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FILMS WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

ASHES AND DIAMONDS 1958 105 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Zbigniew Cybulski, Adam Pawlikowski, Waclaw Zastrzezynski

Ashes and Diamonds illustrates the conflict of idealism and instinct in this story of a young resistance fighter who assassinates the wrong man at the close of World War II.

AUSTERIA 1982 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Kawalerowicz

Cast: Franciszek Pieczka, Wojciech Pszoniak, Ewa Domanska

On the First day of World War I, a group of Jews flee from the Cossack army in Polish Galicia and find themselves trapped overnight in a border inn. Relationships develop, love affairs are snatched, the religious pray.

THE BIG ANIMAL 2000 72 min. (DVD)

Director: Jerzy Stuhr

Cast: Jerzy Stuhr, Anna Dymna, Rubio the camel

The Big Animal (Duze Zwierze), scripted by the late Krzysztof Kieslowski and shot in shimmering black-and-white by cinematographer Pawel Edelman (Academy Award®-nominee for Roman Polanski's The Pianist) is a lovely, small film that exposes greed and pettiness while celebrating the most beautiful human themes: Love, friendship and tolerance.

THE BIRCH WOOD 1971 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Daniel Olbrychski; Olgierd Lukaszewicz; Emilia Krakowska

Based on a story by Jaroslav Iwaszkiewicz, who wrote the screenplay. Cheerful Stanislaw, gravely affected with tuberculosis arrives at his brother's cottage. The relationship between the brothers is explored.

BORDER STREET 1948 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Alexander Ford

Originally titled Ulica Graniczna, this film is a recreation of the doomed Warsaw Ghetto uprising. It was a prize winner at the Venice Film Festival in 1948.

CAREER OF NIKOS DYZMA 2002 105 min. (DVD)

Director: Jacek Bromski

Cast: Cezary Pazura; Anna Przybylska; Andrzej Grabowski; Ewa Kasprzyk

An incident that appears to be of no significance becomes the turning point in the career of Nikodem Dyzma, a funeral eulogist. When he embarrasses the hated Vice Prime Minister, his life changes dramatically as he shoots up the political ladder and becomes a favored hero amongst the politicians and their jaded wives.

COLONEL WOŁODYJOWSKI 1969 160 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Hoffman

Cast: Tadeusz Lomnicki; Magdalena Zawadzka; Barbara Brylska; Daniel Olbrychski

Two knights engaged in the defense of the eastern borderland of Poland against Turkish attacks in 1668 vow that they will fight to the last drop of their blood.

CROWS 1994 66 min. (VHS)

Director: Dorota Kedzierzawska

Cast: Karolina Ostronza; Kasia Szczepanik; Malgorzata Hajewska

A hauntingly beautiful story of loss, redemption and hope, Crows is a bittersweet modern fairy tale about an alienated and adventurous nine-year-old girl's search for purity.

Krzysztof Kieslowski's DEKALOG [5-Disc Set] (DVD)

Director: Krzysztof Kieslowski

Cast: Miroslaw Baka, Henryk Baranowski, Artur Barcis, Aleksander Bardini, Maja Barelkowska, Adrianna Biedrzyńska, Henryk Bista, Ewa Blaszczyk, Bożena Dykiel, Janusz Gajos, Stanislaw Gawlik, Krzysztof Globisz, Stefania Iwinska, Krystyna Janda, Wojciech Klata.

"The entire 10-episode "Dekalog" mini series on 5 discs, each episode based on one of the Ten Commandments. Includes the following episodes: I Am the Lord Thy God (~53 mins.) Thou Shalt Not Take the Name of Thy Lord God in Vain (~53 mins.) Honor the Sabbath Day (~56 mins.) Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother (~55 mins.) Thou Shalt Not Kill (~57 mins.) Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery (~58 mins.) Thou Shalt Not Steal (~55 mins.) Thou Shalt Not Bear False Witness (~55 mins.) Thou Shalt Not Covet Thy Neighbor's Wife (~58 mins.) Thou Shalt Not Covet Thy Neighbor's Goods (~57 mins.)". Polish, with English and Korean subtitles.

THE DOLL 1969 159 min. (VHS)

Director: Wojciech J. Has

Cast: B. Tyszkiewicz; M. Dmochowski; T. Fijewski and others

Based on the novel by Boleslaw Prus, a nostalgic story of great love and of the tragedy of unfulfilled desires and plans, a counterpart to Madame Bovary and Anna Karenina. (note: subtitles tend to run off the screen.)

EROICA 1957 83 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrej Munk

Cast: Edward Dziewonski, Kazimierz Opalinski, Leon Niemczyk

One of the key works of post-war Polish cinema, the film looks at the Warsaw uprising through the eyes of a drunken black marketeer. In the second "movement," Polish prisoners in a German camp fanatically believe in the heroism of their comrade, which turns out to be a farce.

