn Director: Jacques Demy Starring: Catherine Deneuve, Françoise Dorléac, Gene Kelly, George Chakiris Date: 1967 MPAA Rating: Not rated</p>	<p>Screening: June 11 – Sunset (around 8:30pm) Central Park – Cedar Hill (79th St & 5th Ave) <i>Rain date: June 12</i></p> <p>The Garnier girls are fraternal twins, alike in spirit though not identical in looks. Ethereal blonde Delphine (Deneuve) is a ballet teacher and dancer, and redheaded Solange (Dorléac), is a singer and composer. They live in the port town of Rochefort on the southwest coast of France, where they give music and dancing lessons. The sisters, while far from unhappy, cherish dreams of romantic love and musical careers, and plan to go to Paris to fulfill their ambitions someday.</p>
<p><i>Nominated for a 1969 Academy Award for Best Music, Score of a Musical Picture (Original or Adaptation)</i></p> <p><i>"The cast is extremely solid and alive, and "The Young Girls of Rochefort" is certainly the best musical in some time" —New York Times</i></p>	

<p>8 Women <i>Huit Femmes</i></p> <p>Genre: Comedy / Musical Language: French (with English subtitles) Duration: 108mn Director: François Ozon Starring: Catherine Deneuve, Isabelle Huppert, Fanny Ardant, Ludivine Sagnier Date: 2002 MPAA Rating: Rated R</p>	<p>Screening: June 18 – Sunset (around 8:30pm) Washington Square Park</p> <p>In the 1950's, the patriarch of a dysfunctional family, Marcel, is found stabbed to death in his room. There are eight women in his life who are all very probable suspects. All of the characters - his wife Gaby, his daughters Suzon and Catherine, his mother-in-law Mamy, his sister-in-law Augustine, his sister Pierette, the cook Chanel and the maid Louise – are shown to have a legitimate motive. Because the women are trapped in the house with no one else to blame, suspicions abound and revelations are made.</p>
<p><i>Best Actress (ensemble cast), European Film Awards 2002.</i></p> <p><i>"So original, so funny, so alive with drama, intrigue, mystery and colors that you want to see it again and again"— San Francisco Chronicle</i></p>	

<p>Same Old Songs <i>On Connait la Chanson</i></p> <p>Genre: Comedy / Musical Language: French (with English subtitles) Duration: 120mn Director: Alain Resnais Starring: Sabine Azéma, Pierre Arditi, André Dussolier, Agnès Jaoui Date: 1997 MPAA Rating: Not rated</p>	<p>Screening: June 25 – Sunset (around 8:30pm) Washington Square Park</p> <p>Following a misunderstanding, Camille falls in love with Marc Duveyrier, an attractive real estate agent. He in turn tries to sell an apartment to Camille's sister Odile. Odile wants to buy this apartment, despite the silent disapproval of Claudius, her husband. He resents the reappearance after many years of absence of Nicolas, Odile's old friend who becomes the confidant of Simon (who is an employee of Marc's).</p>
<p><i>Best Film, César Awards 1998.</i></p> <p><i>"[...] Alain Resnais' buoyant film [is] a contemporary musical comedy about real estate, agoraphobia, hypochondria and Parisian tourist landmarks, among other topics"—The New York Times</i></p>	

FILMS ON THE GREEN 2010 - FILM CAPSULES – JULY

<p>A Woman is a Woman <i>Une Femme est une Femme</i></p> <p>Genre: Comedy / Musical Language: French (with English subtitles) Duration: 84mn Director: Jean-Luc Godard Starring: Anna Karina, Jean-Paul Belmondo, Jean-Claude Brialy Date: 1961 MPAA Rating: Not Rated</p>	<p>Screening: July 2 – Sunset (around 8:30pm) Tompkins Square Park</p> <p>Striptease artist Angela (Anna Karina) is desperate to have a child, but her boyfriend, Emile (Jean-Claude Brialy) isn't as anxious. Although he cares for Angela and wants to keep their relationship going, he's not ready for that kind of responsibility. Instead, he suggests that she get together with his buddy Alfred (Jean-Paul Belmondo) -- a proposal Angela ultimately accepts, to Emile's shock and dismay.</p>
<p>Best Actress Anna Karina and Special Prize Jean-Luc Godard, Berlin International Film 1961</p> <p><i>"Deliriously kooky... staccato bursts of adorable visual jokes, precocious editing and in-crowd movie asides [...] in Woman [Godard's] mischief is front and center"</i>—Time Out New York</p>	

