

The Beauty of the Real: Contemporary French Actresses

Mick LaSalle

In France, an actress can work steadily from her teens through old age. She can start out in stories of youthful rebellion and end up, fifty years later, a screen matriarch. And in the process, her career will end up telling the story of a life — her own life, in a sense, with the films serving as a diary of one woman's emotions and growth. No wonder so many French actresses are beautiful. They're radiant with living in a cinematic culture that values them, and values women. This class will consider such luminaries as Sandrine Bonnaire, Nathalie Baye, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, and Sandrine Kiberlaine. The course may also touch upon the work of the likes of Catherine Corsini, Isabelle Huppert, Isabelle Carre, and Virginie Efira, among others.

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