A GENERATION 1954 85 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Tadeusz Lomnicki, Urszula Modrzyńska, Tadeusz Janczar, Roman Polanski

Wajda's first feature takes place in 1942 occupied Warsaw, and follows the pursuits of a young man whose life is hardened under the Nazis. When he falls in love with the leader of the Resistance group, he learns to fight back.

HORIZONTAL LANDSCAPE 1978 86 min. (DVD)

Director: Janusz Kidawa

Cast: Mieczyslaw Hryniewicz, Jaroslaw Kopaczewski, Wieslaw Wójcik, Tadeusz Madeja, Halina Buyno-Loza
Polish writer/director Janusz Kidawa makes his feature directorial debut with this award-winning drama about three construction workers who share a tiny inner-city apartment while working with a crew that's building a new factory.

THE HOURGLASS SANATORIUM 1973 119 min. (DVD)

Director: Wojciech Jerzy Has

Cast: Jan Nowicki, Tadeusz Kondrat, Mieczysław Voit, Halina Kowalska

Set in pre- World War II era. A young man is on a strange train to see his dying father in a sanatorium. But the place is going to ruin and recalls a lot of memories from the past. He is beset by soldiers from the past, colonial black mercenaries, girls from his early life, and his parents. It is an interior adventure, with unusual atmospheric flair and extraordinary sets.

IN DESERT AND WILDERNESS 1973 142 min. (VHS)

Director: Wladyslaw Slesicki

Cast: T. Medrak, M. Rosca, S. Jasiukiewicz, E. Fetting

The children kidnapped by Mahdi's followers from Khartoum escaped somewhere in the upper Nile. A story of adventure, courage, and friendship.

INNOCENT SORCERERS 1960 87 min. (DVD)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Tadeusz Lomnicki, Krystyna Stypulkowska, Wanda Koczeska, Kalina Jedrusik

Wajda proved with this film he wasn't only an excellent critic, but also a sharp observer of contemporary life. The fear of emotions felt by the heroes of this film - a young doctor and a beautiful girl - leads them to chose a one-night stand rather than a long lasting relationship

JANOSIK 1974 132 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Passendorfer

Cast: M. Perepeczko; E. Lemnska; B. Bilewski; W. Pyrkosz

The main character is a legendary hero of the Tatra Mountains who robs the rich and helps the poor. An action film.

KANAL 1957 96 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Terisa Izewska, Tadeusz Janczar, Wlenczyslaw Glinski, Tadeusz Gwiazdowski

Part of the famous Andrzej Wajda trilogy that included **A Generation** and **Ashes and Diamonds**. The almost hallucinatory portrait of a group of Polish citizens and patriots who attempt to flee the Nazis through the sewer system of a war-devastated Warsaw.

KNIFE IN THE WATER (Polish: Nóż w wodzie)1962 94 min. (DVD)

Director: Roman Polanski

Cast: Leon Niemczyk, Jolanta Umecka, Zygmunt Malanowicz, Roman Polanski

When a young hitchhiker joins a couple on a weekend yacht trip, psychological warfare breaks out as the two men compete for the woman's attention.

KORCZAK 1990 118 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Wojtek Pszoniak, Ewa Dalkowska

The true story of Janusz Korczak, a renowned physician and author who ran a home for Jewish orphans in 1930's Warsaw.

LOTNA 1959 87 min. (DVD)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Jerzy Pichelski, Adam Pawlikowski, Jerzy Moes, Mieczysław Loza

This highly symbolic movie is both the director's tribute to the long and glorious history of the Polish cavalry, as well as a more ambiguous portrait of the passing of an era. Wajda was the son of a Polish Cavalry officer who was murdered by the Soviets during the Katyn massacre. The horse Lotna represents the entire Romantic tradition in culture, a tradition that had a huge influence in the course of Polish history and the formation of Polish literature.

LOUDER THAN BOMBS 2001 92 min. (DVD)

Director: Przemyslaw Wojcieszek

Cast: Sylwia Juszczak, Rafal Mackowiak, Grazyna Krukowna

After the death of his father Marcin must contend with the funeral arrangements while hosting his out-of town relatives who disparage his small town life as a mechanic. In addition, Marcin's longtime girlfriend has decided to leave Poland for the U. S. Left alone, Marcin is forced to decide where his life is going.

MAN OF MARBLE 1976 160 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Krystyna Janda, Jerzy Radzilowicz

Hailed as "a milestone in Polish cinema" by Variety, Man of Marble is the story of a young filmmaker trying to reconstruct a truthful picture of the Stalinist past, a past obscured by 20 years of shifting propaganda.

MAN/WOMAN WANTED 1974 89 min. (VHS)

Director: Stanislaw Bareja

Cast: W. Pokora; M. Czechowicz; W. Golas; M. Chwalibóg; J. Dobrowolski

A light-hearted comedy characteristic of films based on a mistaken sexual identity.

