



theblondewithbarebreasts

A film by Manuel Pradal

synopsis

This is the story of two brothers, Julien and Louis, 25 and 14 years old - a couple of cocky blaggers. Small-time crooks who grew up on their own, practically attached at the hip, on their river barge. Now they make a living transporting gravel across Paris, from east to west.

A dealer in stolen goods proposes they steal *The Blonde Woman with Bare Breasts*, a Manet on display at the Musée d'Orsay.

Louis takes charge of the theft and succeeds in stealing the painting. However, a young and beautiful museum guard, Rosalie, follows him back to the barge. After a quarrel, the brothers decide to kidnap her.

Free-spirited and impulsive, Rosalie seizes this strange twist of fate as an opportunity to escape her previous existence. Her life is transformed as she experiences the barge with the two brothers, taking summer swims in the Seine, living life to its fullest. The feelings between the city girl and the river boys grow. Their joyful ménage-à-trois burns with poetry and passion.

Inevitably, the previously inseparable brothers both fall in love. The bond between them is torn; Rosalie is playing a dangerous game. Meanwhile, the painting's patrons are hot on their trail.

Have they fallen too soon for Paradise?

intention note

After three itinerant films, all of which have explored mythic territories (the French Riviera in "Marie Baie des Anges", the Sicily of the Mafia in "Ginostra", the slums of New York City in "A Crime"), I wanted to return to the French language, to French actors, to Paris. With one simple and joyful idea in terms of direction: to film Paris and its surroundings from the Seine. A lyrical, enchanting 'river movie' that rediscovers the river's beauty, its banks... a portrait of nature at the gateway of civilization.

The journey of three misfits lost on the winding serpent of the river, that breaks away from the world, offering an explosive confrontation between an impulsive and free-spirited city girl and two crooks - brawlers, kings of quick wit.

The flight of two thieves with their stolen Manet and Rosalie, the museum guard they kidnap, at the pace of a river barge.

A story of love and brotherhood, following the water's flow. And an ode to freedom.

Julien and Louis grew up in the sweaty close quarters of their barge. Louis, the younger, is a chatterbox, affectionate, quick with words. Julien, hypersensitive like Patrick Dewaere in "Les Valseuses", is always ready to pick a fight. He loves rivers, as he tells Rosalie, because they have endings. Good or bad.

Tragedy seems inevitable, but Rosalie, like a fairy, turns bad to good. Through mischief, she will divert the tragic trajectory of the two brothers of the river.

I would like the film, from one scene to another, to depict a modest struggle between comedy and drama. And Rosalie will win.

The two brothers will become more interested in the museum guard than in the stolen painting - they've never known a girl like her - and they will tear each other apart for the love of this beautiful stranger. The youngest, realizing that he hasn't got what it takes to compete, will be prepared for the worst in order to win over the beautiful prize.

I want to make a film about brotherhood put to the test and then regained, brotherhood strengthened between a little baby-faced Tom Sawyer and his angelically handsome big brother. The girl between the two brothers is Rosalie, and Rosalie is Vahina Giocante, whom I discovered aged 13 on a beach in Marseille, for my first film, "Marie Baie des Anges". An encounter between water and fire: Vahina as Rosalie is a girl of tempests.

The Manet painting in all its sensual tranquility is her mirror and remains hung in the empty barge of the lovelorn brothers, priceless in the marketplace, yet much less precious to the brothers than the natural original, who has fallen from heaven above.

My desire is for a lyrical, funny, childlike, mischievous, poetic film, full of joy and freedom. The story of a flight that, during its course, forgets the 20-million-dollar painting and chooses love. Forever.

Manuel Pradal







cast

Rosalie - Vahina GIOCANTE
Julien - Nicolas DEVAUCHELLE
Louis - Steve LE ROI

crew

Written and directed by Manuel PRADAL
Producer - Ilan GOLDMAN
DP - Yorgos ARVANITIS
Sound - Jean-Luc AUDY
Production Designer - Jean-Marc KERDELHUE
Wardrobe - Nathalie DU ROSCOAT
Editor - Béatrice HERMINIE
Associate Producer - Catherine MORISSE
Executive Producers - Légende et Légende Films
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Manuel Pradal selected filmography

2009 : The Blonde with Bare Breasts
2006 : A Crime
2002 : Ginostra
1997 : Marie Baie des Anges



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