<p>Love Songs <i>Les Chansons d'Amour</i></p> <p>Genre: Drama / Romance / Musical Language: French (with English subtitles) Duration: 100mn Director: Christophe Honoré Starring: Louis Garrel, Clothilde Hesme, Ludivine Sagnier, Chiara Mastroianni Date: 2007 MPAA Rating: Not Rated</p>	<p>Screening: July 9 – Sunset (around 8:30pm) Tompkins Square Park</p> <p>In the hope of rekindling their stalled relationship, Ismael (Louis Garrel) and Julie (Ludivine Sagnier) enter a playful yet emotionally laced threesome with Alice (Clotilde Hesme). When tragedy strikes, these young Parisians are forced to deal with the fragility of life and love. For Ismael, this means negotiating through the advances of Julie's sister (Chiara Mastroianni) and those of a young college student; one of whom may offer him redemption.</p>
<p>Best Music Written for Film, César Awards 2008</p> <p><i>"Seductive and rapturous. The fact is that I didn't want it to end at all. A blend of Francois Truffaut's wistful Parisian sentimentalism and Pedro Almodovar's acrid polysexual comedy"</i>—Salon</p> <p><i>"A sexy quintessentially French delicacy. A dizzy musical comedy"</i>—The New York Times</p>	

<p>Tosca: the Movie</p> <p>Genre: Opera adapted for film Language: Italian (with English subtitles) Duration: 125mn Director: Benoît Jacquot Starring: Angela Gheorghiu, Roberto Alagna, Ruggero Raimondi Date: 2001</p>	<p>Screening: July 16 – Sunset (around 8:30pm) Central Park – Cedar Hill (79th St & 5th Ave)</p> <p>In partnership with the Romanian Cultural Institute NY</p> <p>1800—Baron Scarpia, chief of the pontifical police, suspects the painter Mario Cavaradossi of having helped a revolutionary, Angelotti. The Baron uses the morbid jealousy of Tosca, a singer and mistress of the painter Cavaradossi, to achieve his ends.</p>
<p><i>"A rare example of first-rate filmed opera"</i>—New York Magazine</p> <p><i>"Two hours fly by—opera's a pleasure when you don't have to endure intermissions—and even a novice to the form comes away exhilarated"</i>—Village Voice</p>	

FILMS ON THE GREEN 2010 - ASSOCIATED SCREENING:

Azur and Asmar *Azur et Asmar*

Genre: Animation
Language: English
Duration: 99mn
Director: Michel Ocelot
Date: 2006
MPAA Rating: PG (age 6 and up)

Screening: July 8 – Sunset (around 8:30pm)
East River State Park, Brooklyn
Rain date: Aug 19 & Aug 27 (TBD)
*French-language activities and music for kids
prior to the screening*

Organized with Town Square's SummerStarz 2010
www.townsquareinc.com

Two children were raised by the same woman: Azur, blond, blue-eyed, son of the lord, and Asmar, dark-eyed, dark-skinned, son of the nurse. Brought up like brothers, the children are brutally separated. But Azur, haunted by the legend of the Djinn Fairy, will search for her beyond the seas. The two "brothers", now grown-up, meet again and compete to find the fairy and free her. They will discover magical lands and face many dangers and wonders.

"Beautiful!"—New York Times

"Magnificent! Enchanting!"—Variety

"Impossibly gorgeous! [...] The year's most beautiful animated film!"—Salon

"Is it too early to announce the most beautiful film of 2009? [...] It's hard to imagine a more transporting cinematic experience!"—Chicago Tribune

"Dazzling! A story at once whimsical and epic! [...] The tale of two brothers from childhood to manhood, it is rife with storybook themes and offers an inspiring vision of harmony between different cultures, different people. [...] Eye-popping and elegant, it's a richly satisfying affair!"—Philadelphia Inquirer