NIGHTS AND DAYS 1975 Part 1: 130 min, Part 2: 124 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Antczak

Cast: Jadwiga Baranska, Jerzy Binczycki, Barbara Ludwizanka, Jerzy Kamas

The trials and tribulations of a Polish noble family after the failure of the "January Uprising" in the second half of the 19th Century.

NO END 1984 104 min. (VHS)

Director: Krzysztof Kieslowski

Cast: Grazyna Szapolowska, Jerzy Radziwlowicz, Aleksander Bardini

The film's hero, a young liberal lawyer, dies four days before the film begins, leaving the case of a worker arrested for organizing a strike unresolved. His widow gets involved in the trial while trying to overcome her husband's death, but there seems to be no end to his pervasive influence. Kieslowski's film paints a compelling portrait of life under martial law in Poland.

THE WEDDING 1982 103 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: E. Zietek; D. Olbrychski; A. Lapicki; W. Pszoniak; M. Walczewski

Based on the 1903 play by Stanislaw Wyspianski about the wedding of a peasant's daughter to a poet.

WITH FIRE AND SWORD 1999, Part 1: 104 min. Part 2: 101 min. (DVD)

Director: Jerzy Hoffman

Cast: Izabella Scorupco, Michal Zebrowski, Aleksander Domogarov

At the time of its release, this lavish historical epic was the most expensive Polish film ever made. Based on a novel by Henryk Sienkiewicz, the film is set in Poland during political and social turmoil of the 17th century. Cossacks are waiting to strike Poland on the Eastern border that neighbors Ukraine, the nearby Tartars and Turks are waiting for the opportunity to attack Europe, and the Polish ruling class is busy feuding among themselves.

YEAR OF THE QUIET SUN 1984 106 min. (VHS)

Director: Krzysztof Zanussi

Cast: Scott Wilson; Maja Komorowska; Hanna Sjarzanka

The story of a Polish widow after World War II who meets an American soldier involved in a war crimes investigation. Although they can communicate only through gesture, they find much to share.

FILMS WITHOUT ENGLISH SUBTITLES

ASHES (POPIOLY) 1965 Part 1: 100 min. Part 2: 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrzej Wajda

Cast: Daniel Olbrychski, Boguslaw Kierc, Piotr Wysocki

An adaptation of a novel by Stefan Zeromski. This film is an historical epic that portrays the fate of three heroes and the tragedy of the Polish nation fighting for freedom during the Napoleonic Wars. In 2 cassettes.

THE COMEDIENNE (KOMEDIANTKA) 120 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Sztwiertnia

Cast: M. Pieczynska; B. Tyszkiewicz; K. Figura and others

An abridged version of the highly popular TV series based on a novel by Wladyslaw St. Reymont. Set in the late 19th century, the series tells the story of a beautiful provincial girl who is both resolute and ambitious.

THE DELUGE (POTOP) 1973 185 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Hoffman

Cast: Daniel Olbrychski, Malgorzata Braunek, Tadeusz Lomnicki

In 3 cassettes. Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar in 1974. Set in the turbulent period of the Polish-Sweden war in the 17th century, this film tells the love story of Andrzej Kmicic for a young gentlewoman named Olenka. Based on the novel by Henryk Sienkiewicz.

GIRLS OF NOWOLIPKI (DZIEWCZETA Z NOWOLIPEK) 1985 94 min. (VHS)

Director: Barbara Sass

Cast: M. Ciunelis; I. Drobotowicz; E. Kasprzyk; M. Klubowicz

A faithful adaptation of the first part of a popular cycle of two novels by Pola Gojawiczynska, it paints vivid portraits of four young women from a poor Warsaw district shortly before the outbreak of World War I.

A PRAYER 1973 120 min. (VHS)

Director: Wojciech Jerzy Has

Cast: Jan Nowicki, Tadeusz Kondrat, Irena Orska, Gustaw Holoubek

An adaptation of Bruno Schulz's novel, this film is a surrealistic tale about the inevitability of death. While visiting the sanatorium where his father died, the hero imagines himself back in the town of his youth and somehow plunges into the past trying to restore that world and life.

THE SANDGLASS (SANATORIUM POD KLEPSYDRA) 1973 120 min. (VHS)

Director: Wojciech Jerzy Has

Cast: Jan Nowicki, Tadeusz Kondrat, Irena Orska, Gustaw Holoubek

An adaptation of Bruno Schulz's novel, this film is a surrealistic tale about the inevitability of death. While visiting the sanatorium where his father died, the hero imagines himself back in the town of his youth and somehow plunges into the past trying to restore that world and life.

FILMS IN ENGLISH

MOONLIGHTING 1982 106 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Skolimowski

Cast: Jeremy Irons

Four Polish workmen are trapped in England, working illegally after the imposition of martial law in Poland. Winner of Grand Prize at Cannes Film Festival. Produced in Great Britain.