

The Museum of Modern Art

Pierre Clémenti

October 13–31, 2022

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters

Pierre Clémenti's magnetic screen presence captured the imagination of countless moviegoers during the cultural heyday of the 1960s and '70s. His roles are as unforgettable as they are varied, brushing up against the sacred and the profane in characters often adapted from mythology, literature, theater, and religion. Angel, demon, hippie, rebel, poet: a child of 1960s counterculture, Clémenti played—and was—all of them. Behind his striking physical performances, which bore the imprint of Antonin Artaud, Lettrist cinema, and the Living Theater, was an ardent, lifelong commitment to creative freedom. Clémenti was a darling of cinematic auteurs (Luis Buñuel, Bernardo Bertolucci, and Pier Paolo Pasolini among them) who nevertheless shunned a traditional path. As an actor, he was uncompromising, choosing independent and iconoclastic roles over studio projects at every turn, which he pursued passionately alongside poetry, theater, radio plays, and films of his own.

In 1967, Clémenti's purchase of a 16mm camera unleashed a two-decade drive to capture life around him. Chronicling family, friends, travels, life on film sets, and the barricades of May 1968, his small-gauge diaries, bursting with psychedelic flair and ingenious editing, comprise a significant body of underground films. Rarely seen outside of Clémenti's inner circle in his lifetime, the entirety of his directorial output is presented here in stunning digital restorations, alongside key titles in Clémenti's iconic filmography as one of the great actors of postwar cinema.

Pierre Clémenti coincides with the English-language translation of Clémenti's memoir *A Few Personal Messages*, published in 1973 after his release from Italian prison. Jailed on trumped-up drug charges for 17 months without trial, in the country that had become his adopted home, Clémenti found his life forever changed. But his drive to create remained unshakable, as did his conviction that cinema could expand human consciousness in the face of hegemonic power and injustice. "The actor is the representative of the collective unconscious," he writes in the journals, "I see the artist as a worker among the rest.... We must fight for our lives."

SCREENING SCHEDULE:

À l'ombre de la canaille bleue (In the Shadow of the Blue Rascal). 1985. France. Directed by Pierre Clémenti. Screenplay by Clémenti, based on a short story by Achmi Gachem. With Jean-Pierre Kalfon, Gachem, Clémenti, Simon Reggiani, Nadine Hermand. DCP from 16mm. In French; English subtitles. 84 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française
Thu, Oct 13, 6:30 T2 (Introduced by Balthazar Clémenti); Sun, Oct 30, 2:00 T1

MoMA

11 West 53 Street
New York, NY 10019

Pierre Clémenti: A Special Live Event

This special evening featuring readings from Clémenti's memoir, *A Few Personal Messages*, available for the first time in English, and a screening of his film *Positano* (1969) with live accompaniment.

Fri, Oct 14, 7:00 T2

Clémenti's 1960s

Un film porno. 1968. France. Directed by Olivier Mosset. With Pierre Clémenti, Caroline De Bendern. Digital video from Super 8mm. Approx. 4 min. Courtesy RE:VOIR

La sua giornata di Gloria (His Day of Glory) [prologue]. 1969. Italy. Directed by Edoardo Bruno. With Pierre Clémenti. Digital video from 35mm. In Italian; English subtitles. Approx. 3 min.

La révolution n'est qu'un début, continuons le combat. 1968. France. Directed by Pierre Clémenti. With Yves Beneyton, Balthazar Clémenti, Margareth Clementi, Tina Aumont. DCP from 16mm. 23 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française

Visa de censure n° X. 1967–75. France. Directed by Pierre Clémenti. With Barbara Girard, Etienne O'Leary, Yves Beneyton, Jean-Marc Momont. Score by Delired Cameleon Family. In French; English subtitles. DCP from 16mm. 43 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française Program approx. 75 min.

Sat, Oct 15, 4:30 T2; Tue, Oct 25, 4:30 T1

Les idoles. 1968. France. Written and directed by Marc'O. With Bulle Ogier, Pierre Clémenti, Jean-Pierre Kalfou, Valérie Lagrange, Michèle Moretti. DCP. In French; English subtitles. 105 min.

Courtesy Luna Park Films

Sat, Oct 15, 7:00 T2; Sun, Oct 23, 4:00 T1

Soleil. 1988. France. Directed by Pierre Clémenti. With Clémenti. DCP from 16mm. In French; English subtitles. 17 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française

New Old ou les chroniques du temps présent. 1979. France. Directed by Pierre Clémenti. With Viva, Nadine Hermand, Michelle Bernet. DCP from 16mm. In French; English subtitles. 67 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française

Sun, Oct 16, 2:30 T2; Tue, Oct 18, 7:00 T2

Le Bassin de J.W (The Hips of J.W.) 1997. Portugal. Directed by João César Monteiro. With Monteiro, Hugues Quester, Pierre Clémenti, Joana Azevedo. 35mm. In French, Portuguese; English subtitles. 128 min. Courtesy the Cinemateca Portuguesa

Sun, Oct 16, 4:30 T2; Wed, Oct 26, 7:00 T1

Souvenirs, Souvenirs. 1967–78. France. Directed by Pierre Clémenti. With Marc'O, Pierre Clémenti, Bulle Ogier, Jean-Pierre Kalfon. DCP from 16mm. 28 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française

La Deuxieme femme. 1978. France. Directed by Pierre Clémenti. With Udo Kier, Philippe Garrel, Bernard Lavilliers, Nico. DCP from 16mm. 48 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française

Mon, Oct 17, 7:00 T2; Thu, Oct 27, 4:30 T2

Roue de cendres (Wheel of Ashes). 1968. France/USA. Written and directed by Peter Emmanuel Goldman. With Pierre Clémenti, Katinka Bo, Pierre Besançon, and members of the Living Theatre company. DCP from 35mm. In French; English subtitles. 95 min.

Courtesy RE:VOIR

Wed, Oct 19, 7:00 T2; Mon, Oct 24, 6:30 T1

Porcile (Pigsty). 1969. Italy. Written and directed by Pier Paolo Pasolini. With Pierre Clémenti, Jean-Pierre Léaud, Ugo Tognazzi, Anne Wiazemsky. 35mm. In Italian; English subtitles. 98 min. Courtesy Luce Cinecittà
Sat, Oct 22, 2:30 T2; Sat, Oct 29, 7:30 T1

Partner. 1968. Italy. Written and directed by Bernardo Bertolucci. With Pierre Clémenti, Stefania Sandrelli, Tina Aumont. Score by Ennio Morricone. 35mm. In Italian; English subtitles. 112 min. Courtesy Luce Cinecittà
Thu, Oct 25, 6:30 T1; Sat, Oct 29, 4:30 T1

Le lit de la vierge (The Virgin's Bed). 1969. France. Written and directed by Philippe Garrel. With Garrel, Pierre Clémenti, Zouzou. 35mm. In French; English subtitles. 95 min. Courtesy the Film Desk
Thu, Oct 27, 7:30 T1; Sat, Oct 29, 2:00 T1

Sweet Movie. 1974. France/Canada/West Germany. Written and directed by Dušan Makavejev. With Carole Laure, Pierre Clémenti, Anna Prucnal. 35mm. In English, Polish, French, Spanish, Italian; English subtitles. 98 min. Courtesy the Cinémathèque française
Fri, Oct 28, 6:30 T1; Sun, Oct 30, 4:30 T1

Organized by Sophie Cavoulacos, Associate Curator, Department of Film. Thanks to Balthazar Clémenti and Stephanie LaCava.

SPONSORSHIP:

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