London Film Productions present

Henri-Georges Clouzot's

LE CORBEAU

starring

Pierre Fresnay

with

Ginette Leclerc
Pierre Larquey

Micheline Francey
Noël Roquevert

WITH ENGLISH SUB-TITLES
This is the story of unusual happenings in a small French town—a peaceful place where life goes on its quiet, leisurely way; where all is tranquil and unexcitingly provincial.

Suddenly, calm is shattered. Anonymous letters which are full of lies, sometimes cruel and always vulgar are circulated in the town. The writer, who signs them "Le Corbeau." (The Crow), aims in particular at Dr. Germain, a retiring, lonely and somewhat mysterious man. Dr. Germain is single and his name has never been associated with any scandal. The writer of the anonymous letters now accuses him of professional dishonesty and of conducting an affair with Laura Vorzet, the wife of one of his colleagues who is a psychiatrist. This is untrue, but Laura's sister Marie, who is a nurse, is malicious because Dr. Germain has reprimanded her for a mistake at her work. She reproaches Laura for her supposed unfaithfulness to her husband.

As time goes on, the letters become more frequent and insulting. Public opinion condemns Dr. Germain and he loses many of his patients. Meanwhile, Denise Saillens, who is the sister of the Headmaster of the school where Dr. Germain boards, makes advances to the doctor, traps him by pretending to be ill. Eventually, he succumbs to her charms.

The anonymous letters from "Le Corbeau" now take a more serious turn, and when a man in hospital commits suicide on receiving a letter telling him he cannot hope to get better, public anger reaches a fever pitch. Marie Corbin, the nurse, is openly accused of being "Le Corbeau" and, after just escaping a lynching, is put in prison to await trial. The town breathes freely once more, only to have peace shattered again when one of the letters flutters down from the roof of the church during a Sunday service. This is proof that Marie is innocent and the town panics. When a letter brings deep unhappiness to an innocent young girl, Dr. Germain takes a hand himself in unmasking "Le Corbeau."

With Dr. Vorzet, the psychiatrist, Dr. Germain now works out a plot to entrap the writer of the letters. During a searching handwriting test, at which the Public Prosecutor is present, Denise faints. Dr. Germain wonders whether this is to be regarded as proof of her guilt and, following her to her room, finds an unaddressed envelope on her desk. Opening it, he reads to his horror that Denise is to be the mother of his child. The letter is signed by "Le Corbeau." Confronting Denise with the letter, he forces her to confess that she used this means to tell him about their child, but she declares that she only wrote this one letter. She then tells Dr. Germain that Laura Vorzet has just received a letter threatening her with death. The Doctor hurries to Laura's house and finds further evidence which incriminates Laura herself. He tells her husband, who admits that Laura, who has a secret passion for Dr. Germain, has recently become unbalanced and wrote some of the letters to attract attention. This sad story accounts for some, though not all, of the anonymous letters, and it seems that the true "Corbeau" is yet unmasked. Laura Vorzet, still protesting her innocence, is taken away to hospital. Although Laura created "Le Corbeau," someone else in the town has taken up this means of inflicting hurt on others.

Who is "Le Corbeau"? As the film comes to its close, the real culprit is revealed through an unusual clue. Of course, Dr. Germain and Denise Saillens are reconciled—that's as it should be.

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**CAST & CREDITS**

Germain ........ PIERRE FRESNAY
Vorzet .......... PIERRE LARQUEY
Saillens ......... NOÈL ROQUEBERT
Substitut ....... BERNARD LANCRET
Delorme ........ ANTOINE BAPÈTRE
Bonnevi .......... JEAN BROCHARD
Sous-Prefet ....... PIERRE BERTIN
Bertrand ........ LOUIS SEIGNER
De Maquet ....... ROBERT CLERMONT
Fayolles ......... GUSTAVE GALLET
Le Receveur .... PALAU
Le Dominical .. MARCEL DELAÎTRE
Garcon cerce .. ETIENNE DECROUX
Le Suisse ....... ALBERT MALBERT
Denise .......... GINETTE LECLERC
Laura .......... MICHELÈNE FRANÇEY
Marie .......... HELENA MANSON
La Merciere ..... JEANNE FUSIER-GIR
La Mere du cancéreux .. SYLVIE
Rolando .......... LILIANE MAIGNÉ

Directed by HENRI-GEORGES CLOUZOT

Scenario : LOUIS CHAVANCE
Adaptation and Dialogue : HENRI-GEORGES CLOUZOT and LOUIS CHAVANCE
Photography : NICOLAS HAYER • Sets : ANDRE ANDREJEW • Music : TONY AUBAIN

CERT. A RUNNING TIME 90 mins. NUMBER OF REELS 10 LENGTH 8,200 ft. REGD. No. F11257

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PERSONALITIES

HENRI-GEORGES CLOZOUT

To-day, Henri-Georges Clouzot is one of the greatest Producers and Directors in the world. He knows the business from every angle and is a technician to his finger tips. He first entered the film industry as a script-writer, but soon realised that his one desire was not to only write pictures but to direct them as well. Gifted with a forceful personality, he soon made a name for himself as a script-writer. He was responsible for the scenarios of such important films as "Dernier des Six" and "Inconnu dans la Maison".

