

**THE BEACHES OF AGNÈS
(LES PLAGES D'AGNÈS)**

Artificial Eye presents

THE BEACHES OF AGNÈS (18)
(LES PLAGES D'AGNÈS)

A film by Agnès Varda



Starring

AGNÈS VARGA, ANDRÉ LUBRANO, BLAISE FOURNIER, ANDRÈE VILAR

France / 2008 / 110 Mins / In French with English Subtitles / Colour / 1.85

**Co-Production: CINÉ-TAMARIS & ARTE France Cinéma,
With the participation of Canal +**

**With the support of the Régions Languedoc-Roussillon and Ile-de-France
and of Centre National de la Cinématographie**

UK RELEASE DATE: 2nd October 2009

**Opening at selected West End Venues
and selected cinemas nationwide**

An Artificial Eye Release

Images are available on image.net

For further information please contact: press@artificial-eye.com

Artificial Eye Film Company, 20 - 22 Stukeley Street London WC2B 5LR

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CREW

Written and directed by	Agnès Varda
Photography by	Alain Sakot Hélène Louvart Julia Fabry Jean-Baptiste Morin Agnès Varda
Sound	Pierre Mertens Olivier Schwob Frédéric Maury Emmanuel Soland Olivier Goinard
Set Decorator	Frankie Diago
Editors	Agnès Varda Jean-Baptiste Morin Baptiste Filloux
Original Music	Joanna Bruzdowicz Stéphane Vilar Paule Cornet

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CAST

Agnès Varda	Herself
André Lubrano	Himself
Blaise Fournier	Himself
Vincent Fournier	Himself
Andrée Vilar	Herself
Stéphane Vilar	Himself
Christophe Vilar	Himself
Rosalie Varda	Herself
Mathieu Demy	Himself
Christophe Vallaux	Himself
Mireille Henrio	Herself
Didier Rouget	Himself
Anne-Laure Manceau	Young Agnès Varda
Gérard Ayres	Himself (as Gerry Ayres)
Jim McBride	Himself
Tracy McBride	Herself
Patricia Louisiana Knop	Herself (as Patricia Knop)
Zalman King	Himself
Richard Scarry	Himself
Eugene Kotlyarenko	Himself

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SYNOPSIS

Beaches have always been important to Agnès Varda, as she would travel to the seaside every Easter and summer throughout her childhood. During the Second World War she was exiled in the coastal town of Sète, a period she recalls with fondness as a time of endless fun. Returning to Sète during the late 50's, she would use the locale and the local fishermen as the backdrop for her remarkable first feature film, LA POINTE COURTE.

In THE BEACHES OF AGNÈS, Varda returns once more to the beaches, using her early memories of the coast as a springboard for the film's meditation on her youth. Weaving photography, archive footage, scenes from her own films and present-day sequences. Varda takes us on a memorable voyage through her life, during which she confronts the joy of creation and the pain of personal loss, death and aging. It is a singular trip played out against the stirring backdrop of the post-war explosion of cultural expression in France. She knew everyone: the French New Wave set (she was married to Jacques Demy), the Black Panthers in California and even Jim Morrison, who would visit Agnes when he was in Paris. Idiosyncratic, engaging and deeply moving, THE BEACHES OF AGNÈS is the autobiography of a magnificent artist and a woman of vital curiosity.

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AGNES VARDA

Biography

Agnès Varda was born Arlette Varda in Brussels, Belgium, to a Greek father and French mother. Varda studied Art History at the Ecole du Louvre before getting a job as the official photographer for the Théâtre National Populaire in Paris. She liked photography but was interested in moving into film.

After spending a few days filming the small French fishing town of La Pointe Courte for a terminally ill friend who could no longer visit on his own, Varda decided to shoot a feature film of her own. Thus in 1954, Varda's first film, LA POINTE COURTE, about an unhappy couple working through their relationship in a small fishing town, was released. She created Cine-Tamaris film company this film which was also Philippe Noiret's first feature. The film is a stylistic precursor to the French New Wave.

Despite similarities to the French New Wave, films by Varda belonged more precisely to the Rive Gauche sister-movement, along with Chris Marker, Marguerite Duras, Alain Robbe-Grillet, Jean Cayrol and Henri Colpi. The group was strongly tied to the nouveau roman movement in literature and politically was positioned in the Left. Like the French New Wave, its members would often collaborate with each other.

During 50 years of filmmaking, she has alternated short and feature films, fiction and documentary. Among 33, the best known films of Agnès are CLEO FROM 5 TO 7 (1961), HAPPINESS (1964), VAGABOND (1985), JACQUOT (1990), THE GLEANERS AND I (2000).

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AGNÈS VARDA

Filmography

2008	THE BEACHES OF AGNES - An Artificial Eye Release –
2003	LE LION VOLATIL
2002	THE GLEANERS AND I: TWO YEARS LATER
2000	THE GLEANERS AND I
1994	A HUNDRED AND ONE NIGHTS
1990	JACQUOT
1987	LE PETIT AMOUR
1986	JANE B. BY AGNES V.
1985	VAGABOND
1977	ONE SINGS, THE OTHER DOESN'T
1969	LIONS LOVE
1965	HAPPINESS
1962	CLEO FROM 5 TO 7
1956	LA POINTE COURTE