STORY OF A SHAMELESS WOMAN...

PARISIAN BEAUTY! FASCINATING! DANGEROUS! WITH SCANDALOUS SECRETS IN HER PAST!

Balzac's hush-hush story!

“Secrets of a Ballerina”
Pierre Blanchar Micheline Presle

French Film—English Titles
DIRECTED BY PIERRE BLANCHAR
"Secrets of a Ballerina"

Novel by HONORE DE BALZAC

CAST

Clara Biondi........MICHELINE PRESLE
de la Tournelle........PIERRE BLANCHAR

and

Julien Bertheam, Robert Vattier, Louvigny, and
Roger Karl.

CREDITS

Produced by...............GAUMONT
Directed by..............PIERRE BLANCHAR

Running time: 81 Minutes

SYNOPSIS

At the turn of the century in provincial France, there stood a
paternal estate which had been unoccupied for many years. A
young couple, entranced by the inspiring beauty of the deserted
ruins, find themselves eagerly investigating the possibility of buying
the property for their own home. At the office of the agents
they discover that the poor condition of the estate is due to
more than the mere passage of time. They learn of the fabulous
Gontran de la Tournelle who once owned the magnificent estate
and are intrigued by the mystery that led to its downfall.

Through a series of interviews with old retainers of the late
de la Tournelle, the harrowing tale of the master’s great love for
his beautiful young wife is revealed. The story unfolds as follows:

Gontran de la Tournelle (PIERRE BLANCHAR), a wealthy land-
owner, has for many months been seeing the beautiful ballet prima
donna, Clara Biondi (MICHELINE PRESLE) and has fallen deeply
in love. Clara returns his affection and readily accepts his pro-
posal of marriage.

Their life at the chateau is idyllic and Clara resolves that
nothing shall interfere with their happiness. But one day an old
acquaintance of Clara’s visits her on business. Clara is fearful
of his presence and bids him leave, but her husband’s voice confirms
her fears and she shoves him into a closet. De la Tournelle, how-
ever, spots the man’s gloves on a table and suspects a lover. He
asks Clara but she hastily denies the presence of any but them-
selves. He continues to suspect her, however, and calls for a
mason to seal up the closet.

Days pass as Clara sickens and grows desperate for the un-
witting victim of her husband’s jealousy but de la Tournelle
ignores the man’s muffled cries, declaring that no one could be
behind the wall since Clara has sworn to him that she was alone.

His faith completely shattered, de la Tournelle uses a fishing
trip as a stage for a fatal accident. His suicide leaves a
despairing Clara whose bereavement drives her to join her only
true love.

AMERICAN PREMIERE

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SECRETS IN HER PAST!
PIERRE BLANCHAR
MICHELINE PRESLE
in Honoré de Balzac’s
"Secrets of a Ballerina"

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