Clouzot's first personally-directed film was "L'Assassin Habite au 21," and this gave him the idea of making a film on his own. With Louis Chavance he prepared "Le Corbeau" and his name, as you will see, appears in the credits as producer. This film has brought Clouzot world acclaim as a top-ranking producer and director. He also made "Quai des Orfèvres," which was awarded the Grand Prix at the Venice Film Festival in 1947.

PIERRE LARQUEY

It was in a roundabout way that Pierre Larquey became an actor. At an early age he had ideas of following a religious vocation and studied with the Brothers of the Oratory of St. Mary. He even had thoughts of becoming a Trappist monk, but as he was too young for this, he decided to enter the library of the Brotherhood and organised theatrical productions for the Institute.

Like all true Frenchmen, Pierre Larquey did his military service and this took him to Madagascar. Life in the Army however, soon made him forget his earlier thoughts of becoming a Trappist monk, and he decided to make the Army his career, signing on for a further war. But fate played a hand—once more he was given the job of providing entertainment for the native population, and it was while making part of this that he earned his first applause from an audience. This got into his blood, and he became a professional actor. His first job was in Bordeaux, but he did not hesitate to go on tour. This brought the right kind of stage experience and served well to teach him the intricacies of theatrical life. In Paris he appeared in variety—in fact he played all kinds of parts in all kinds of shows and theatres.

His first chance came when he played the name part in "Topaz." a role he had made famous on the stage. From then on his success in films was assured. He is the name of "Le Corbeau," the name of Pierre Larquey seemed to have appeared in the credits of almost every important French film—it is no wonder that Henri-Georges Clouzot had no hesitation in offering him the leading role of "Vernet" in the film he was producing. The choice was a good one; for Larquey's work in "Le Corbeau" has brought him even greater fame and bigger contracts.

EXPLOITATION

FOR PATRONS ON YOUR THEATRE MAILING LIST

Send an invitation to "Le Corbeau" to every patron on your theatre mailing list. Have cards printed in the style of the anonymous letters which appear in the film. An unusually interesting film needs unusual and interesting advertising and publicity—make full use of the following suggestion to put over this intriguing exploitation angle.

I, "Le Corbeau" (The Crow), invite you to see my evil plan at work in the film which bears my name. I look forward to meeting you any day next week at the Cinema.

Signed—"Le Corbeau" (The Crow).

P.S.—Be sure to have your wife about when you come to see the film; for I defy you to guess who is "Le Corbeau"!

NOTE: Have details of stars, etc., printed on the reverse side of the card—also times of showing, etc.

FLY POSTING

Arrange for fly posting in your town. Use bills based on this idea.

WHO IS "LE CORBEAU"?

See the intriguing answer at the CINEMA.

or WHO IS "LE CORBEAU"?

Finding out is thrilling at the CINEMA.

NOTE: SEE THAT THERE IS AN ILLUSTRATION OF "LE CORBEAU" PRINTED ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS CAMPAIGN BOOK.
CATCH LINES

- When "LE CORBEAU" cawed, the town shuddered. See who wielded the poison pen in this famous French film!

- Vitriol from a poison pen. Who was "LE CORBEAU"? See this amazing French film and find out.

- What would you do if a poison pen was busy in this town? See "LE CORBEAU" and watch townsfolk rout out the evil in their midst. "LE CORBEAU" is France's most dramatic film drama of the year.

- "LE CORBEAU" turned husband against wife with a poison pen—then the town turned against "LE CORBEAU." See and be thrilled by this sensational French film.

- A devil with a poison pen. Who was "LE CORBEAU," whose letters brought death and despair? The sensational film at the........................................Cinema holds the answer!

- "LE CORBEAU" held a poison pen that was mightier than a sword. See how a small town was humbled by the evil in their midst—see how the townsfolk routed out this evil in the most dramatic French film of the year.

AD. BLOCKS and POSTER

London Films present
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With Pierre Fresnay
With English Sub-titles

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Ginette Leclerc
Micheline Francay
Pierre Larquey
Noël Roquevert

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