

Spotlight on Isabelle Huppert

28 August – 1 November 2022
at Ciné Lumière



On the occasion of the publication of Nick Rees-Roberts and Darren Waldron essay *Isabelle Huppert: Stardom, Performance, Authorship* (Bloomsbury, 2022) and the release of Anthony Fabian's *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris* (from 30 Sept), Ciné Lumière shows a selection **of her most iconic films**.

One of cinema's greatest actresses, Isabelle Huppert has portrayed an astonishing range of characters - from strong and fierce rebels to lonely-hearts. Whether on stage or in front of the camera, she has never shied away from challenging protagonists and always delivers remarkable performances; rightly resulting in an **international, multi-awarded and incredibly prolific career**.

She first won our hearts – and a BAFTA award – by losing hers in Claude Goretta's 1977 film *The Lace-Maker* (*La Dentellière*). One year later came *Violette Nozière* (1978), a milestone in her young career, winning her the **Best Actress Award in Cannes**. The ambiguous and evasive Isabelle Huppert found her own language, and **Claude Chabrol** his muse. Over 7 features, Chabrol modelled on her impenetrable face the strongest emotions, the darkest thoughts of complex and tragic characters (*Story of Women*, 1988; *Madame Bovary*, 1991; *La Cérémonie*, 1995).

She played with the finest and most demanding French directors from **André Téchiné** (*The Brontë Sisters*, 1979) to **Bertrand Tavernier** (*Coup de torchon*, 1981), from **Jean-Luc Godard** (*Every Man for Himself*, 1980; *Passion*, 1982) to **Maurice Pialat**, who offered her one of her best roles in *Loulou* (1980), facing Gérard Depardieu: a screen legend couple was born.

Fragile and strong at the same time, dramatic without gravity, Isabelle Huppert can embody any woman, either suicidal or parricide, masochist or criminal, working-class or *bourgeoise*.

Fond of demanding and provocative roles, she has been working with the most controversial directors. She appeared in no less than **22 films presented in competition at the Cannes festival**, a record, and has been showered with prizes and tributes, including an **exhibition of her portraits at the MoMA PS1** in 2005. In 2001 she received her second **Best Actress Award in Cannes** for her performance in *The Piano Teacher*, inaugurating a fruitful collaboration with **Michael Haneke**.

She has been inspiring generations of filmmakers, in France - **Benoît Jacquot**, **Patrice Chéreau**, **Olivier Assayas**, **Claire Denis** (*White Material*, 2008), **François Ozon** (8 Women, 2002), **Christophe Honoré**, **Mia Hansen-Løve** (*Things to Come*, 2016); and abroad: from **Marco Bellocchio** (*Dormant Beauty*, 2012) and **Hong Sang-soo** (*In Another Country*, 2012) to **Brillante Mendoza** (*Captive*, 2012) and **Paul Verhoeven** for *Elle* which won her the Academy Award for Best Actress in 2016.

Programme

Venue: Ciné Lumière at the Institut français, 17 Queensberry Place, London, SW7 2DT

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