



THE NEW BABYLON:

The classic 1929 Soviet silent film

Friday, March 30, 2018 / 8:30 pm

Saturday, March 31, 2018 / 2:00 pm

American Film Institute Silver Theatre, Silver Spring

Join us on March 30, 31 at AFI Silver Spring for **THE NEW BABYLON**, the iconic silent film with live orchestra

The classic 1929 Soviet silent film with Shostakovich's score performed live (DC area premiere)

PostClassical Ensemble conducted by Angel Gil-Ordóñez

“Kozintsev, together with Leonid Trauberg, aped the madcap pacing of the circus, the variety theater, and American movies, and Shostakovich followed suit. . . . When the Communards are killed by firing squad at the end, Shostakovich responds with a distorted version of the high-kicking can-can from Offenbach's Orpheus in the Underworld.”

– Alex Ross, *The Rest is Noise*

This astonishing achievement from the peak of the Soviet silent film era is an historical epic, both whimsical and tragic, set during the 1871 Paris Commune. Originally banned for its excess and aesthetic frivolity, this energetic avant-garde extravaganza represents the apotheosis of the experimental Factory of the Eccentric Actor (FEKS), founded by directors Grigori Kozintsev and Leonid Trauberg, and was to be their final silent film..