

# A CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF PHOTOPLAY

*Presented by The Barbican Centre - 7 February—30 May 2010*

Photoplay Productions, founded by Kevin Brownlow, the late David Gill and Patrick Stanbury, is the leading ambassador for silent film presentation in the UK, perhaps the world. Their work has consistently set the standard for quality of restoration and creation of musical scores – an approach established with Brownlow's restoration of Abel Gance's *Napoleon* with which he and Gill had launched the pioneering *Thames Silents* series ten years before. To mark the twentieth anniversary of Photoplay's formation, we are delighted to present three remarkable examples of their work. All presented with Photoplay's recorded scores, this selection exemplifies their commitment to rediscovering forgotten masterpieces, restoring films to their integral form, and returning familiar classics to a modern audience, all in a manner worthy of their original presentation.

**All films will be introduced by Kevin Brownlow**



## ORPHANS OF THE STORM

D W Griffith - USA - 1921 - 154 minutes + Interval

**Sunday 7th February 2010 - 3:00pm - Barbican Cinema**

*Film accompanied by recorded symphonic score by John Lanchbery, synchronised live during the performance*

DW Griffith's epic melodrama is a wonderful showcase for two of his greatest stars, Lillian and Dorothy Gish, as the eponymous orphans thrust into the maelstrom of the French Revolution. Produced on a lavish scale, it proved to be Griffith's last great success. Receiving its first theatrical screening in the UK, this version features a new tinted print.



## THE CHESS PLAYER

Raymond Bernard - France - 1927 - 132 minutes + Interval

**Sunday 11th April 2010 - 3:00pm - Barbican Cinema**

*Film accompanied by a recording of the original symphonic score by Henri Rabaud, synchronised live during the performance*

This magnificent adventure-fantasy, virtually unknown before Photoplay's restoration, can now be seen as one of the masterpieces of French silent cinema. Raymond Bernard's imaginative direction and the superb photography (seen in this excellent tinted print), owe much to the influence of Abel Gance, bringing to this story of 18th century Poland's struggle under the Russian yoke the quality of visual music.



## THE IRON MASK

Allan Dwan - USA - 1929 - 104 minutes + Interval

**Sunday 30th May 2010 - 4:00pm - Barbican Cinema**

*Film accompanied by a recording of the symphonic score by Carl Davis, synchronised live during the performance*

Douglas Fairbanks bids farewell to the silent screen in this rousing and moving sequel to *THE THREE MUSKETEERS*. Sensing it might be the last of his great swashbucklers, Fairbanks invested his heart and soul and a great deal of money into the recreation of 17th century France. And in a nod to the changing industry he added two brief speeches, restored by Photoplay for this version.



**To book tickets for any of the shows above, contact  
The Barbican Centre box office: 020 7638 8391  
or visit [www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk)**

