one of the greatest films ever made

"MEMORABLE... PASSIONATE... STUNNING! As lush an appreciation of illusion as you could ever want to see. Something to be most grateful for!"


MARCEL CARNÉ'S CHILDREN OF PARADISE (Les Enfants du Paradis)
CHILDREN OF PARADISE

THE CAST

Garance
Baptiste Debureau
Frederick Lemaitre
Jericho
Lacenaire
Nathalie
Le Comte de Montray
Avril
Anselme Debureau

Arletty
Jean-Louis Barrault
Pierre Brasseur
Pierre Renoir
Marcel Herrand
Maria Casares
Louis Salou
Fabien Loris
Etienne Decroux

THE CREDITS

Produced and Directed by
Marcel Carne
Original Screenplay by
Jacques Prevert

Released in
1946
Running Time
193 minutes

THE STORY

Beautiful and elusive Garance is a woman who casts a strange spell upon all who come near her. Among them are Frederick Lemaitre, young and unknown actor; Lacenaire, a petty crook; and Baptiste Debureau, small-part actor at the "Theatre of the Funambules", where the mime plays are performed; while always hovering in the background is the evil character of Jericho, an old-clothes man.

Garance rebuffs Frederick's first advances and takes Lacenaire lightly, but from their first meeting she is interested in Baptiste, who has saved her from wrongful arrest for a crime of Lacenaire's. Baptiste and Frederick get their first big chance when some of the artistes at the "Funambules" walk out of the show. They make a success and become friends.

Five years later, Baptiste and Frederick have become the idols of Paris, while Lacenaire is a big-time crook. The gentle Nathalie is married to Baptiste and they have a child. Garance has disappeared.

She re-appears--more beautiful, more distinguished than ever and a woman of the world. Baptiste is told of Garance's presence by Frederick, while Jericho maliciously tells Nathalie. She sends Garance a message telling her how happy the family is together--and Garance thinks Baptiste does not want to see her again. She disappears, forever.