

Cultivate Cinema Circle presents:
**BAMBI,
 A FRENCH WOMAN [2021]**

Directed by Sébastien Lifshitz
APRIL 22ND, 2023 - 1:00PM



Original Theatrical Poster

SHORT CUTS

“There have been moments in my life that have been so visually impacting that they are forever engraved vividly in my memory. I remember coming home, putting down my bags and hurriedly opening my newly bought thrift-store treasure. I sat in silence on my futon (as I had no other furniture) with an extremely bright bare light bulb over me as the wall-unit air conditioner hummed away. As I began to turn the pages I became transfixed by the extraordinary imagery before me, depicting ‘transvestites’ of the 1950s Parisian cabarets in glamour, candid, performance and group photos. I was simply astounded. Who were these creatures? How could this have existed then? How were they so beautiful? How did they have breasts? As my mind raced with endless questions I turned the

pages and came upon a stunning blonde that looked like an ethereal goddess of the silver screen. The caption simply read ‘Bambi.’ Transition is unique for everyone. People often ask me, “When did you know you were trans?” – as if it was some sort of epiphany in which suddenly everything lights up theatrically, bells sound, a sequined halo appears and you declare: ‘I AM WOMAN.’ My journey was foggy at best. And in another of those visually impacting moments in my life, it was not until I saw beautiful transsexual women in American pageant videos that I realized this was possible and that it was possibly me.”
 —Marie-Pierre Pruvot (Bambi), *Antidote* [2022]

“In 2013 Sébastien Lifshitz’s documentary, *Bambi*, won the Teddy Award for Best Documentary at the Berlin International

Film Festival, one of a series of prizes for films exploring LGBT themes as decided by an independent committee of judges. *Bambi* tells the remarkable story of Marie-Pierre Pruvot, a French transsexual who became one of the most famous and long-standing performers at Le Carrousel de Paris, the Parisian nightclub where the Travesty Revue drew sell-out crowds. Pruvot, now 78, tells her story in conventional documentary fashion – straight to camera with no interventions from her interviewer – intercut with archive

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performance footage and Pruvot's own home movies, filmed on Super 8. This standard, even old-fashioned, format works here partly because the world of the story is so fascinating, but mainly because Pruvot herself is such an intelligent, thoughtful and articulate subject...Sébastien Lifchitz has created a very clear, direct, narrative here, as determined by Pruvot's telling of her own story in her own way, and there is an element of performance in that. Some other voices might have been a good idea – Pruvot's siblings perhaps? – and the film could easily have been extended to feature length. As it is, this is sixty minutes in Bambi's company that left me wanting more. More than anything, what you take away from this film is an approach to life that faces up to, and faces down, the challenges that present themselves. Marie-Pierre Pruvot is an inspirational figure because she dared to create the person she knew she is, rather than remain the person she was born as.”

—Michael Langan, *Polari Magazine* [2013]

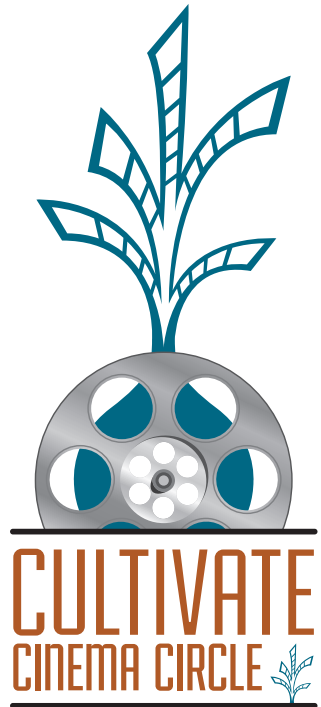
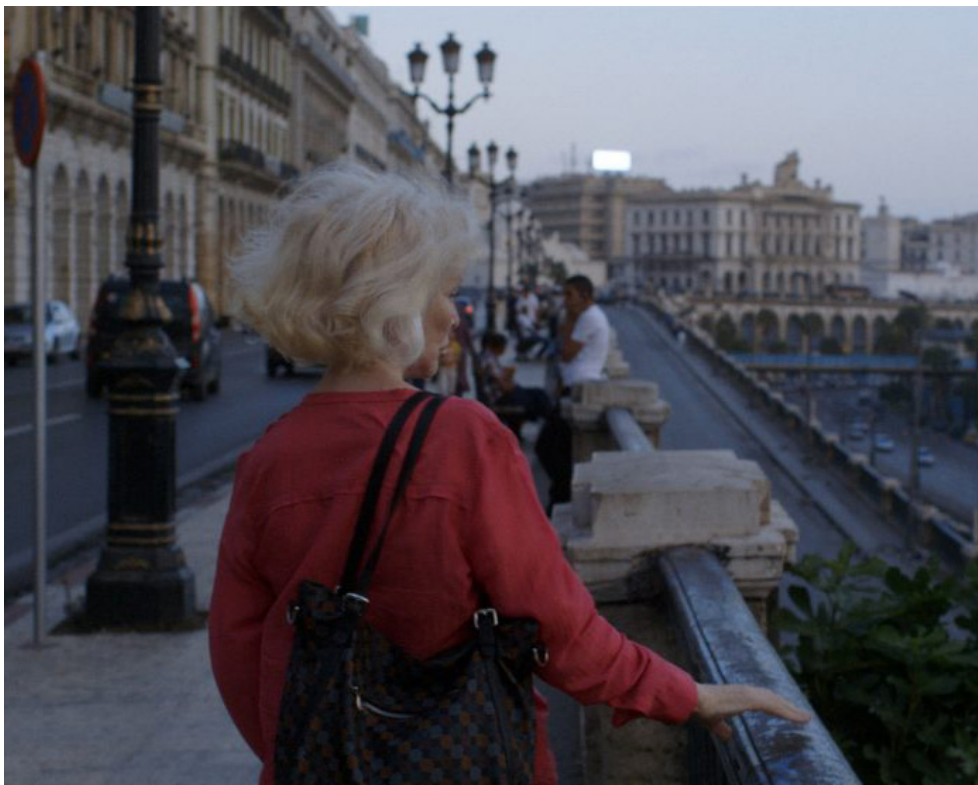
CAST & CREW

Director..... Sébastien Lifshitz
 Screenplay..... Sébastien Lifshitz
 Marie-Pierre Pruvot.....Self

DIRECTOR FILMOGRAPHY

- Casa Susanna (2022)
- Bambi, une nouvelle femme [Bambi, A French Woman] (2021)
- Petite Fille [Little Girl] (2020)
- Avenue de l'amballe (2019)
- Adolescents (2019)
- Les vies de Thérèse [The Lives of Thérèse] (2016)
- Bambi (2013)
- Les invisibles [The Invisibles] (2012)
- Plein sud [Going South] (2009)
- Jour et nuit (2008)
- Les temoins (2006)
- Wild Side (2004)
- La traversée [The Crossing] (2001)

- Presque rien [Come Undone] (2000)
- Les terres froides [Cold Lands] (1999)
- Les corps ouverts [Open Bodies] (1998)
- Claire Denis la vagabonde (1995)
- Il faut que je l'aime (1994)



UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

**BAMBI,
A FRENCH WOMAN [2021]**

April 22nd, 2023

LES INVISIBLES [2012]

April 29th, 2023

**THE LIVES OF THÉRÈSE
[2016]**

May 13th, 2023

LITTLE GIRL [2020]

May 27th, 2023

CASA SUSANNA [2022]

June 10th, 2023

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